HONOR TROOP APPLICATION

12-month timeframe
Submit to info@gsdsw.org
Due October 1, 2024

The Honor Troop program serves as a guide for troops to ensure a well-rounded year of Girl Scouting. It allows your troop to successfully ensure girls are exposed to diverse, girl-led leadership opportunities. Please plan accordingly and integrate the requirements into your troop plans for the year.

- All requirements must be completed within 12 months or less (except Early Bird requirement).
- Troop qualification must be verified with signatures from troop leader, girl troop members and your service unit manager (if applicable).
- Virtual activities may be substituted for in-person activities when available.

Deadline
Completed applications (including all signatures) must be emailed to info@gsdsw.org by October 1, 2024. Keep a copy for your records.

Applications received by the deadline and approved for eligibility, will be presented their award at the Ceremony of Honors in the same membership year submitted.

Late Applications
Honor Troop Applications submitted after the deadline of October 1, 2024. will be reviewed for eligibility and, if approved, presented at the Ceremony of Honors in the following membership year.

See Key Dates calendar at www.gsdsw.org for all council deadlines and events.

girl scouts
of the desert southwest
southern new mexico
& west texas

For questions, contact us at
info@gsdsw.org, 915-566-9433, or www.gsdsw.org.

Honor Troop Applications are due by **October 1, 2024.**

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Requirements must be completed within a 12-month period or less (except Early Bird requirement).

2. **This is a troop program. At least 50% of the troop must participate in each activity, unless noted otherwise.**

3. Troops must complete all the mandatory requirements AND at least 20 additional activities in this packet.

4. Requirements and activities may be completed in any order.

5. One activity may NOT be used to fulfill more than one requirement. No double-dipping.

6. Virtual activities may be substituted for in-person activities when available.

7. **Honor Troop Applications are due October 1, 2024.**

8. Optional: Attach 3-5 pictures of your Honor Troop, with your application, to highlight if your application is approved.

RECOGNITIONS

Items presented to Honor Troops at the Ceremony of Honors include:

o Official certificate
o One Honor Troop Ribbon
o Exclusive adult and girl Honor Troop patches (with order and payment)

See Key Dates calendar at www.gsdsw.org.

This is a council program. The patches/bars should be worn on the back of the uniform.

Dimensions: 4.6"x 1.4"

GSDSW HONOR TROOP

2018

2019

Dimensions: 1.6" x .4"

Completed applications must be emailed to info@gsdsw.org

TROOP INFORMATION & ORDER FORM

Please complete the below.

Troop #_____
(5 digits)

Service Unit _____

Your information

Name_____

Email _____Phone _____

Address where patches/bars may be mailed, if applicable.

Name _____

Address_____

City _____State_____ Zip_____

When did your troop start and end their work on the Honor Troop Application?
It must be within a 12-month timeframe (except Early Bird).

Start: Month_____ Year_____   **End**: Month_____ Year_____

Honor Troop Patches & Bars. Please select one.

☐   This is our **first time** applying for Honor Troop.

> First time Honor Troops will need patches AND bars.

☐   We are a **repeat Honor Troop applicant**. Repeating Honor Troops ONLY need to order the bars (unless there are new girls earning this honor).

Honor Troop Patches	_____X	$2.50	=	$_____
Honor Troop Bars	_____X	$1.50	=	$_____
Additional Ribbons	_____X	$10	=	$_____
Leader Honor Troop Patches	_____X	$2.50	=	$_____
Leader Honor Troop Bars	_____X	$1.50	=	$_____
		TOTAL=		**$_____**

MEMBERSHIP

☐ **Renewal.** At least 70% of the girls and two adult volunteers* in the troop (as of March 31st) renew for the following Girl Scout year by June 30th.

    ○ **Senior and Ambassador Troops.** If approved to have less than five Girl Scouts in the troop, ALL must renew.

    ○ **Military.** For troops that meet at a military installation, at least 50% of the girls and two adult volunteers* must renew.

    ○ **New Troops Starting after March 31st.** At least 70% of the girls and two adult volunteers* in the troop must renew by September 30th (on-time renewal).

