

Immunization Policy

Frequently Asked Questions

Girl Scouts of Northern California follows state law as it applies to public and private school attendance. Visit shotsforschool.org for information about California's vaccination requirements, including information from the [California Department of Public Health](https://www.cdph.ca/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/Pages/default.aspx). A general overview of state laws regarding school immunization exemption is provided and annually updated on the [National Conference of State Legislatures](https://www.ncsl.org/research/education/national-conference-of-state-legislatures.aspx) website.

Q: My daughter is homeschooled and will not be vaccinated. Can she still participate in Girl Scouts?

A: To participate in Girl Scouts, your daughter must be immunized whether she attends public or private school or is homeschooled.

Q: My daughter is currently a Girl Scout and she has not been immunized. Can our daughter still participate in Girl Scouts?

A: As of the 2021-2022 Girl Scout membership year, GSNorCal requires all new members to be vaccinated in accordance with the California Health and Safety Code. Girls who have previously participated in troop activities without being vaccinated will need to consult with their troop leader. It is up to the discretion of the troop and troop leader to determine whether a girl can continue her participation in troop activities. If the troop decides to allow continued participation, unvaccinated girls may only participate in troop and virtual activities. Unvaccinated girls may not participate in multi-troop events or any other events where girls outside her troop are present. Please ensure that her [Annual Health History Form](#) is up-to-date.

Q: It is against our family beliefs to immunize our children. Can our daughter still join Girl Scouts?

A: Girl Scouts of Northern California respects your family's beliefs, but we stand by the [California Health and Safety Code, Sections 12035-12075](#) that requires that children attending public and private schools be immunized in order to protect those they interact with from becoming ill.

Q: What if my daughter cannot be immunized due to medical reasons?

A: If the physical condition of your daughter is such, or medical circumstances relating to your daughter are such, that immunization is not considered safe, a licensed physician or surgeon must prepare a written statement that is submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services Immunization Registry indicating that they do not recommend immunization for your child. Parents/guardians should then submit the GSNorCal [Medical Exemption Form](#). Girls who are not immunized due to medical reasons are welcome at all Girl Scout meetings and events.

Q: Are adults included in this policy?

A: Yes, adults who volunteer with girls must also be immunized. Check with your regular health care provider to get the needed vaccines and be sure to provide your troop leader with an up-to-date [Adult Health History Form](#) as well.

Q: When the Coronavirus vaccine is made available to the general public, will girls and volunteers be required to take it?

A: GSNorCal will align its requirements for the Coronavirus vaccine with California state, county and local school district health requirements for public and private schools. No such requirements have been released to date.

Contact info@gsnorcal.org with any additional questions.