

Volunteer Essentials **Product Program**

Rewards and Money Management

There are a few specific guidelines—as required by the Internal Revenue Service—that ensure that programs are conducted with legal and financial integrity. To that end, consider the following reminders and cautions:

- All rewards earned by girls through the product program activities must support Girl Scout program experiences (such as camp, travel, and program events), but not scholarships or financial credits toward outside organizations.
- One troop account will contain all monies earned through product programs and/or other council-approved money-earning efforts.
- With troop leader support, girls will decide what Girl Scout programs, activities or trips the troop will engage in and what money-earning activities the girls will undertake to support their plans.
- Troop Leaders will communicate the girls' decisions with regard to participation, moneyearning and planned activities to parents/guardians and troop families and any later incoming girl members to fund the agreed-upon plans. Troop may allocate funds among girls in the troop in a manner that reflects the girls' range of participation in money-earning activities and not a dollar-for-dollar accounting by girl.
- In cases where girls have left the troop and will no longer be participating in troop trips or activities, funds will remain with the troop.
- Rewards are based on item ranges set by councils and may not be based on a dollar-per-dollar calculation.
- In cases where new girls are added to the troop and these new girls wish to participate in inprogress trips and activities, parents/guardians will be asked to cover their daughters' costs to account for monies that other girls have already earned prior to the new girls' arrival.
- Troops are encouraged to participate in council product program as their primary moneyearning activity; any additional group money-earning shouldn't compete with the Girl Scout Cookie Program or other council product programs.
- Girls that are individually registered members (Juliette's) may participate in product programs, they will receive banded proceeds on a reward card.