

NATIONAL DELEGATE CRITERIA

GSUSA'S 57th National Convention July 20-25, 2026 Washington D.C.

Every three years, members from each council in Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) gather to conduct business on a national scale. Girl Scouts of Southern Appalachians (GSCSA) has been allocated by formula 6 National Delegate spots for the 2026 National Convention to attend the festivities and represent us at the National Council Session.

Nominees must be willing to commit to:

- Attending all local orientation and preparation meetings prior to the National Convention.
- Participating in all GSUSA preparatory webinars, learning sessions, and pre-reads.
 - Time commitment: approximately 10 hours per month leading up to the National Council Session
- Studying the National Council Meeting agenda.
- Understanding GSCSA's stance on actions to be taken by the National Council
- Obtaining a broad view of opinions and voices of members throughout the council.
- Attending all National Council meetings and reporting National Council actions to GSCSA's members.
- Knowing and understanding of parliamentary procedures.
- Attending the National Council Session July 20-25, 2026; available to travel days of July 19 and 26, 2026.
- Participating as a National Delegate for the entire three-year period of 2025-2028.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS per the Blue Book

Every delegate must be:

- A citizen of the United States of America
- A registered member of Girls Scouts of the USA active in GSCSA
- 14 years of age or older by August 1, 2025
- Able to represent the points of view of various ethnic, racial, educational, civic, religious and socioeconomic groups
- Willing to prepare thoroughly on the issues and business that will come before the National Council

Selection Criteria (Competency):

Strategic Thinking	Future focused; demonstrates ability to consider long-term goals and objectives that advance the Girl Scout movement as a whole.
Communication	Expresses ideas and facts clearly.
Experience (policy-influencing or policy making)	Has participated in council meetings; effectively represents different points of view.
Knowledge of local and national Girl Scouting	Has knowledge of Girl Scouts both at the local level and the wider movement.
Decision-making	Able to analyze decisions from a council and national perspective, and to weigh options and consider ramifications.
Adaptability	Demonstrates flexibility when new information is brought forward; comes to the session informed, but not instructed.
Team Building	Promotes partnerships and is committed to the team approach; will support decisions made by the National Council.

NATIONAL DELEGATE APPLICATION

Deadline: March 31, 2025

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Service Unit: _____

- Have you served as a Service Unit Delegate? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Have you attended a Yearly Meeting of the Delegate Body? Yes ☐ No ☐
- Have you attended as a visitor at a National Convention? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, when: _____
- Have you ever been a National Delegate? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, when: _____

Have you ever earned any GSCSA Awards? (Examples: Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award, Honor Pin, Volunteer of Excellence, First Class, Appreciation Pin, Thanks Badge.)

For adults: Please check all that apply and list dates, if possible:

Applies?	Position	Dates (if known)
	Troop Volunteer (leader or co-leader, assistant leader, advisor, committee member)	
	Service Unit Team Member	
	Staff	
	Delegate or Alternate (Service Unit or National)	
	Council Volunteer (events, camps, workshops, committees, etc.)	
	Board or Board Committee Member	
	Other	

Biography and Pictures

Include the following information in your brief biography on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this application:

- Name of the community where you reside.
 - Girl Scout experiences and awards. Include some of your most meaningful Girl Scout experiences, including committee or council group activities.
 - Any additional information you would like to include, such as employment, volunteer /community work, and family. Include leadership positions and years involved.
- Please email high-resolution pictures (300 dpi or larger) to **NCSDelegates@GirlScoutCSA.org**.

Applicant Self-evaluation Matrix

The following skills are required of a successful National Council delegate. Review your experiences and activities, rate your ability, and provide examples of how you may have demonstrated these skills. Use the following scale:

- 1 = This is an area where I know I need to learn and practice.
- 2 = I am eager to participate in training to develop my skills.
- 3 = I have some skills/experience, but still need to develop in this area.
- 4 = I understand my skills in this area and know when I need to ask for help.
- 5 = This is where I shine.

SKILL	RATING	EXAMPLES
Strategic Thinking: Demonstrates ability to contemplate long-term goals and objectives that advance the Movement as a whole and is future- focused.		
Communication: Expresses ideas and facts in a clear manner.		
Experience in Policy-influencing or Policy-making: Has participated in local council policy-influencing or decision-making meetings; able to listen to different points of view from the membership and effectively summarize those ideas.		
Knowledge of Girl Scouting (local and national): Has experience in many levels and areas of Girl Scouting. Has knowledge of Girl Scouting at the council and of the Movement.		
Decision-making: Ability to analyze issues from a council and national perspective; demonstrates ability to weigh options and consider ramifications.		
Adaptability: Demonstrates flexibility when new information is brought forward; comes to the session informed, but not instructed.		
Teambuilding: Promotes partnerships and has a commitment to the team approach. Places the good of the whole above self-interests. Will support decisions of the National Council.		
Listening/Representation: Ability to consider the spectrum of opinions of adult and girl members from all parts of our council and across the Movement to inform strategic decision-making and represent these communities at the national level.		
Understands Commitment: Understands and is willing to take on commitment of fulfilling the duties and obligations of a delegate throughout three-year term.		

