

## **GSUSA New Program Content 2017 – FAQ for Service Unit Volunteers**

This summer, Girl Scouts of the USA is releasing programming for 38 new badges and Journeys focused on **outdoors** and **STEM**, which will be available at no additional cost through the Volunteer Toolkit! This new programming will follow the same model as the current badge and Journey options and are intended to be an add-on to the program choices now available to girls and volunteers. GSUSA has announced that they will release the new content in July and we're excited to keep you updated as more information becomes available.

### **Q: When will this new content be available?**

A. The exact release dates are still being determined, but according to GSUSA, the content will be released in July 2017.

### **Q: How can the new content be accessed?**

A. All new content will be available in the Volunteer Toolkit and badge requirements will also be available in council stores.

### **Q. Are the current Journeys or Badges going away?**

A. No. GSUSA is releasing additional content that girls and adults want and have been looking for, as a complement to the current portfolio of content.

### **Q: What STEM topics will be covered?**

A: Four STEM topics will be covered for Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors in 2017: engineering, computer science, outdoor STEM, and robotics. GSUSA will release additional Journeys and badges in these same topics for Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors in 2018.

### **Q: Will there be multi-level versions of the STEM badges and Journeys?**

A: Yes, there will be multi-level versions for K-5 leaders that will be posted in the Volunteer Toolkit.

### **Q: What Outdoor topics will be covered?**

A: Outdoor skills, troop camping, and outdoor adventures.

### **Q: Are the new outdoor programs K–12? What about multi-level troops?**

A: Yes, there are outdoor program materials for **all** program levels—along with guides for multi-level troop leaders: one for Daisies, Brownies, Juniors and one for Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors.

### **Q. When will there be an updated badge chart?**

A. We will have an updated badge chart available by Fall 2017.

### **Q. What type of support will be provided for volunteers?**

A: GSUSA plans to develop several national trainings to support volunteers over the next year, starting with a webinar for Service Unit volunteers. The SU volunteer webinar is being offered at two different times to help accommodate people's schedules and SU Volunteers received an email invitation for the webinar on [5/30/2017](#) and [6/14/2017](#).

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Sign up for the webinar here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/rt/4310745670591704067>

- Saturday, June 17 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. PDT
- Thursday, June 22 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. PDT

GSNorCal will be developing a detailed support plan for volunteers in the coming months. GSUSA is releasing the new program content to council staff *and* volunteers at the same time, in mid-July. We are currently developing an approach to getting staff up to speed as quickly as possible so that we all can help troops start working on the new badges and Journeys in the fall. We'll share more information about our support plans in July.