

Volunteer Eligibility Process FAQ

Each operational volunteer will be a registered member of GSUSA and will complete a Criminal Background Check (CBC). The results are kept confidential. Once reviewed, a determination is made regarding eligibility for the volunteer role. Based on the results of the CBC, an applicant will receive a status of approved, restricted or ineligible. If restricted or ineligible, Girl Scouts Dakota Horizons will send appropriate communications.

How is an ineligible status determined?

Automatic Ineligible Status

A few items that would result in an automatic ineligible status include but are not limited to the following:

- Crimes against children
- Felony offenses against persons
- Felony offenses against a family member
- Crimes defined as public indecency
- Crimes involving the use of weapons
- Any violent crime
- Any felony drug-related offense
- Any felony conviction within the five-year period preceding the background check
- Residing on the same premises as a registered sex offender*
- Any second offense involving driving under the influence or driving while intoxicated within the five year period preceding the background check will be automatically disqualified but may be eligible for reversal upon appeal by prospective volunteer or by the discretion of the council

**Registered sex offenders are not eligible for membership in Girl Scouts of the USA and may not participate in any capacity with Girl Scouts. Any adult living on the premises with a registered sex offender may participate only as a parent/guardian.*

Other Factors that Affect Eligibility

For all other criminal offenses, or felony convictions older than the five-year period preceding the background check, GSDH shall review the applicant's situation on a case-by-case basis. The decision whether to allow service shall be within the discretion of GSDH.

Factors to be considered by GSDH in making such determinations include, but are not limited to, the nature and severity of the criminal conduct, the position for which the person seeks to volunteer, the length of time since the criminal conduct occurred, the circumstances under which the crime was committed, the degree of rehabilitation, the likelihood that the person will commit the crime again, and the number of crimes committed by the prospective volunteer. Residing with a convicted felon may also disqualify a prospective volunteer from being able to volunteer depending on the severity and frequency of the conviction(s).

How is a restricted status determined?

A few items that could lead to a driving or financial restricted status could include but are not limited to the following:

- Any driving infractions that could impact the safety of girls
- Any serious or continuous financial offenses*

**Any financial restriction status will remain in place whether the member is a volunteer or participating as a parent.*

For a full listing and more detailed information you can reference the Girl Scouts Dakota Horizons [Volunteer Policies and Procedures](#) document located on our website.

How do I complete a criminal background check as a new member?

After you become a registered member for a volunteer position, you will receive a background screening request email from Asurint (applicantdirect@asurint.com) within 24 hours with a subject line that reads Background Check Request.

Note:

- Email link expires in 48 hours.
- Check your spam or junk mail as sometimes the email can land there.
 - For Gmail accounts, check the promotions folder.
- Use a desktop or laptop as mobile devices do not work with this application.
- Google Chrome is the recommended browser; Safari does not work with this application.

If I have questions about this process, who do I contact?

If you have questions about the criminal background check process, reach out to our Member Services team at 800-666-2141 or help@dakotahorizons.org.