
Day Camp

Frequently Asked Questions

We are so excited to have your child join us this summer at the STEM Center of Excellence. Here are some answers to frequently asked questions that you will find helpful as you prepare for her time at the STEM Center of Excellence.

Is my Girl Scout ready for Day Camp?

Although age is one factor in readiness for Day Camp, a child's maturity level and personality can be more important indicators. Talk to your child before registering her. If she is enthusiastic about attending, then she will probably enjoy camp. The following questions may help guide you when learning if your child is prepared for day camp:

- ✓ Can she keep up with her personal belongings?
- ✓ Can she cope with unfamiliar people, new places, and group schedules?
- ✓ Does she enjoy making new friends?
- ✓ Does she like group situations?

Am I ready for my Girl Scout to attend Day Camp?

Parents and guardians sometimes have a difficult time sending their Girl Scouts to Day Camp. Asking yourself the following questions may help in your decision making:

- ✓ Can you relax and enjoy yourself while your Girl Scout is at Day Camp?
- ✓ Are you prepared to be away from your Girl Scout all day and not be able to talk to her on the phone?
- ✓ Are you confident in your Girl Scout's ability to care for herself and keep track of her belongings?
- ✓ Do you believe that camp provides Girl Scouts with a fun and rewarding experience that builds self-worth and independence?
- ✓ Are you willing to trust camp staff with the care of your Girl Scout?

Can my camper come to camp if she is not currently a Girl Scout?

Yes! All of our camps invite girls, even if they are not active in a Girl Scout troop during the school year. However, you will need to register your camper as a Girl Scout member for insurance purposes **prior** to registering for a camp session. This is a \$35 fee and will cover her GSUSA membership until September 30, 2022. You can contact our Customer Care team at (972) 349-2403 or customer care@gsnetx.org for more information.



What time does Day Camp start at the STEM Center of Excellence?

Day Camp will be from 9:00 am-4:00 pm daily. Check-in will begin promptly at 8:30 am and check out will be from 4:00 pm-4:30 pm. Before and After Care is available; see below for details. **Check in and Check out times are firm.** We do understand that traffic and other things happen; call the STEM center to let us know if you are experiencing difficulty at pick up/drop off. On your first early arrival (before 8:30am) or late pick up (after 4:30pm), you will be given a reminder. Additional instances of being early or late, will result in an automatic charge for extended care.

Do you provide before/after care?

Before & After Care is available at the STEM Center of Excellence from 7:30 am-8:30 am and 4:30 pm-6:00 pm.

Is there bus transportation to The STEM Center of Excellence?

Daily bus transportation will be available from JoAnn Fogg Service Center (JAFSC) located at 6001 Summerside Dr., Dallas, TX 75252, to the STEM Center of Excellence for **Day Camp ONLY Weeks 4-8.** Bus transportation will be an additional \$75 per Girl Scout each week. Girl Scouts will need to check in at JAFSC between 7:30 am and 8:00 am each day of their session. **The bus will depart promptly at 8:15 am.** The bus will return to JAFSC around 5:00 pm, and **all campers must be picked up no later than 6 pm each day.** If you have already registered and would like to add bus service, please contact Customer Care. If you have already purchased before/after care and would like bus service please contact Customer Care to have your deposit for before/after care applied to the bus cost and pay any balance owed.

What do I need to send for lunch? Will you heat my child's meal?

Please send a nut/peanut free lunch, including a refillable water bottle. Remember, STEM Center day camps do have time for a morning snack & afternoon snack (provided by STEM Center) and lunch. Girl Scouts are active, and they will get hungry, so send enough food to help them power through their day. Make sure to pack your child's lunch in an insulated lunchbox with ice packs to help keep it cool and be aware campers cannot warm food in microwaves or store in a refrigerator.

Is financial assistance available for Day Camp?

