

FAQ: No GSOC Fall Product Program or Kickoff Event in 2025

Q: Why is GSOC discontinuing the Fall Product Program and Fall Kickoff in 2025?

A: This decision was based on thorough analysis of participation trends, feedback from members and volunteers, and the operational impact of these efforts. We believe stepping back from these initiatives will allow us to better focus our resources on providing high-quality, meaningful experiences in other areas of the Girl Scout program.

Q: Is this change permanent?

A: At this time, this change applies to the 2025-26 membership year. We will continue to listen to our members and evaluate the needs of our community to determine what programming best supports Girl Scouts in the future.

Q: What entrepreneurship opportunities will be available without the Fall Product Program?

A: Girls and troops can look forward to new events and activities designed to strengthen entrepreneurial and financial literacy skills. There will also be a continued focus on the Girl Scout Cookie Program, offering more ways to build entrepreneurial confidence. In addition, troops will benefit from enhanced support and training to help deliver an impactful Girl Scout experience.

Q: How will this affect troop funding?

A: We understand the importance of securing funds to support the troop experience. While the Fall Product Program will not take place in 2025, troops will still have opportunities to raise funds through the Girl Scout Cookie Program and may explore additional troop-approved **money-earning activities**.

Q: How will girls earn Fall Product or entrepreneurship badges if there is no sale?

A: Girl Scouts will still have opportunities to earn entrepreneurship and financial literacy badges through new council-led opportunities, troop activities, and the Girl Scout Cookie Program.

Q: What if I want to buy fall product?

A: We encourage you connect with a sister Girl Scout from across the U.S. who is participating in the Fall Product Program.

Q: Will the Fall Kickoff Event return in the future?

A: We will continue to evaluate participation trends, feedback, and volunteer capacity to determine future event offerings. Our goal is always to deliver meaningful, engaging experiences that meet the evolving needs of our Girl Scout community.

Q: How does this change help Girl Scouts and volunteers?

A: This decision reduces the pressure and workload on volunteers during the busy back-to-school season and provides more time to focus on core Girl Scout experiences. It also allows the council to invest more in high-impact programming and support for troops.

Q: Will this impact the Cookie Program?

A: Not at all! In fact, this shift allows us to focus more time and resources on enhancing the Girl Scout Cookie Program, providing even stronger support and training for volunteers and Girl Scouts.

Q: Who can I talk to if I have concerns about this change?

A: Please email us at <u>customercare@girlscoutsoc.org</u>. We value your feedback and are happy to discuss ways we can support your troop.

Q: Is there an option to opt into the Fall Product Program some other way?

A: At this time, the Fall Product Program is not being offered and there is no possibility of opting-in.

Q: Will there be another option for troops to earn the troop bonuses previously offered during the Fall Product Program (early access to the cookie booth scheduler and consignment cookies)?

A: Yes! Troops can still earn early access to the cookie booth scheduler and receive consignment cookies by qualifying for the *Troop Cookie Initial Order Bonus*.