

GIRL SCOUT PHILOSOPHY ON FINANCES

Troops should be financially self-sufficient.

- Leaders of new troops sometimes request start-up funds from families. Eventually, troops learn to be self-sufficient.
- Troop dues, along with money earned during nut sales and the cookie program, should provide most of the money necessary for the troop's program.

Troops should be inclusive.

- When planning activities, guide the girls to consider how to include all girls in their troop. Girls may come from families with distinctly different socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Long term planning for events must include all participating girls and be financially attainable by all.
- When setting dues and planning activities, the leader should be sensitive to the financial circumstances of all members and be affordable for the smallest pocketbook in the group.

Troop money belongs to the troop, not individual girls.

- Funds earned through nut sales, cookie sales, or other money-earning projects are for Girl Scout activities and are not to be retained by individuals as their property.
- Money within a troop belongs to the troop as a whole and is never the property of individual girls. Thus, troops may not have individual girl accounts based on her earned proceeds.
- It is important to remember that troop funds belong to the entire troop and not to any individual girl. If a girl leaves the troop or doesn't attend an event, the money earned toward the event remains with the troop.
- If girls leave the troop, transfer to another troop, or register as Independents, all money remains with the original troop and is neither given to the girls nor transferred to another troop.

Troop leaders should be familiar with the financial resources available to them and money-earning project guidelines.

- Financial resources include: start-up funds, dues, nut and cookie sales, recycling, and additional money-earning projects.
- Additional money-earning projects require pre-approval from the service unit team or volunteer support coordinator.
- Additional money-earning projects will only be approved for those troops participating in the cookie program.
- Applications for additional money-earning projects should be submitted at least four weeks in advance.

When troops are disbanding, all remaining funds should be spent on activities consistent with Girl Scout program goals or donated to a non-profit, charitable organization.

- The distribution of gift cards or retail merchandise to each girl or adult is not permitted when closing the troop's treasury upon disbandment.
- Girl Scouts is a non-profit, charitable organization.

Additional information can be found at [sdgirlscouts.org](https://www.sdgirlscouts.org) under "forms".

- Money earning application with guidelines
- Opportunity Fund Request and Guidelines
- Opportunity Fund – Request for financial assistance for new member registration