

# 2023 NATIONAL COUNCIL DELEGATE INFORMATION PACKET

## GIRL SCOUTS OF SOUTH CAROLINA – MOUNTAINS TO MIDLANDS, INC.

### OVERVIEW

In today's complicated world, Girl Scouts is an irrefutable and essential force in girls' lives. We are a vital experience that grows and expands alongside them as they get older and discover the world around them, explore their ambitions and realize their dreams, and become leaders in their communities and in their own lives. Every day, we strive to respond to the difficult realities today's girls face as they navigate conflicting expectations and views of female leadership, ambition, and power.

Girls are tired of walking a tightrope. They are stating their opinions, challenging conventions, and taking the lead to be the change they want to see.

We're here for them—anticipating their needs and preparing them to thrive in today's world.

### HISTORY OF GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouts of the USA was founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912. Girls between the ages of 5 and 17 are invited to join one of nearly 240,000 local troops throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and more than 150 other countries. The nation's First Lady customarily has adopted its honorary leadership.

### THE COUNCIL

Girl Scouts of South Carolina – Mountains to Midlands, Inc. is one of more than 100 jurisdictions nationally that is chartered to provide regional programmatic engagement. Our council is comparatively small to our national sister councils, but serves more than 15,000 girl and adult members who live in a 22-county region that stretches from throughout the central Midlands region to the western Upstate regions of South Carolina.

**Service Centers:** Columbia, Greenville, and Spartanburg, SC

**Corporate Office:** Greenville, SC

**Web site:** [www.gssc-mm.org](http://www.gssc-mm.org)

# THE NATIONAL COUNCIL

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the National Council is comprised of representatives from throughout the Girl Scout Movement including Girl Scout councils across the country, National Board and governance representation, and Girl Scouts Overseas. By corporate definition, a council nominee elected to represent the Girl Scouts of South Carolina – Mountains to Midlands, Inc., shall be known as a Council Delegate member of the National Council. When all representatives assemble, that meeting shall be known as the National Council.

## 2023 NATIONAL COUNCIL

The National Council Session/55<sup>th</sup> Convention of Girl Scouts of the USA will be held in July, 2023 in Orlando, Florida. National Council Sessions (conventions) are held every three years for the purpose of determining the general lines of policy of the Girl Scout Movement and the Girl Scout Program. The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Hear the report of the National Board of Directors
- Act on proposals and information presented to the delegation
- Elect the Board of Directors and Board Development Committee for the next three year term
- Help establish direction for Girl Scouts of the USA on new strategies for success, growth and expansion in the next century

## REQUIREMENTS

The Movement's governing standards, the *Blue Book*, denote how many council delegates each council may have as members of the National Council.

Requirements for the National Council include:

- Be a citizen of the United States
- Be a currently registered member of Girl Scouts through the GSSC-MM council as an annual or lifetime member
- If a girl National Delegate, must be 14-17 years of age at the time of the National Council Session and Convention
- Be available to attend the National Council Session in July 2023
- Be able to travel to/from Orlando prior to the session start and remaining through session completion
- Be committed to a three-year tenure as a National Delegate (term effective from January 2022 election date until new elections in January 2025)
- Be committed to participate in National Council Session activities and training sessions sponsored by GSSC-MM in advance of and make presentations related to the experience upon return from the National Convention

# NATIONAL COUNCIL DELEGATE

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The Board of Director's Nominating Committee, a committee of board and community members, is charged with the application and slate selection process of this role. Based on the information submitted on the application, the committee will select a representative contingency of our council utilizing the following documented competencies as a component of the selection matrix and requirements. Overarching to every selection is the candidate's ability to conduct themselves as a role model and council representative in step with the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

**Adaptability** – demonstrates flexibility when new information is brought forward

**Informed** – perceived ability to come to the session informed, but not instructed

**Team Player** – promotes partnerships, has commitment to a team approach; will support decisions of the National Council once made

**Decision-Making** – has the ability to analyze issues from a council and national perspective; demonstrates ability to weigh options and consider ramifications

**Communications** – is able to express ideas and facts in a clear manner; able to listen and verbalize information to various audiences involved in the process

**Girl Scout Knowledge** – an understanding of and experience with the council and the Girl Scout Movement

**Strategic Thinking** – ability to think in terms of long-term goals and objectives that advance our council's strategic priorities as well as the Movement as a whole; must be future-focused – beyond the troop, service unit or individual preference.

## ORIENTATION

In conjunction with Girl Scouts of the USA, orientation is anticipated in the late spring of 2022. So that our group has the opportunity to meet one another, this orientation meeting will be in-person at a central location to the participants.

## MEETINGS

A majority of the meetings will be held electronically following the initial training and orientation session. As an elected delegate, you will need access to a phone for conference calls and an electronic device for web conferencing sessions that will be scheduled periodically.

## REFERRAL & APPLICATION

The slate for the 2023 National Council Delegates is developed by the Board Nominating Committee and presented for election to the Council Delegates at the 2021 Annual Meeting held in January, 2022. If selected, attendance at the Annual Meeting is expected.

National Delegate training and three-year terms begin in January, 2022.

The council covers all costs for National Delegates. Alternates registration costs are covered, with travel and lodging amounts pending budget approval.

If you are interested in applying to be a National Council Delegate, please complete an application and return it no later than June 25, 2021.

## CONTACT & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### STAFF COORDINATOR

The council's Governance Manager and Assistant to the CEO/Board of Directors serves as the point of contact for this process as well as coordinates the communication, training and travel for this opportunity. Feel free to call for additional information.

Address: Five Independence Point Suite 120, Greenville, SC 29615

Phone: 800-849-GIRL (4475) extension 1407

Direct: 864-770-1407

Email: [tammyasplund@gssc-mm.org](mailto:tammyasplund@gssc-mm.org)