

Topic: Girl Scout Experience Fund

What is a Short and Snappy?

- A short interactive group discussion provided at a Service Unit meeting for volunteers to share at the troop level.
- Any Service Unit team member, volunteer, or learning facilitator may guide a Short and Snappy.
- Ideas for presentation: One person can facilitate to a group, or small groups can present an assigned section to the room.

What is GSEF?

The Girl Scout Experience Fund (GSEF) Committee distributes funds as defined by the Board of Directors from the Girl Scout Experience Quasi-Endowment Fund. The fund supports each registered girl member of Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois so that she may experience activities that build courage, confidence, and character.

Troops and Service Units from the GSofSI Council complete a grant request explaining the use of the requested funds and submit it to this committee for review and a decision. The GSofSI Board of Directors will provide the GSEF Committee with the amount available each fiscal year. The [GSEF Policy](#) breaks down the requirements that requests have to meet to qualify for the grant. Information will be given to the Finance Department by the 10th of the month for all approvals given in the previous month. This information will be reported to the GSEF Committee, the Board of Directors Finance Committee, and the Board of Directors at their regularly scheduled meetings.

This [video](#) will show you where to find the GSEF form on the GSofSI website.

Who can request the grant?

A Service Unit may apply for the GSEF by filling out [this application](#). The SU Manager or the SU Treasurer should complete the form.

GSofSI offers a Troop grant for a Girl Scout Troop. The Troop form can be [at this link](#) and needs to be filled out by the Troop Leader or Troop Treasurer.

An individual Girl Scout can apply for the grant at [this link](#). A Troop Leader, Troop Treasurer, or SU Manager or SU Treasurer, can fill out the form for the Girl Scout.

Requests Guidelines

There is a maximum payment from the GSEF for the two different request designations. A Troop Request can be for the full Troop (or a majority of the troop) activity or a request for an individual girl from the troop. A Service Unit Request can be a request for a Juliette, a SU Facility/Event, or a SU Day Camp.

For Individual Girl Requests: The amount will be no more than 50% of the cost, but not to exceed \$300 per request. This is for an individual event, not a troop event.

For Full Troop and Service Unit Requests: The amount will be no more than 50% of the cost, but not to exceed \$300 per request. There is an exception for Troop events/activities that have a per-participant fee, the payment will be 50% of the cost, but not to exceed the following amounts: for Daisies and Brownies payment is not to exceed \$25 per girl, for Juniors and Cadettes payment not to exceed \$50 per girl, and for Seniors and Ambassadors payment should not to exceed \$100 per girl.

For Service Unit Day Camp Request: Each council-approved day camp will receive \$25 per girl member with the intention of reducing the registration cost for the girl.

GSEF requests for GSofSI Council Events

Troops can request funds for their entire troop or individual girls to attend GSofSI Council-sponsored programs/events, day camps, and resident camps found on the GSofSI website. Troop Requests can be made for Camp Torqua reservations. Troops and service units can request funds for equipment rental. Request for GSofSI council events/activities will be reviewed by Customer Care at the time of submission to help with placement in event.

Grant Requests for events not sponsored by GSofSI

Troops and service units can request funds for non-council troop camping reservation fees. Troops can request funds for events and/or activities for a day event. Troops and service units can request funds for equipment rental. Payment for activities/events not scheduled/sponsored by GSofSI (not on GSofSI website) will be determined by the committee on a case-by-case basis. Requests should be submitted at least 6 weeks before the event. Troops can request for funds for a GSUSA Destination trip. These requests will be reviewed and determined by the committee on a case-by-case basis.

Girl Experience

Every girl deserves the opportunity to experience the lifelong, leadership-building benefits of Girl Scouts, regardless of their financial situation. Including all girls has been at the heart of Girl Scouts since 1912. The Girl Scout Experience Fund was created to help Girl Scouts achieve their Girl Scout dreams and become the best version of themselves. It's a resource created by GSofSI for Girl Scouts to utilize. If you know a Girl Scout who qualifies and would benefit from the GSEF, encourage them to look into it!