Are you a U.S. citizen? (Required by the GSUSA Congressional Charter.) Yes ☐ No ☐

NOTE: Attendance at a National Convention meeting requires travel, extensive walking and sitting or standing for long periods of time. Do you have any physical limitations of which we need to be aware? Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, please describe any accommodation you would require:

We collect the following information for statistical purposes only. Please select all that apply.

- ☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ White
- ☐ Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Are you of Hispanic origin? Yes ☐ No ☐

Your age: 14-17 ☐ 18-29 ☐ 30-49 ☐ Over 50 ☐

Please respond to these questions on a separate sheet of paper and attach it to this application. No more than 300 words per response.

- What skills and experience do you feel you can contribute as a National Delegate?
- How would you describe the difference between policy making and policy influencing?
☐ How have you engaged in both processes in Girl Scouting?
- How will you engage members of our council, both volunteers and girls, to gather their thoughts and input on meeting agenda items and topics that arise later during your 3-year tenure?
- Why should we select you?

Please supply two references (other than relatives), who qualify to supply additional information about you. (Reference sheet attached.)

Name _____ Email _____
Phone _____ Relationship _____

If elected, I agree to commit to the accountability and eligibility requirements of Girl Scouts of Southern Appalachian’s National Council Delegate.

By signing my name below, I acknowledge the selection process involves a subjective component and the Council must retain the exclusive right to make decisions most appropriate for the welfare and development of its girl members. Girl Scouts of Southern Appalachians is committed to diversity and inclusiveness, and all applicants will be considered without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, citizenship, disability, marital status, veteran status, or any other status protected by law. I certify that my answers to the preceding questions are true and complete and that I have not knowingly withheld any information which might, if disclosed, affect my selection as a volunteer unfavorably. I understand that any misrepresentation or omission of facts on this application will be the cause for non-selection or later dismissal. I understand that the information is subject to verification.

Signature _____

Submit application to: NCSDelegates@GirlScoutCSA.org

Girl Scouts of Southern Appalachians will pay the cost of transportation, lodging, Council Session registration fees, and a daily food allowance for National Delegates. Individuals are responsible for personal incidental expenses, any special events they wish to participate in at the convention, and any upgrades in travel or lodging. Individuals must have a full Girl Scout uniform for each day of the National Council Session.

REFERENCE SHEET for

Applicant's Name

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

How are you affiliated with the applicant?

The National Delegate Position is a 3-year term where members from each Council in Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) gather to conduct business on a national scale. The applicant has listed you as a reference to note their abilities to fulfill such a role.

The following skills are required of a successful National Delegate. Review the applicant's experiences and activities and rate their ability in the chart below. On the next page, provide examples of how they may have demonstrated these skills. Use the following rating scale:

1 = Need considerable development

3 = Competent

5 = A clear strength

2 = Needs some development

4 = Somewhat of a strength

Skill	Description	Your Rating
Strategic Thinking	Future focused; demonstrates ability to consider long-term goals and objectives that advance the Girl Scout movement as a whole.	
Communication	Expresses ideas and facts clearly; actively listens with compassion and understanding	
Experience (policy-influencing or policy making)	Has participated in professional/business meetings; effectively represents different points of view.	
Knowledge of local and national Girl Scouting	Has knowledge of Girl Scouts both at the local level and the wider movement.	
Decision-making	Able to analyze decisions from a broad and national perspective, and to weigh options and consider ramifications.	
Adaptability	Demonstrates flexibility when new information is brought forward.	
Team Building	Promotes partnerships and is committed to the team approach; will support decisions made by the National Council.	

► Example of Applicant’s Strategic Thinking:

► Example of Applicant’s Communication:

► Example of Applicant’s Experience:

► Example of Applicant’s Knowledge of local and national Girl Scouting:

► Example of Applicant’s Decision-making:

► Example of Applicant’s Adaptability:

► Example of Applicant’s Team Building:

● Do you recommend the applicant for this role? Yes ☐ No ☐ Why?

● What else should we consider when evaluating this applicant?