☐ **Retention.** Troop must maintain at least two adult volunteers* and five girls registered throughout the year. For troops with Senior and/or Ambassador Girl Scouts only, if less than five Girl Scouts in their troop, ALL must be retained.

Troop Leader Name_____

Troop Co-Leader Name_____

☐ **Growth.** Troop membership increased during the current membership year by at least one new Girl Scout.

Name of new Girl Scout(s)_____

When did she join the troop? Month_____ Year_____

OR

☐ Troop worked with Service Unit Recruiter or council staff to host a table/activity at a community event.

Date of event _____

Event location_____

A Volunteer is an adult who has successfully completed the Girl Scout member registration and background check.
*** Per GSDSW, required trainings must be taken every three years.*

MANDATORY HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS
ALL these requirements MUST be completed

ADULT LEARNING

☐ All volunteers* leading girls within the troop must be current with registration and background check. Council will verify this information using your troop roster.

☐ Leaders and co-leaders, as noted in your roster, must complete the "Successful Leader Learning Series" training in gsLearn.

☐ At least one adult volunteer must take an enrichment course (in person or virtual) to benefit the troop during the membership year. (Product Programs, First Aid & CPR Certification or any other required trainings do NOT qualify.)

Volunteer name _____ Course taken_____

Describe how this benefitted the troop? _____

_____

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

☐ An informational, in-person or virtual, parent meeting was held within two months of starting your membership year (or troop start date). This meeting is to establish open two-way communication, clearly outline expectations for the year, and plan your year. **Please attach a copy of dated parent meeting sign-in sheet or virtual meeting equivalent (chat roster, registration list, etc.)**

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

☐ Troop participated in Fall Product Program including working toward a troop goal.

Total Troop Size: _____ How many girls participated? _____

Our Troop Fall Product Goal was _____

☐ 70% of the girls in the troop participated in Cookie Product Program and worked toward a troop goal.

Total Troop Size: _____ How many girls participated? _____

Our Troop Cookie Product Program Goal was _____

*A Volunteer is an adult who has successfully completed the Girl Scout member registration and background check.
** Per GSDSW, required trainings must be taken every three years.

JOURNEY

☐ Troop began, completed, and earned the awards associated with at least one Journey.

    Name of Journey _____Date Completed_____

    At least 50% of your troop girls completed this Journey. ☐ Yes ☐ No

SERVICE UNIT PARTICIPATION

☐ A troop leader (or representative) directly affiliated with the troop attended at least 50% of the Service Unit Meetings during a 12-month period.

    OR

☐ If your troop does not have a service unit, a troop leader (or representative) directly affiliated with the troop, attended at least 50% of the monthly council-led Roundtables for 12 months. For details, visit "Volunteers -> Service Units" at www.gsdsw.org

GIRL-LED

☐ The girls in the troop have planned and executed a significant portion of the troop activities appropriate to their grade level(s). (Examples: How did the girls lead their meeting? How were they involved in setting the product goals? How did they plan for ceremonies? How did they decide on expenses and budget, voting methods? etc.)

    Describe the girls' portion of planning._____

    _____

    _____

☐ Troop has planned and held each of the following ceremonies.

    Investiture (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

    Court of Awards (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

    Bridging (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

VOLUNTEER TOOLKIT

☐ Logged into the Volunteer Toolkit, checked the "My Troop" tab, and made corrections as needed. **Attach a copy of final VTK Troop Roster.**

☐ Selected a Troop Plan from the "Explore" tab.

☐ Completed a badge or journey using the resources in the VTK

Which one? _____

☐ Planned your year in Volunteer Toolkit.

MONEY MANAGEMENT

☐ Troop must have at least two unrelated volunteers* as authorized signers.

☐ Troop must be in good financial standing with council year-round.

☐ Transparency is Key. Troop finances have been regularly shared with parents and girls.

Describe how _____

_____

☐ The complete end-of-year Troop Financial Report was submitted to council by June 30th.

SAFETY
Our troop has all of the following in place:

☐ Current First Aid Kit available wherever the troop gathers

☐ Emergency Procedures visibly posted or available at all gatherings

☐ Health History Records for all Girl Scouts in the troop on file

*A Volunteer is an adult who has successfully completed the Girl Scout member registration and background check.
** Per GSDSW, required trainings must be taken every three years.

