

Types of Financial Assistance Available from the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital November 8, 2016

- **Online Request: Assistance for the annual membership dues (currently \$25.00)** is available for girls and adult volunteers. To request this type of assistance, log on to your account at www.gscnc.org (My GS Sign In), register your daughter (or yourself as an adult volunteer), toward the end of the process you'll arrive at a payment page (just after the page where you accept the Girl Scout Promise and Law). The payment page will ask if you'd like to make an additional donation. In the middle of the page you'll see your daughter's name (or your name) in a box. Within the box, there is another check box labeled "request aid" (if you see a credit card payment screen go back a page). After you check the request aid box you will skip over the page for requesting your credit card number and receive an email telling you that your request is being reviewed. The administrative assistants for each geographical area review and approve financial assistance each day – parents receive another email when it's approved. Troop leaders cannot request this type of assistance on behalf of parents or other adults. Financial assistance is not available for lifetime memberships.
- **Online Request: Assistance is available for the background screening fee (currently \$8.00).** After you register as an adult volunteer for one of the roles that require a background screening you'll receive an email "invitation" from advocates@verifiedvolunteers.com to begin the process. The email will contain two links. One link is to be used if you'd like to pay the fee. The other link is to be used if you'd like to request financial assistance to cover the fee. Once you click on this second link you'll be directed to an online form that collects some information about the need for the assistance. After providing this information you'll be redirected to a special portal at Verified Volunteers that does not ask for payment. This special portal is only available by completing the process using the special link in the email invitation.
- **Online Request: Assistance for uniforms, books and troop dues** is available to registered girls and registered troop leaders. The form can be filled out by the parent or the troop leader. To begin this process go to the "Forms" page of our web site at www.gscnc.org then select Financial Assistance for Uniforms, Books & Troop Dues. It would be ideal if leaders could bundle their requests by including more than one girl on each form rather than submitting multiple requests – it will reduce shipping costs and processing time – however some parents prefer to request assistance directly. If the parent is filling out the form and asking for money for troop dues, the check will be made payable to the troop and mailed to the troop leader. Uniform items and books will be mailed to whomever filled out the form (parent or troop leader). Note: in the next few months the troop dues payments will be made via a direct deposit into the troop account.
- **Paper Form: Program grants** are available for registered girls or adults to participate in a specific activity such as a trip or special program. This is the only type of financial assistance that uses a paper form. Detailed budgets and/or itineraries are required to be attached to this form. These requests are reviewed monthly by the Program Grants Panel so it's important to pay attention to submission deadlines (usually 6-8 weeks in advance). You can find this form on the "Forms" page of our web site at www.gscnc.org. The instructions and deadlines for submitting the form are printed on the top of the form.