Yes, partial financial assistance may be requested for any registered Girl Scout living in the 32 counties served by Girl Scout Scouts of Northeast Texas (GSNETX). Families with financial situations that may prevent them from participating in camp can request assistance for a portion of session fees, minus the required \$50 deposit. To apply for financial assistance, please complete the online Financial Assistance Request Form at www.gsnetx.org/financialassistance and select the STEM Center of Excellence Day Camp Category. You will instantly be notified of the amount approved and be required to pay the \$50 deposit in order to complete the application.

What are the rules about medication?

We strongly encourage all medications be administered at home, outside of Day Camp hours. However, we do understand that cannot always be the case. Medications need to be in **original** containers, prescribed **specifically** for the camper, and must **not** be expired or expire while at camp. ALL medications must be placed in a plastic bag with the medication form and will be submitted to the Health Officer during check in. The STEM Center of Excellence Health Officer will be available at check in for any questions or concerns.

Administering Medications at camp.

We will assist campers who need regular medication on a set schedule. Medications will not be dispensed in any manner other than what is specified on the label without written instruction from a physician. Medications will be sent home on Friday in your camper's lunch box/bag.

Is technology allowed at camp?

No personal electronic devices are permitted at GSNETX camps. These include, but are not limited to: iPods, tablets, laptops and other portable electronics. Cell phones and/or smart watches are not allowed at camp for any session. They are easily lost or damaged in the camp environment. In addition, cameras on cell phones can create privacy issues. Cell phones/watches may interfere with your camper's ability to build trust, friendships, and independence. If a camper breaks this rule and is found with a cell phone or electronic device, it will be held by the Camp Director until the end of camp. The camp, camp staff, and GSNETX are not responsible for lost or damaged cell phones/watches or electronics.

How should campers conduct themselves?

All Girl Scouts are expected to abide by the Girl Scout Promise and Law while at camp. The Camp Director and staff will be accommodating as much as possible to help Girl Scouts adjust to camp life. However, GSNETX reserves the right to send home from camp any Girl Scout who exhibits unsuitable behavior, endangers the camp community, or whose actions towards others are unacceptable. The Girl Scout's parents/guardians are responsible for picking up their child in the event of unacceptable behavior; there will be no refund for camp fees or travel costs.

What if it's hot outside?

Despite the expected summer heat, your Girl Scout will still have an amazing time at camp! We encourage and remind the Girl Scouts to drink plenty of water and refill their water bottles regularly at designated locations. The SCoE has buildings with air conditioning that we can do certain activities in when temperatures become unbearable or unsafe. Please note that even though Girl Scouts may spend some time in air-conditioning, a majority of their day is spent outside at camp. Extra precautions will be taken on days when the heat index exceeds 100 degrees.

Will my Girl Scouts earn badges or journeys at camp?

Each session will focus on different STEM related Girl Scout badges or journeys. Not all summer camps will fulfill the requirements for badges and journeys. At the end of the camp session, your Girl Scout will receive a list of all activities that can be applied to badge work. Some badges and Journeys are provided at conclusion of camp, but all are available at all GSNEXT shops. The shop at the STEM Center will NOT be open at check in or check out.

What if I need to cancel my registration?

To cancel your camper's registration, you **MUST** email customer care@gsnetx.org as soon as possible. The camp fee (minus a \$50 cancellation fee for STEM Center of Excellence Day Camp) will be refunded if cancellation is received by GSNEXT at least 30 days before camp session start date.

Will my Girl Scout need a Covid Test to go to DAY camp?

Girl Scouts attending DAY CAMPS will NOT need a Covid test to attend camp.

Covid Safety while at Camp

For the most up to date information on Covid protocols at camp please visit the GSNEXT website.

https://www.gsnetx.org/content/dam/NE_Texas/documents/safety_GSNEXT_COVID19_CAMP_FAQsUpdates.pdf

<https://www.gsnetx.org/en/camps/summer-camp.html>

At the conclusion of each day, all equipment and building will be sanitized according to the latest CDC and Texas Dept of Health Youth Camp Guidelines.

