

Girl Scouts of Central Texas Volunteer Council Travel Chaperone

Position Summary: Under guidance of the trip lead and in partnership with other chaperones, this position is responsible for the well-being, safety, and oversight of a group of Girl Scouts while traveling on select council-sponsored trips or council-sponsored destination trips. Responsible for assisting GSCTX Trip Lead in planning and implementation of programming and activities before, during and after the trip.

Accountability: Selected and appointment by the GSCTX Travel Committee and accountable to the Trip Lead for a term that runs from date of selection through the end of the trip.

Responsibilities:

- Ensure Girl Scout safety standards and policies/procedures set by GSCTX and Girl Scouts of America (GSUSA) are followed throughout the trip.
- Be responsible for the physical and emotional safety and well-being of all participants during travel.
- Participate in **all** trip activities; it is important to set a good example for the Girl Scouts.
- Respect the places and people with whom you come in contact.
- Be responsible for personal belongings.
- Be aware of all GSCTX emergency procedures and how to activate them (e.g., medical, missing traveler, lost items).
- Maintain timely and consistent contact with the trip lead before, during, and through the end of the trip.
- Handle trip funds, when necessary, be responsible for GSCTX issued credit card, maintain receipts for every purchase and return remaining funds, credit card, and corresponding itemized receipts at the conclusion of the trip.
- Be willing to be flexible and help Trip Lead and other chaperones throughout the trip.
- Remain with the group throughout the trip unless given specific permission from the Trip Lead.
- Respect Girl Scouts' personal space and report any misconduct and suspicious activity to the Trip Lead.
- Guides participants in developing a high-quality, inclusive, and fun experience.
- Helps participants appreciate and accept one another, while fostering a sense of comradery.
- Help facilitate competency and safety, while instilling a sense of pride and confidence in oneself.
- Works with Trip Lead to coordinate, or oversee, efforts to ensures proper supervision of Girl Scouts at all times, including but not limited to supervision of all housing areas, program areas, event facility, and during transportation between sites.
- Works cooperatively, and communities in a positive manner, with other the Trip Lead, other chaperones, council staff, Girl Scouts, and parents/caregivers.
- Readily accepts reasonable duties delegated by Trip Lead.
- Fosters a sense of community within the group and provides a safe space for Girl Scouts as needed.

Position Commitments:

- Chaperone must be a currently registered adult member of Girl Scouts and be willing to sign chaperone agreement upon acceptance to the trip.
- Be in good standing with GSCTX.
- Have a current Criminal Background Check on file at GSCTX.

- Accept and adhere to the purpose and principles of the Girl Scout movement and the goals of GSUSA and GSCTX.
- Observe and enforce all Girl Scout safety guidelines and check points (GSUSA and GSCTX).
- Complete all mandatory Girl Scout trainings prior to trip.
- Hold current CPR/First Aid certification and/or required higher certification level (e.g., Wilderness First Aid certification) that is valid for the duration of the trip.
- Show respect for and demonstrate the ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, skin color, country of origin, religion (creed), native language, disability, age, socioeconomic status, citizenship status, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity and expression, including pronoun preferences.
- Ability to walk for long periods of time and participate in all trip activities.
- Ability to assume all required financial responsibilities required per the Chaperone Agreement.
- Preferred: Experience engaging and interacting with, directing, and coordinating groups of teenagers.
- Preferred: Ability to adapt to unexpected changes in itinerary
- Preferred: Possess good problem-solving and conflict-resolution skills
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- Preferred: Be knowledgeable about the culture, language, food, customs, and etiquette related to selected trip.
- Preferred: Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Preferred: Previous travel experience especially with teenagers or groups.

Top Skills you Will Gain From This Position:

1. Teamwork and collaboration
2. Leadership
3. Problem-solving and adaptability
4. Communication and improved interpersonal skills
5. Decision making
6. Global mindset
7. Patience