

# 2025 Early Bird Packet

### For Individuals, Troops, and Service Units

Thank you for your unwavering dedication to your girls, service unit, council, and the entire Girl Scout Movement! Your time, passion, and commitment help build girls of courage, confidence, and character—and we couldn't do it without you.

**Congratulations on another amazing year!** From making a difference in your community to tackling new challenges, discovering passions, and building lifelong friendships, you've accomplished so much. But the adventure isn't over—there's still so much more to explore!

#### Renew today and keep the excitement going!

This **2025 Early Bird Packet** is your exclusive invitation to become an **Early Bird Troop** or **Early Bird Service Unit** and unlock exciting perks. Inside, you'll find everything you need to get a jumpstart on another unforgettable Girl Scout year!

#### What is Early Bird?

The Girl Scout year runs from **October 1 to September 30**, and the **Early Bird renewal period** is your chance to secure another year of adventure, growth, and sisterhood! Starting **April 1**, troop leaders and parents can renew memberships for the upcoming year—giving everyone a head start on the excitement ahead.

#### Why Be an Early Bird?

- ❖ Jumpstart the Fun! Lock in another year of unforgettable experiences.
- Troop Leaders Stay Ahead! Know who's returning and plan for new troop members before school starts.
- ❖ Parents, Check It Off Early! Secure your Girl Scout's spot now and avoid last-minute stress in the busy back-to-school season.
- **Be Fall Product Program Ready!** Early renewals help troops dive into the first big program of the year.
- Service Units Can Plan with Confidence! More renewals mean better event and program planning.
- **Earn Honor Troop Status!** Early Bird troops get recognized for their dedication.
- **Bragging Rights!** Show off your troop's commitment to Girl Scouts.
- ❖ Unlock Exclusive Perks! Special rewards await those who renew early!

Don't miss out—renew today and keep the adventure going!

# **Early Bird Perks**

#### 2025 Early Bird Rewards

#### **Individual Reward**

Every Girl Scout renewed by **June 30, 2025**, will receive a **FREE Early Bird patch** to proudly showcase her commitment to another year of adventure!

#### **Troop Rewards – Be an Early Bird Troop!**

To qualify as an Early Bird Troop, your troop must be in good standing and meet the following criteria:

- **✓ Renew at least 70%** of the girls listed on your troop roster as of March 31.
- ✓ Renew at least two registered and approved volunteers, each with a Girl Scout membership, an eligible background check, and an assigned leader position.
- **✓ Submit complete troop financials** to the council by **June 30, 2024**, including:
  - Summary financial report
  - Ledger
  - All bank statements
  - All receipts (must be legible)
  - Visit our website for full **Troop Finances** details.

#### **Early Bird Troop Rewards**

- **❖ Fall Product Program** Earn an additional **\$0.10 per nut/candy item** sold!
- **❖ Cookie Program** Earn an additional **\$0.05 per package** sold!

### **How to Claim Your Troop Rewards**

✓ Submit your Early Bird Troop Application by June 30, 2025, to unlock these exclusive benefits!

Note: Individually Registered Girls (IRGs) do not need to submit an application to receive Early Bird Rewards.

#### Service Unit Rewards – Be an Early Bird Service Unit!

Service Units that meet the following criteria will earn a \$100 gift certificate to the council shop!

- **√ 70% of your troops** must achieve **Early Bird Troop** status.
- ✓ Service Unit must be in **good standing**, with financials submitted by **June 30, 2025**.
- **✓** Gift certificate must be redeemed by September 30, 2025.

Get ready for another amazing Girl Scout year—renew early and enjoy the rewards!

# Make Sure to Early Bird to Start Your Journey to be an Honor Troop

Make sure you don't miss out on earning **Honor Troop** status by forgetting to renew early! Early Bird renewal is a key requirement for the Honor Troop program. For full details, check out the **Honor Troop Application** on our website at <a href="https://www.gsdsw.org">www.gsdsw.org</a> under <a href="https://www.gsdsw.org">Forms and Documents</a>.

## What is an Honor Troop?

The **Honor Troop** program is a special recognition for troops that embody the spirit of Girl Scouting through a **well-rounded**, **girl-led experience**. It serves as a roadmap to ensure girls have diverse leadership opportunities, meaningful participation, and engagement in Girl Scout traditions.

Troops earning this distinction are **actively involved**, in **good standing** with the council, and meet key criteria such as:

- **✓ Membership Renewal** Ensuring girls and volunteers are renewed for the year.
- **✓ Financial Accountability** Submitting complete and accurate financial reports.
- ✓ Active Participation Engaging in Girl Scout programs, traditions, and community service.

By achieving **Honor Troop** status, your troop demonstrates **dedication**, **leadership**, **and commitment** to the Girl Scout mission—helping girls grow into confident leaders who make the world a better place!

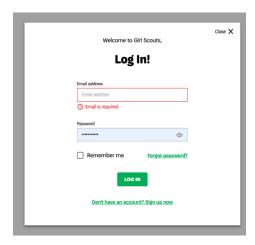
#### **How Do I Renew Registrations for My Troop?**

Renewing your troop is fast and easy! Follow these instructions to renew your troop. If you have any questions, contact Customer Care at <a href="mailto:info@gsdsw.org">info@gsdsw.org</a>.

