



Hello Camper Families,

Welcome to the second edition of Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts' 2025 News You Can Use! These monthly newsletters will be a way for us to keep you updated with new regulations, answer frequently asked questions, and provide you with general announcements. As we get closer to the start of the summer camp season, you will receive more camp-specific news. If you have any questions, please [email](#) our team. Here is another introduction to a member of our camp team.

Hi there! I'm Christine, the behind-the-scenes manager who makes sure CampInTouch is ready to go every year so our campers can sign up for a summer filled with amazing memories! My fantastic team and I are here to ensure that registration is a smooth process, all forms are submitted, payments go through, and any camp questions you have are answered. It's so exciting to be a part of making all the magical camp moments happen, and I can already tell this year is going to be unforgettable! Oh, and when I'm not handling camp responsibilities, I support all the fun programming opportunities we offer. Let's make this the best summer ever!



Christine Robbins
Director of Operational Resources

Camp Trading Post Pre-Orders Due May 1, 2025

We are excited to be selling summer camp apparel at each camp. If you want to make sure your camper gets the size and product they would like, we highly suggest that you order them now. [Here is the link to view each camp's trading post graphics](#). Purchasing apparel is NOT required.

To order your items, [log in](#) to your CampInTouch account, select Forms & Documents, and click on Extended Care and Trading Post Pre-Orders. You can order your items and pay for them through your account. The items that you pre-order will then be waiting for your camper at their first session of summer camp.

New this year! GSEMA will provide bug nets for all overnight campers. Bug nets that fit over the bug poles on beds will be available to use at camp.

Submit Required Camp Forms & Get Rewards

Camp forms are an important part of registering your camper, and the following forms are due by May 1, 2025:

- Camper Health History Form
- Camper Physical Form
- Medication Administration
- Day Camp Transportation Form (Day camp families only)

For families that submit their forms **by April 1**, we will mail a special [camp water bottle sticker and white on white bandana](#) as a thank you for submitting forms before the deadline. Submit by May 1 and receive the water bottle sticker. If your camper's physical is after May 1, in order to get the camp water bottle sticker, you must email [Customer Care](#) to inform them of the upcoming physical date and submit your prior year's physical.

Tip! [Download](#) and use the new Companion app (Android and Apple compatible) to easily submit the above forms through your phone!

Does my camper have to be a Girl Scout to attend camp?

Campers who are brand new to Girl Scouts are able to purchase an annual membership, or can wait until April 1 to take advantage of the Extended Year Membership, active from date of purchase through September 30, 2026. Returning campers can renew their memberships on their own until April 1. A separate email with registration instructions will be sent to your inbox in the next few weeks.

Preparing Camper for Overnight Camp

Preparing your camper for camp involves setting them up for success. Camp can be a different and new experience for most kids. Going off alone can be a very exciting time and the perfect setting to develop independence and a sense of responsibility. Help your camper understand that counselors and staff are there to support them. Look at pictures prior to the session to familiarize yourself with camp. Review your Camper Information Packet to see if your camp has a “Meet the Staff” or “Camp Tour” date where you can walk around the camp with your camper. Encourage your camper to ask questions if they don’t understand. The Camper Information Packet in your camp account has a list of discussion topics to help your camper prepare for their camp experience.

Want to work at Girl Scout summer camp?

Camp is the only place you get paid to make s’mores, build campfires, swim, make lanyards, watch shooting stars, and sing all day long! Get outdoors and change lives this summer while playing games, walking in the sunshine, and celebrating summer every day.

Join our team! Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts offers many seasonal overnight and day camp positions in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Check out this year’s Summer Camp opportunities [here](#). If you have questions about working at camp, feel free to [connect with our customer care team](#).

GSEMA Leadership Progression at Camp

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is an essential part of being a Girl Scout. At camp, our campers have the opportunity to gain new leadership experiences while also enjoying summer camp themselves. Below is how campers can explore their leadership journey at GSEMA’s camps.

Day Camp

- Program Aide I (grades 7-9)
- Program Aide II (grades 8-10)
- Day Camp Assistant or DCA (grades 9-11)
- Junior Counselor Program (grades 10-11)

Overnight Camp

- Counselor in Training I (entering grades 11-12)
- Counselor in Training II (entering grades 12)

GSEMA's Day Camp

Leadership Program starts for campers entering grade 7. The program is designed so campers build their knowledge year after year until they are old enough to apply to be camp staff. *Campers must wait until the following summer before attending the next level in the program.*

The first step is Program Aide I (PA I), where campers learn the basics of helping out younger campers, understanding age characteristics, and more.

The second step, campers are eligible for Program Aide II (PA II), where they deepen their knowledge of what it means to be a leader.

The third step in the program is to become a Day Camp Assistant (DCA). Before becoming a DCA, a camper must have completed PA I and PA II. All campers registering for the DCA program will be put on a waitlist to start so that we may verify they have completed the necessary training. DCA campers should expect to move off the waitlist within two weeks of registration.

The final step in the leadership journey is the Junior Counselor Program, the most fun internship ever! Get in-depth, on-the-job experience and training as you work alongside the counselors in units. All campers will be placed on a waitlist and will receive an application. Additionally, an interview will take place with all applicants in the spring.

GSEMA's Overnight Camp

Leadership Program is called Counselor in Training (CIT) and starts for campers entering grade 11. The program is designed so campers build their knowledge and gain skills year after year until they are old enough to apply to be camp staff. The first step is becoming a **Counselor in Training (CIT)**. Under the guidance of camp staff, CITs will learn about age-level characteristics, teaching techniques, how to keep younger campers engaged, and more. CITs will also get to practice their skills while working with younger campers. In addition, CITs will work with their fellow CITs on their leadership development, learning what style best suits them and how to work as a team.

The next step for CIT I graduates is **Counselor in Training II** for those entering 12th grade. This is a more in-depth, on-the-job experience and training. They will work with counselors in units and specialty areas and build on the skills they learned in CIT I. All CIT II applicants must fill out an application and will be waitlisted until applications are reviewed and approved. CIT IIs will also have an interview with Camp Director or Leadership Specialist to talk more about the program and expectations while at camp.

Communicating with GSEMA about Summer Camp

The best way to reach anyone from the camp team or have any camp questions answered is [via email!](#)

Talk to you all next month!
GSEMA Camp Team

