

Mackinac Island Scout Service Program Troop 609

2025 Girl Application Packet

Please read both sides of this form thoroughly.

The State of Michigan has selected the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Troop 609 to serve at the Mackinac Island Scout Service Program again this year. This represents our **45th year** of service to the state of Michigan!

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The summer of 2025 will mark Troop 609's 45th year of outstanding service to the Mackinac Island Scout Service Program. Thousands of visitors from all over the world visit Mackinac Island each summer. As these visitors tour historic Fort Mackinac and the other state park buildings, they are greeted by Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops that are vital to the operations of the site. The people of Mackinac Island have pride in our standards and us. It is our responsibility to give them our very best!

In order to become a member of the Scout Service Camp, you must be willing to dedicate yourself to serving the people and the State of Michigan. You must be willing to put service – flag duty, guide duty, service projects, and KP duties – before your own personal free time and the other fun you may participate in during your stay on Mackinac Island.

INFORMATION NIGHTS

Kalamazoo Regional Center on 10/24/24 at 6pm.
Saginaw Regional Center on 10/24/24 at 6pm

There will be a virtual information night held on Monday 1/6/25, Thursday 1/16/25 and Wednesday 1/29/25.

If you are interested in registering for any of the information nights please email Brenda Coleman at honorguarddirector@yahoo.com

ELIGIBILITY

All 6th – 12th grade, at the time of selection, registered Girl Scouts are eligible to apply. You must be a full time Michigan resident.

2025 DATES OF PROGRAM**

Application deadline: 2/21/25

Zoom Selection Interviews March 3 -9

Basic Training: April 5

Required parent attendance for this meeting. All forms, changes, important information about the Service Week, uniform ordering etc. will be done during this time.

1st year girls and any JL applicants 9am -5pm

All other Returning girls 10am -5pm

Camp Linden - 5285 Hogan Rd, Linden MI 48451

May Planning Weekend: May 17 - 18

12pm Saturday – 12pm Sunday

Camp Linden - 5285 Hogan Rd, Linden MI 48451

June Training: June 21– 22

9am Saturday – 12pm Sunday

Camp Linden - 5285 Hogan Rd, Linden MI 48451

July Training: July 12 10am – 5pm

Camp Linden - 5285 Hogan Rd, Linden MI 48451

Service Week

August 2 – 9, 11am – 1pm

Scout Barracks, Mackinac Island

**Times subject to change, dates will not

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is important to have the entire troop together for trainings. We are a team that depends on each other to accomplish our duties. One conflict is allowed based on approval through the absence request form, and completion of an approved service project to make up the missed time.

PROGRAM FEE

1st year girls - \$350.00

Returning girls - \$325.00

- A \$50 deposit must accompany the application, this deposit will be refunded if a participant is not selected, however, the deposit will be forfeited if applicant drops out after being selected or does not show up to first training.
- Payment Schedule:
 - Deposit due (\$50) with application
 - Payment of \$300 for new girls and \$275 for returning girls, cookie cash and/or Financial Aid is due on 4/5 at the Basic Training Weekend.
- Program fee is nonrefundable once the acceptance of responsibility is signed and submitted.
- As an alternate, any fees paid minus the \$50 deposit will be refunded when all items that were provided (uniform, program book etc) are returned.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

If needed, you must apply for financial assistance from your own council.

- **GS Heart of Michigan** – a link to the application will be provided upon acceptance into the program as needed

UNIFORM

Uniform pieces included in the program fee are a white nylon jacket, a clear poncho, and two uniform shirts. Items are provided at the trainings and kept until outgrown or finished with the program, in which they are returned. Additional items that will need to be purchased include shorts, shoes, socks and watch. A current GSUSA approved vest is needed with a few minor modifications for Troop 609. All this information will be provided at the April meeting and full uniform is required by the May meeting.

SELECTION CRITERIA

An interview will be conducted via zoom the weekend of March 3rd. Interview times will be for thirty minutes. Emails will be sent to schedule times for the interviews. Selection will be based on the application, references and the zoom interview.

APPLICATION AND TWO CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCES

An application and two confidential references are included in this packet. Missing photos or incomplete information will reflect negatively on you. The references should be from a **non-family** member only. This could be a teacher, Girl Scout adult, church member, family friend, or any other adult over the age of 18 who has known you for at least one year. They are to mail the letters of recommendations directly to the address listed on the form.

Application and confidential references must be received by February 21st!!

BEFORE YOU APPLY

Please read and understand the entire application packet. Keep in mind the following information:

1. This program is a privilege, not a right.
2. You may need to choose the Troop 609 program over other activities you want to participate in this summer.
3. Any absences you want excused (including leaving early or arriving late) need to be indicated on the application. One absence is allowed, including leaving early or coming late. Each case will be considered on an individual basis. Not all absences will be approved.
4. If you feel you cannot commit entirely to this program, please do not apply this year. You may try again next year.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions about the Honor Guard program or this application, contact the Director, Brenda Coleman, at:

honorguarddirector@yahoo.com

Or check out our website at

[HTTPS://MIGHG-609.weebly.com](https://MIGHG-609.weebly.com)

COMMUNICATION

Communication will be done via email prior to the Basic Training. Please ensure that an email that is checked frequently is provided in the primary email place. The second means of communication will be the primary phone number, ensure that is a number that will be the best for contact.