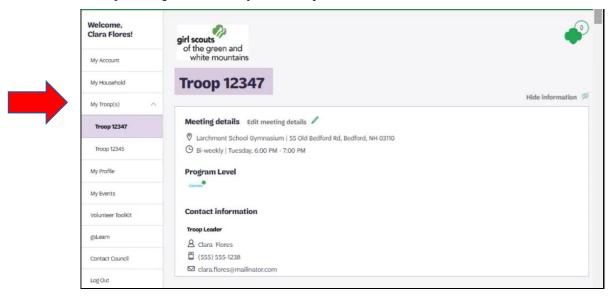
1. Login to your **MyGS** account from the council website at <u>www.gsdsw.org</u> and click on **My Account**.



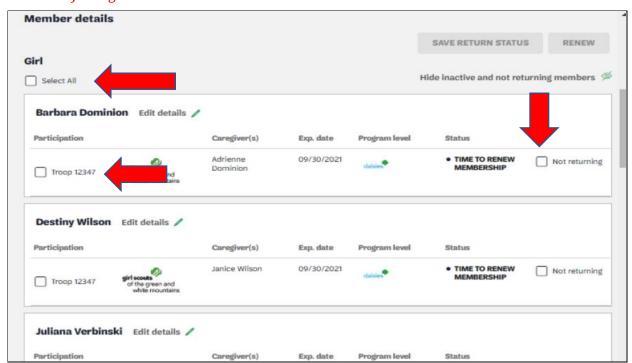


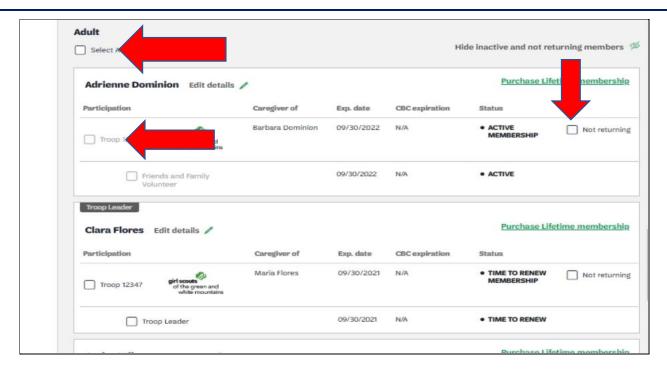


2. Choose **My Troop** and select your troop number.

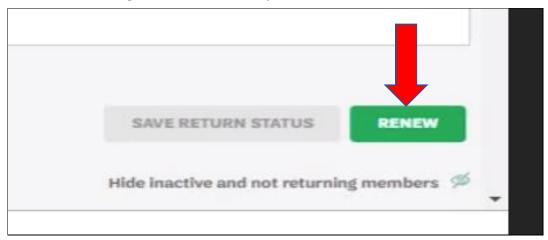


3. Go to the member details and select all (girls and adults) that are NOT returning. Click save to save return status. Check the box next to each girl and adult that you will be registering, or you can click the select all box. \*You can hide all the members that are not returning to make selection for registration easier.

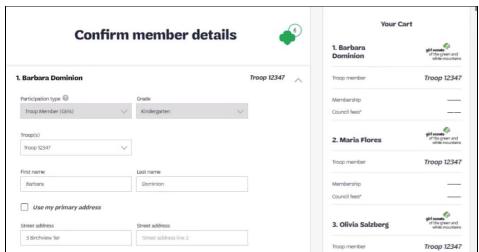




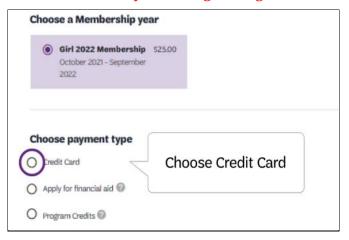
4. Click **Renew** at the top of the screen after you have selected all members to be re-registered.



5. Verify each member's details and update as needed. Some fields can only be updated by Council, please send an email to <a href="mailto:info@gsdsw.org">info@gsdsw.org</a> to update that information.



6. Click the correct membership year and choose the payment type: credit card in most cases \* You will repeat this for each member you are registering.



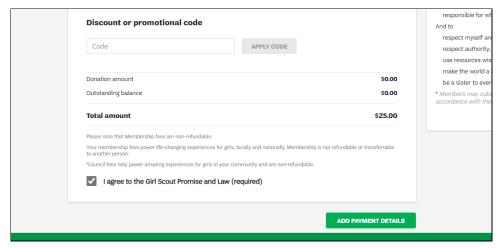
7. After completing one member, click on next participant to update the next member and repeat until all members have been updated.



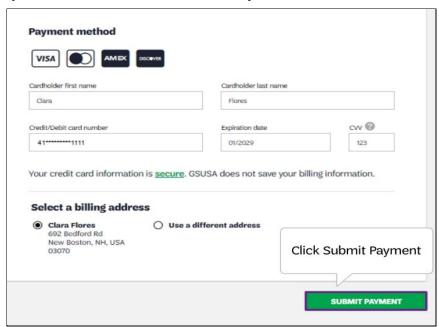
8. Click on **Review Cart** to see all pending memberships for the troop.

Confirm member details	
1. Janice Wilson	Troop 12347 🥏
2. Jenifer Salzberg	Troop 12347 💿
3. Barbara Dominion	Troop 12347
4. Maria Flores	Troop 12347
5. Olivia Salzberg	Troop 12347 🔮
6. Clara Flores	Troop 12347 🔮
I would like to:  Renew a household member >  Renew a troop member >  Register a new member >	Click Review Cart
	REVIEW CART

9. Click the box in the right-hand column to accept the **Promise and Law**. Then click **Add Payment** details at the bottom of the screen.



10. Complete payment information and **Submit Payment**.



11. Print receipt for troop records and click **Manage My Account** to verify the memberships went through. This may take a few minutes to update the system.



Congrats—You are an Early Bird Troop!