ADDITIONAL HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS
20 of the 40 options listed must be completed.

This is a troop program. At least 50% of the troop must participate in each activity.

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY (4)

☐ **Participated in a Community Service or Take Action project (in-person or virtual).**

Date completed (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

Describe the project_____

_____

☐ **Created a community partnership with another organization to hold a community service project.**

Date completed (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

Name of community partner and contact information_____

_____

Describe the project _____

_____

☐ **Participated in at least one flag ceremony outside of your troop.**

Date completed (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

Describe the event_____

_____

☐ **Participated in a patriotic event (i.e., flag retirement ceremony, placing flags at cemeteries, parade, create your own, etc.).**

Date completed (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

Describe the event_____

_____

ADDITIONAL HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS

20 of the 40 options listed must be completed.

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OUTDOOR (5)

☐ **Participated in at least two outdoor activities (in-person or virtual).**

Two distinct dates of completion _____

Describe the activities _____

_____

☐ **Participated in at least one overnight camp activity (in-person or virtual).**

Date completed (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

Location _____

☐ **At least one girl participated in resident camp at Camp Mitre Peak.**

Name_____ Camp Session_____

☐ **Troop has earned one of the council exclusive patches (Organ Mountains Desert Peaks National Monument Patch, White Sands National Monument, Monthly Challenges, etc.).**

Which was completed and when? _____

☐ **At least one volunteer attended the annual Volunteer Conference. (In-person or virtual)**

Who attended? _____

Describe what you learned and brought back to your troop. _____

_____

^ *Camping is defined as any activity in which Girl Scouts sleep overnight in the outdoors or in facilities at an established campground.*

ADDITIONAL HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS
20 of the 40 options listed must be completed.

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TROOP GROWTH & LEADERSHIP (6)

☐ **Used a form of troop government that encouraged girl planning and participation throughout the year.**

Daisy Circle   Brownie Ring   Town Meeting   Patrol System

Describe the result and impact_____

_____

☐ **Girl Scout Cadette troops had at least one girl earn her Leadership in Action (LiA) Award.**

Girl Scout Name _____

☐ **As a troop, developed a Troop/Group Agreement and Kaper Chart to use at your meetings. Include a picture of them both to turn in with your Honor Troop Application.**

☐ **There is a certified First Aid & CPR volunteer within the troop.**

Volunteer Name_____

First Aid & CPR Expiration Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

☐ **By the time you submit this application, your troop has more girls registered than were registered the year before.**

Troop Girl Scouts registered last membership year _____
Troop Girl Scouts registered this membership year _____

A membership year is from October 1 through September 30.

☐ **Troop hosted an event for all service unit Girl Scouts.**

Date completed (MM, DD, YYYY) _____

Location_____

Event Name_____

ADDITIONAL HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS
20 of the 40 options listed must be completed.

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TRADITION (6)

☐ **As a troop, celebrate Juliette Low's Birthday (October 31).**

Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

☐ **As a troop, celebrate World Thinking Day (February 22).**

Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

☐ **As a troop, celebrate Girl Scout Birthday or Week (March 12).**

Date (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

☐ **Troop learned about S.W.A.P's, created some, and distributed them.**
   - What was the S.W.A.P? _____
   - How many were made? _____
   - To whom were they given? _____

☐ **As a troop, sing at least one Girl Scout song in each troop meeting.**
List three of the troop's favorite songs_____

_____

☐ **Audio or video interview a Girl Scout Alumni. Make sure to include a brief biography of her and ask her the following: (in-person or virtual).**
Attach link to audio or video.

1. What is your fondest memory of Girl Scouting? _____

   _____

2. What did you learn because of Girl Scouting? _____

   _____

3. How did Girl Scouting help you as an adult?_____

   _____

ADDITIONAL HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS

20 of the 40 options listed must be completed.

This is a troop program. At least 50% of the troop must participate in each activity.

