

# 2023-2024 Honor Troop Requirements

The Honor Troop program recognizes troops that provide strong, balanced programs for Girl Scouts at all age levels. This program promotes girl/adult partnerships, girl planning, community service, and involvement. Honor Troops are recognized in Spirit of Nebraska online and print publications. Each troop will receive a signed Honor Troop Certificate and each girl in the troop will receive an Honor Troop Patch.

Please use this document to track your accomplishments throughout the year. To apply for 2023-2024 Honor Troop status, your application must be completed online at by June 30, 2024. Please save this PDF to your computer BEFORE typing your information into the fields below. [Adobe Acrobat's](#) "Fill & Sign" tool is recommended—it's free!

## **HONOR TROOP REQUIREMENTS**

- Troops must complete all "Required Items" (1-17).
- Troops must also complete "Additional Items" (18-39) as follows:
  - **Daisy** troops must complete 5 additional items.
  - **Brownie** and **Junior** troops must complete 7 additional items.
  - **Cadette, Senior, Ambassador, and Multi-Level** troops must complete 9 additional items.
- An event or activity may only be used once.
- Complete chosen events and activities from items below by June 30, 2024.
- Enter dates into the online application (at [www.GirlScoutsNebraska.org/honortroop](http://www.GirlScoutsNebraska.org/honortroop)) by June 30, 2024. Late applications will not be accepted.

## **REQUIRED ITEMS**

Specify the date accomplished in the space provided (MM/DD/YYYY) for each item.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Membership registrations were completed online by 9/30/23 for returning members of existing troops or by the first meeting for new troops.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The troop has enough registered and background-screened adults on their roster to comply with Volunteer-to-Girl Ratios.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. All adults registered as "troop co-leader" have completed the required training within one month of the troop starting for the school year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The troop has established and maintained a bank account with at least two authorized signers, as well as a Troop Support Specialist as an authorized signer, as required by GSSN guidelines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The troop has held at least two parent meetings throughout the year, encouraging parents to participate in the troop and fostering good communication and teamwork. Best times to hold a parent meeting: back-to-school, cookie season, end-of-year (wrap up), etc. (guides to help you run these meetings can be found on our website).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The troop has a plan for regularly communicating with parents/caregivers.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Troop co-leaders offer opportunities for parents/caregivers to be involved in troop activities and/or outings.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. A troop planning session has been conducted during the year. Girl interests and ideas are incorporated into the yearly calendar.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Utilize the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK) in learning to plan your Girl Scout Troop year. Plan at least one meeting using the VTK.
10. The troop is represented at one or more of the following volunteer-focused events:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer/Service Unit Meeting
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Leader Networking Events
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer Weekend Retreat Weekend and/or Volunteer Award Ceremony

11. The troop has participated in at least one council-sponsored Product Program, all paperwork was submitted, and money deposited to meet deadlines:
 

|                            |                                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| _____ Fall Product Program | _____ Girl Scout Cookie Program |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
12. The troop has planned and participated in at least one traditional Girl Scout ceremony throughout the year and parents/caregivers have been invited to attend.
 

|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ Court of Awards | _____ Bridging            |
| _____ Investiture     | _____ Girl Award Ceremony |
| _____ Rededication    |                           |
13. The troop has observed at least two of the following:
 

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| _____ Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday     | _____ Girl Scout Sunday/Sabbath |
| _____ World Thinking Day                 | _____ Leader Appreciation Day   |
| _____ Girl Scout Week and/or Spirit Week |                                 |
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. The troop has participated in at least one Take Action/community service project.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. The troop has participated in at least one age-appropriate outdoor activity during the year, and at least one adult has completed "Explore Out" and "Camp Out (Basic)" trainings (if required).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. The troop has completed at least one Girl Scout Journey for their grade level during the year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. Annual Troop Finance Report was submitted by 6/30/24 to the Finance Department at the Omaha Service Center or online through the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK).

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS**

Daisy troops must complete 5 additional activities. **Brownie** and **Junior** troops must complete 7 additional activities. **Cadette, Senior, Ambassador,** and **Multi-Level** troops must complete 9 additional items. Specify the date accomplished in the space provided on the left (MM/DD/YYYY) for each item. Additionally, provide a brief description on how the item was accomplished in the space below each item.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. The troop has taken at least one field trip away from their regular meeting place for Journey and/or badge work:
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. The troop has participated in at least one **council-sponsored program**:
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. The troop has participated in at least one area Service Unit event:
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 21. The troop has participated in at least one activity with another Girl Scout troop:
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. Troop members invite non-Girl Scouts to attend at least one troop meeting or activity. Girls do not need to be registered members to attend:
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. The troop has learned about Girl Scouting/Girl Guiding in other countries:
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. The troop has submitted at least **one article and/or photo** for council publications (or to a local newspaper) about an accomplishment of the troop:
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. The troop has decorated a store window or public bulletin board in their school or other public area during Girl Scout Week or Spirit Week AND submitted a photo to the council:
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. The troop has participated in at least two activities with a sister Girl Scout troop. A sister Girl Scout troop is a troop with whom the troop joins with on an ongoing basis (i.e. pen pals, field trips, council programs, celebrations, ceremonies, etc.):
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. The troop has conducted at least four flag ceremonies, with at least one being a public flag ceremony (i.e. PTA meeting, community club meeting, ball game, etc.):
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. The troop has participated in an activity that promotes community Girl Scouting awareness:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. The troop has participated in an activity that encourages environmental awareness:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 30. The troop has participated in an activity that explores STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and math):
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 31. The troop has completed at least one **Programs on Demand**:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 32. The troop has supported the **Daisy's Circle Campaign** with at least half of the families contributing any size gift:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 33. The troop has submitted a nomination for **Volunteer Awards**:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 34. The troop has completed Early Bird registration for a majority of their troop members by 6/30/24:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 35. The troop has invited an expert to attend their meeting to speak to the girls about a Journey/badge topic:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 36. The troop has taken part in an **age-appropriate travel experience**:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. The troop has participated in a back to school event or curriculum night encouraging new girls to join their troop or to start a new troop:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 38. The troop has discussed the importance of the Girl Scout Voices Count survey and the majority of girls and parents in the troop have completed the survey:
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- \_\_\_\_\_ 39. Earned any of the new Maker badges, released in fall 2023:
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## **QUESTIONS**

Other questions that will be asked on the online application:

1. Why did your troop decide to work toward becoming an Honor Troop, and why do you feel they are deserving of this distinction?
2. Do you need an exception to any of the "Required" or "Additional" items? If so, please include the item number and describe why you are requesting an exception.