

Supporting Safe and Flexible Cookie Booth Participation

What Families Should Know

- Participation in cookie booths is **always optional**.
- If a situation feels uncomfortable or unsafe, troops should **end participation and leave without engaging further**.
- Leaders should contact law enforcement or 911 if they sense they are in danger.
- Girl Scouts offers [many ways to participate](#) in the Girl Scout Cookie Program
- Planning ahead, including reviewing **Emergency Action Plans** found in the SAC, can help families feel prepared and supported.

Participation Options to Share with Families

If in-person booths don't feel like the right fit, [girls can still fully participate including](#):

- Online sales using your troop's Digital Cookie link, with shipped-only delivery
- Digital Cookie outreach to friends and family
- Cookie stands on private property (where permitted)
- Shorter or limited booth shifts
- Participating at a later date when timing feels safe
- Opting out of in-person booths entirely

FAQs

Do Girl Scouts have to participate in in-person cookie booths?

No. In-person booths are one of many participation options. Families and volunteers may choose what works best for them at any point in the season.

What should we do if a booth environment feels uncomfortable or unsafe?

Leaders and caregivers should calmly end the booth and leave the area. There is no expectation to stay or engage further.

What other ways can girls participate if they don't feel comfortable with in-person booths?

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led entrepreneurship program in the world, and in-person booths are [one of the many ways girls can participate](#), depending on the method(s) that best fit their lives and comfort levels. We also encourage girls to reach out to their friends and family members and practice their digital marketing skills by selling cookies online via Digital Cookie.

How can families plan ahead for safety?

Safety Activity Checkpoints encourage Emergency Action Plans for Girl Scout activities. Reviewing exits, regrouping plans, and comfort levels before and during shifts can help families and volunteers feel prepared.