Checklist of items to include:

- Recent color photo
- \$50 Deposit
- All information completed



Mackinac Island Scout Service Program Troop 609

2025 Girl Application

APPLICATION DEADLINE – February 21, 2025!!!
(must be received by the deadline)

This application is for new girls and/or girls that are not applying for leadership.

Name _____

Address (during school year) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Grade _____ Birth Date _____

Primary Communication: Phone number _____

Email _____

Name of GS council you are registered with: _____ Troop # or Juliette? _____

Parents' or Guardians' Contact information:

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____

Please answer the following questions honestly and completely:

1. List previous Girl Scout experiences, leadership/service activities, and Girl Scout awards/recognitions earned: _____

2. List any community service you have participated in (within and outside of Girl Scouts) _____

3. Have you served with Troop 609 before? Yes [] No [] If yes, which years? _____

4. Have you ever spent more than one weekend away from home **without** your family (in or out of Girl Scouts)?

Yes [] No [] How Long? _____ Where? _____

5. **ABSENCE REQUEST:** Any absences (including arriving late or leaving early) you want excused must be listed below. Each case will be considered on an individual basis. Not all absences will be approved.

April Basic Training (9am – 5pm Sat) _____

May Planning (Noon Saturday – Noon Sun) _____

June Training (9am Sat – Noon Sun) _____

July Training (9am – 5pm Sat) _____

6. Select preference for Zoom Interview _____ Friday Night _____ Saturday Morning _____ Saturday Afternoon _____ Saturday Evening

7. Do you play a musical instrument? Yes [] No [] If yes, please list _____

8. List any physical, mental, medical conditions or disabilities that might affect your involvement in this program?
Include any allergies (food or other) for consideration when planning meals etc. _____

Please describe how the condition or disability might affect your involvement, and what can be done to enhance your participation: _____

9. Complete the following statement: *I want to serve in the Mackinac Island Scout Service Program because* _____

10. Two Confidential References must be obtained. Please list your reference's information below, and instruct the reference to mail their letter directly to the address listed at the bottom

1. Name _____ Phone Number _____

How do you know them? _____

2. Name _____ Phone Number _____

How do you know them? _____

Girl Commitment: I am interested in serving the state of Michigan as a member of the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Mackinac Island Scout Service Program Troop 609. I have read and understand all the information in this application packet. I understand this program is a privilege, not a right. I understand if selected, I will be expected to participate in all of the mandatory dates listed on the front page. I understand any absences I want excused need to be indicated on the application, and that not all absences will be approved. I understand this program is complex and I agree to attend any meetings and participate in the communication platform to obtain all the necessary information needed to be successful. I am prepared to choose the Scout Service Camp over other activities I want to do this summer. I agree to be a responsible group member, abide by group decisions, and work with the girl and adult leadership for the event. I understand that service is the main responsibility of this program.

Girl's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's Permission: I give my daughter/custodial child permission to apply to be a member of the Mackinac Island Scout Service Program and understand the projected expenses. I am aware that if selected, my daughter may apply for financial assistance through her own council office to help defray the program fee costs. I understand that if selected an Acceptance Letter, Health Information, Program payment will be required at the April Basic Training weekend. I understand a full uniform is expected by May Training. I agree to provide all medical history information and abide by all health and safety requests of Troop 609 while my daughter is a member. I understand this program is complex and I agree to attend any meetings and participate in the communication platform to obtain all the necessary information needed for my Girl Scout to be successful. I understand that if my daughter is not able to comply with ALL Troop 609 rules and regulations during trainings and on the island she can be dismissed at the discretion of a Court of Honor. It can be any one infraction. I also understand that once on the Island if she can't perform her duties, not able to comply with Troop 609 island rules and regulations or becomes ill, I will receive a phone call asking me to pick my daughter up at my expense and within a **24 hour period**.

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

This application must be received by the 2/21/25 deadline to:

Brenda Coleman, Troop 609, 3116 Blue Grass Lane, Swartz Creek MI 48473

Mackinac Island Scout Service Program Troop 609
Confidential Reference Outline

Name of applicant: _____ Name of reference: _____ Phone number: _____

Please mail this Reference to the address below by February 21, 2025

The above name applicant has applied to be a member of the Mackinac Island Scout Service Program. Troop 609 participates in various duties on Mackinac Island and Fort Mackinac including flag ceremonies, guide duty, and various service projects. If you have any questions about the program, please ask the applicant or contact the Director at honorguarddirector@yahoo.com. Use additional paper if needed. Thank you for your assistance!

1. How long have you known the applicant? How do you know them? _____

2. How has she evidenced the following (give specific examples if possible):

a. Her interest in Girl Scouting? _____

b. Her ability to “get along with others”? _____

c. Her enthusiasm and initiative? _____

d. Her dependability and maturity? _____

3. Other comments _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail to: Brenda Coleman, Troop 609, Reference 3116 Blue Grass Lane, Swartz Creek MI 48473

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a. Her interest in Girl Scouting? _____

b. Her ability to "get along with others"? _____

c. Her enthusiasm and initiative? _____

d. Her dependability and maturity? _____

6. Other comments _____

Signature _____ Date _____

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