

Position Description: National Council Delegate and Alternate

National Council Delegates are elected to three-year terms and serve as your council as voting members on the National Council. Throughout their three-year term, they gather feedback from members of your council, learn about proposals, and act as your council's voice on the National Council. Delegates share insights and report on actions taken by the National Council with your membership at your council's Annual Meeting and other council events.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Citizen of the United States
- A registered member of Girl Scouts of the USA
- Age 14 or older

NATIONAL COUNCIL GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITIES

The National Council is authorized to:

- Elect the National Board of Directors and National Board Development Committee.
- Amend the constitution.
- Establish requirements for credentials.
- Act on proposals.
- Influence the strategic direction of the Movement by providing guidance to the National Board.

DUTIES OF A DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE

In advance of the National Council Session, everyone elected by the council as a voting member/delegate to the National Council takes personal responsibility to:

- Represent their council as voting members of the National Council throughout the triennium.
- Register for and regularly connect to the Delegate website for news and updated communications.
- Complete training, which includes self-paced online modules, virtual and in-person sessions.
- Attend briefing meetings conducted by your council; participate in council, board, and association meetings; and participate in council forums and focus groups.
- Actively gather and consider a broad spectrum of the opinions of members from all parts of your council and across the Movement.
- Participate in all webinars sponsored by GSUSA and provide decision-influencing input as requested throughout the triennium.
- Engage in opportunities to discuss, learn, and share ideas across the Movement.
- Share learning and insights with council members.
- Each alternate should be prepared to step into the role of a voting member at any time.

While attending the National Council Session, each voting member is responsible for:

- Attending all business meetings of the National Council Session and participating in the decision-making proceedings.

- Being fully prepared to vote on all business items, including proposals and the National Board of Directors slates.

Upon returning from any regular or special National Council Session, each National Council voting member/delegate is prepared to:

- **Report** to your council's membership, such as at your annual meeting, to the council board of directors, and to your council's constituency on the National Council decisions and the reasons for such decisions.
- **Share insights** on information gained at the National Council Session.
- **Assist your council** as it prepares to participate in the next National Council Session including supporting onboarding of new delegates and alternates.
- **Participate** in teleconferences/webinars and other opportunities as requested by our council and the National Board Office.

TIME COMMITMENT

While the time commitment varies throughout the triennium and can change from one triennium to the next if special sessions are called, it is important that potential delegates and alternates understand that the role requires a commitment of time and effort throughout their three-year term. Trainings may include any council-sponsored training, GSUSA trainings or obligations but not limited to:

- Delegate onboarding includes GSUSA training on the delegate role, delivered through on-demand webinars, in addition to the welcome and/or orientation programs offered by your council.
- Delegate education commitments increase in the months leading up to any regular or special National Council Session. These will include briefings on issues, webinars on proposals, the annual GSUSA stewardship report, and other topics that may arise.
- GSUSA and council delegate input gathering activities take place throughout the triennium, and can include in-person meetings, webinars, recordings, posts on the Delegate Website, and surveys.

Councils will elect delegates based on the following criteria:

- Ability to think strategically and focus on the future of the Girl Scout Movement.
- Experience and/or interest in policy-influencing and policy-making positions.
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the workings of Girl Scout councils and the Movement.
- Ability to analyze issues from a national as well as a council perspective. National Council actions and decisions have Movement-wide implications.
- Commitment to attending council and GSUSA training sessions to be as informed as possible about the issues and democratic process utilized at the National Council Session.
- Willingness to support all the decisions of the National Council and to educate council members about the decisions made.