



Leadership Center: Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Leadership Center?

The Leadership Center is a new, girl-centered program hub planned to open in the Spring of 2026 in Jacksonville. It will offer hands-on programming, troop gatherings, collaborative learning experiences, and opportunities for girls to learn, create, and connect.

When is the Leadership Center expected to open?

The Leadership Center is planned to open in the Spring of 2026. Staff are expected to begin moving into the space in April, with a public-facing opening and programming anticipated in late summer. More details will be shared as planning continues.

Who will the Leadership Center serve?

The Leadership Center is designed to serve girls across all ages and program levels, as well as volunteers and program partners. New girl-centered spaces will support troop activities, council-wide events, badge workshops, day camps, and special experiences that complement existing offerings across GSGC. Enhanced training rooms and updated technology will also strengthen volunteer training and development, expanding opportunities for both in-person and virtual learning and connection.

Will troops be able to use the Leadership Center?

Yes. The Leadership Center will be an accessible, welcoming space that supports troop activities and council-led programming. Additional details about scheduling and use will be shared closer to opening.

Is this just for Jacksonville Girl Scouts?

No. While the Leadership Center will be located in Jacksonville, the programs and experiences it enables are designed to benefit girls across GSGC, alongside camps and outdoor programs.

Why was Jacksonville selected?

Jacksonville was identified through a comprehensive third-party property study, combined with extensive listening to members and volunteers. Jacksonville serves as the operational center of

Girl Scouts of Gateway Council and is also one of the council's highest-growth areas, with one of the largest concentrations of Girl Scouts. The data highlighted a strong opportunity to expand access and engagement for girls and families through a centrally located, multi-use space that supports council staff operations as well as Girl Scout programs, activities, meetings, and community engagement.

Where is the location of the new Leadership Center

10550 Deerwood Park Blvd. Building 300, Suite 309 Jacksonville, FL 32256

Near St. Johns Town Center.

Does this replace camps or outdoor experiences?

No. Camps and outdoor experiences remain central to the Girl Scout experience and our program model. The Leadership Center complements camps by adding year-round, indoor program space, day camps, and new types of experiences that expand how and when girls can participate.

At the same time, the council has continued to make significant investments in camp properties that directly support girls and volunteers. Recent and ongoing improvements include upgrades at Camp Kateri, such as dining hall renovations, new air conditioning units, a remodeled kitchen and walk-in freezer, new generators at unit houses, and other infrastructure improvements. Camp Kugelman has also received upgrades, including a new boardwalk, bathroom renovations, and new ceiling tile installed.

Together, these investments reflect a balanced, council-wide approach to property stewardship that strengthens outdoor programming while expanding access to new experiences.

How is the Leadership Center being funded?

The Leadership Center will be supported through a mix of operational revenue and philanthropic support, structured to align with the council's long-term priorities and stewardship.

Do Girl Scout membership dues cover the cost of the Leadership Center?

No. Girl Scout annual membership dues do not fund the Leadership Center. Dues are set nationally and paid directly to Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA). They do not remain at the local level and cannot be used for council operations, capital projects, facilities, or staffing.

Membership dues support national services such as program development, technology platforms, national initiatives, and brand stewardship.

Are there any plans to open additional program spaces across the council's jurisdiction?

Not at this time. The council is focused on growing its physical spaces intentionally and in a financially responsible way. We will continue to monitor membership and population trends across the jurisdiction and thoughtfully assess future program space needs as part of our ongoing planning.

Where can I learn more?

We will continue to share updates as planning progresses. More information will be available at www.gsgateway.org/leadershipcenter after April 6, 2026.