

Adult-to-Girl Supervision Ratios

Whatever the activity, from camping to cookies sales, adult supervision is required regardless of the grade level of the girls. Adult volunteers must be at least 18 years old and may not still be registered as girl members. The table below has been developed to show the minimum number of adults needed to supervise a specific number of girls. Adult-to-girl supervision ratios were devised to ensure the safety and health of all girls taking part in the activity. For example, if one adult has to respond to an emergency, a second adult is always on hand for the rest of the girls. Consult the Girl Scout Adult-to-Girl Ratios Minimum chart below to determine the appropriate number of Adult-to-Girl ratios based on grade level and type of activity. (Sometimes GSNorCal or service units may establish maximums due to size or cost restrictions). The Girl Scout grade level is determined by the current membership year, beginning October 1st. Consult Safety Activity Checkpoints for adult-to-girl ratios for specific activities, as these may differ from standard adult-to-girl ratios.

It is the responsibility of the troop/group leader to:

- Make sure that there are always at least the minimum number of qualified adults supervising the girls any time they are participating in a Girl Scout meeting or any kind of activity.
- Ensure that all the adults, who are providing supervision and are counted in the adult-to-girl ratio, are registered members and have cleared the adult background check.
- Ensure that all the adults who are providing supervision and are counted in the adult-to-girl ratio are aware of the other adults who are providing supervision—at no time should an unscreened or otherwise unregistered adult substitute for their supervision duties.
- Examples: Unregistered adults and/or adults who are not background screened cannot escort unrelated Girl Scouts to the restrooms, perform any First-Aid, supervise activities, drive girls, etc.

Adult supervision for girls also extends to online activity.

Please consult the following, and where you can find them:

- The “Computer/Online Use” Safety Activity Checkpoint at www.gsnorcal.org/forms
- Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge at www.gsnorcal.org/forms
- Digital Cookie Terms & Conditions for Girls, Digital Cookie Terms & Conditions for Parents/Guardians and Digital Cookie Terms & Conditions for Volunteers, which are all available in the product program materials.

Girl Scout Adult-to-Girl Ratios (Minimums)				
Girl Scout Program Level:	Group Meetings		Events, Travel, and Camping	
	Two unrelated adults (at least one of whom is female) for this number of girls:	Plus one additional adult to each additional:	Two unrelated adults (at least one of whom is female) for this number of girls:	Plus one additional adult to each additional:
Daisies (grades K-1)	12	1-6	6	1-4
Brownies (grades 2-3)	20	1-8	12	1-6
Juniors (grades 4-5)	25	1-10	16	1-8
Cadettes (grades 6-8)	25	1-12	20	1-10
Seniors (grades 9-10)	30	1-15	24	1-12
Ambassadors (grades 11-12)	30	1-15	24	1-12

Here are some examples of how to utilize the chart:

- For a meeting or activity that involves 17 Daisies, you will need a minimum of three qualified adults, at least two of whom are unrelated (not your spouse/partner, parent, sibling or adult child), and at least one of whom is female. (If this does not make sense to you, follow along on the chart: you need two unrelated qualified adults for 12 Daisies and one more qualified adult for up to six more girls. This equal 3 qualified adults for 17 Daisies.)

- 8 girls in your Brownie troop are going camping. You will need a minimum of 2 unrelated adults present, at least one of whom must be a female.
- If you have 17 Cadettes attending a group meeting, you need a minimum of two unrelated adults, at least one of whom is female. The chart indicates that two qualified adults is acceptable as a minimum number of adults to manage up to 25 Cadettes during a meeting. You will need one more qualified adult if your Cadettes were traveling or attending a Girl Scout event.

As you see, these ratios are minimum numbers. For some activities, it may be necessary to have more adult supervision. In addition, GSNorCal expects volunteers to be fully capable of performing their duties. Volunteers are not permitted to use or be under the influence of any substance which may impair their physical and/or mental skills while they are supervising girls even if girls are not in the same room or are sleeping. This includes alcohol or prescription medications, medical marijuana, or illegal drugs. Volunteers are not allowed to smoke or vape when supervising girls.

[[VOLUNTEERING: Volunteer Management Policies](#)]