2018 Membership Dues Increase – FAQ’s

VALUE OF THE GIRL SCOUT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE:

- **Girl Scouts is the first and largest girl-led organization in the world**, and for more than 105 years has been preparing girls in grades K-12 for everyday leadership by providing rich experiences for them to explore new interests, face challenges, form new friendships, and make lasting community contributions.

- **Is Girl Scouting still a good value?**
  A Girl Scout membership is one of the most valuable investments anyone can make in a girl’s life, providing her with **unique leadership opportunities not available through any other organization**.

FACTS:

- GSUSA membership dues are increasing from $15 to $25 for the 2017-2018 membership year (fiscal year 2018).
- GSUSA has not raised membership dues since fiscal year 2014 (over 3 years).
- All Girl Scout membership dues are paid to GSUSA to cover the cost of services supporting the Girl Scout Movement.

FAQ's:

**Why are dues increasing to $25?**
The membership dues increase, our first in over three years, was approved by the National Board of Girl Scouts of the USA to ensure our Movement is able to sustain and develop exceptional leadership programs, and implement digital innovations and technologies to enhance the girl and volunteer experience. Membership dues also support GSUSA’s robust research initiatives as we maintain our national leadership as the world expert on girls.

**Does the increase in membership dues apply to girls and adults?**
Yes. The annual membership dues will increase from $15 to $25 for both girl and adult members.
Will financial assistance be available?
Yes. We believe that Girl Scouting should be accessible to ALL girls, and therefore, financial assistance will continue to be available.

Will the increase affect the membership dues for lifetime members?
GSUSA is considering the effect the increase in annual membership dues will have on the cost to become a lifetime member. An announcement will be issued as soon as a decision is made.

When will this increase take effect?
Beginning February 8, 2017, customers will have the option to register for the 2018 membership year with the $25 dues through the Girl Scout Camp registration process. The Early Registration campaign for members to renew their 2018 GSUSA membership ($25 dues) will run April 10 – June 6, 2017.

How will this increase help girls?
The additional funding received through membership dues will enable us to develop and implement digital innovations and technology to enhance the girl experience and provide a safe digital space for girls to share, explore, connect and learn.

How will this increase help volunteers?
The additional funding will help us advance the resources, training, and technology needed for our volunteers to deliver an exceptional girl experience.

- Volunteers are now able to complete the recruitment process in a matter of days instead of weeks or months and the number of girls on the waiting lists has been significantly reduced.
- Our digital Volunteer Toolkit has made it easier for leaders to form and maintain their troops, which means more time for you and less time on administrative tasks.
- Volunteers can now plan out a whole year of impactful activities to ensure their girls receive the best Girl Scout experience possible.

Questions?
For additional information about why the decision was made, visit GSUSA’s Membership Dues Increase FAQ page on gswise.org.