TROOP ENGAGEMENT (6)

☐ **Participated in an event hosted by your Service Unit (in-person or virtual).**

Date completed (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Name of event and description _____

_____

☐ **Participated in an event hosted by Council. (In-person or virtual)**

Date completed (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Describe the event _____

_____

☐ **Planned, coordinated, and went on a troop trip (in-person or virtual).**

Date of trip (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Describe the trip _____

_____

☐ **Planned and held a summer troop activity aimed at maintaining interest in Girl Scouting over the summer (in-person or virtual).**

Date of event (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Describe event _____

_____

☐ **Planned and held a troop hosted family event (in-person or virtual).**

Date of event (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Describe event _____

_____

☐ **Created and sent a troop newsletter to troop families. Attach a copy.**

ADDITIONAL HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS
20 of the 40 options listed must be completed.

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VISIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY (4)

☐ **Troop participated in creating community awareness of Girl Scouting (i.e., posters/banners to display in community, submitted an article to the local newspaper, etc.).**

Date completed (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Describe your submission _____

_____

☐ **Wrote a letter to an elected official thanking them for their support of Girl Scouts. Attach a copy.**

Date completed and sent (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

☐ **The troop took part in a community event to attract other girls to Girl Scouting (other than a service project).**

Date of event (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

New girls registered? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Describe the event _____

_____

☐ **Created a 30 second video outlining the top five reasons girls should join Girl Scouts. Submit a copy of it with this Honor Troop application.**

GIVING BACK (2)

☐ **Our troop financially supported Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest's annual giving program that supports our council by donating $_____ on _____.** Make checks payable to GSDSW and mail to GSDSW, 9700 Girl Scout Way, El Paso, TX 79924.

☐ **Our troop financially supported The Juliette Low World Friendship Fund that supports girl travel experiences by donating $_____ on_____.**

ADDITIONAL HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS

20 of the 40 options listed must be completed.

This is a troop program. At least 50% of the troop must participate in each activity.

AWARD PROGRAMS (3)

☐ **At least one troop girl completed a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award. Add extra pages to describe multiple award projects as needed.**

Bronze   Silver   Gold

Date completed (MM/DD/YYYY) _____

Name of girl(s)_____

Describe project(s) _____

_____

☐ **At least one troop girl completed a religious award program.**

Date completed _____

Name of girl(s) _____

Describe the award _____

_____

☐ **Troop has submitted a nomination for Volunteer Awards.**

Who was nominated? _____

PROGRAM PILLARS (4)

☐ **As a troop, completed a Life Skills Badge.**

Which one? _____Date completed_____

☐ **As a troop, completed a STEM Badge or Journey.**

Which one? _____Date completed_____

☐ **As a troop, completed an Entrepreneurship Badge.**

Which one?_____Date completed_____

☐ **As a troop, completed an Outdoor Badge or Journey.**

Which one? _____Date completed_____

Honor Troop Questions

We, the girls of Troop _____, deserve to be an Honor Troop because:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

We, the leaders of Troop # _____, feel our troop deserves to be an Honor Troop because:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Honor Troop Pledge & Acknowledgement

We, as Troop #_____from _____Service Unit, verify that our troop has, duly and with honor, completed the requirements to earn the Honor Troop recognition by the Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest as outlined in this packet. Electronic signatures are permissible. Include additional pages as necessary.

	Printed Name	*Signature*	*Date*
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____
Girl Name	_____	_____	_____

****

I hereby affirm that this troop fulfilled the applicable requirements in this packet. Print and sign or use your electronic signature.

	Printed Name	*Signature*	*Date*
Troop Leader	_____	_____	_____
Troop Co-Leader	_____	_____	_____
Service Unit Manager (If applicable)	_____	_____	_____

Please submit complete application to info@gsdsw.org.
Always keep a copy for your records.

Thank you for submitting your HONOR TROOP APPLICATION

12-month timeframe
Submit to info@gsdsw.org
Due October 15th.

Make sure the following have been completed before submitting.

☐ All requirements were met within 12 months or less (except Early Bird requirement).

☐ Signatures from troop leader, girl troop members and your service unit manager (if applicable) were received.

☐ At least 50% of the troop must participated in each activity.

☐ Troop completed all the mandatory requirements AND at least 20 additional activities in this packet.

☐ Activities did not fulfill more than one requirement. No double-dipping.

☐ Optional: Attach 3-5 pictures of your Honor Troop, with your application, to highlight if your application is approved.

☐ Keep a copy for your records.

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