

**GUIDANCE FOR VOLUNTEERS  
GIRL SCOUTS OF GREATER MISSISSIPPI  
DATE RELEASED: FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

Girl Scouts of Greater Mississippi recently updated its policies for troop/group/service unit bank accounts and the use of Third-Party Service Organizations (TSO) such as Pay Pal, Venmo, Square (etc.) for volunteers due to recent tax law legislation as noted below.

**Tax law changes effective January 1, 2022, and 1099-Ks from TSO Vendors (money payment apps)-**

Due to Tax law changes effective 1/1/2022 you may receive a 1099-K for payments received for product sales or other parental payments (dues, events, etc.) for your Troop from a third-party payment organization such as Square, Venmo, Pay Pal, etc. when using a **personal account**.

**Our Council is highly recommending the following two avenues in order to avoid using a personal account. The use of these methods will preclude a 1099-k being issued to someone personally.**

1. **TSOs (money payment apps) are to be set up under the Council's tax ID when using for Girl Scouting purposes.** Troop bank accounts are to be directly linked as the depository bank for TSOs. Girl Scouts of Greater Mississippi has approved TSO vendors, ie., Pay Pal, Venmo, and Square as their application allows each troop/group to set up their account with the Council's tax ID with deposits going directly to the troop/group account. This application can be used for booth sales and to collect other monies from parents and/or the public as outlined in the Blue Book of Basic Documents.

**OR**

2. **Use Digital Cookie as the payment processor - No changes needed, and you should not receive a 1099-K.** If you are participating in the Digital Cookie Program, consider using the Digital Cookie online app for processing any credit/debit card payments for in person/booth sales. The app is easy to use and there is a new function for OCR, **optical scanning of cards**, to improve the contactless payment process as well as it being faster to use. **In addition to these great benefits, the Council pays the processing fees which are about a fourth of the cost to use Square.**

**Using PERSONAL Money Payment Apps:** Volunteers may choose to use a personal money payment app (TSO), such as a Venmo account they use for multiple purposes, and they would receive a 1099K if the total amount paid to them from all sources equals \$600 or more in a calendar year. The volunteer has the option to identify the money is **not** for a sale of products and is a reimbursement; however, this does not preclude them receiving a 1099K.

If a parent is using their personal money payment app, we recommend they indicate Girl Scout related payments are 'reimbursements' and keep separate records to verify these amounts, should they be issued a 1099K. Additionally, they should consult their local tax advisor when preparing their personal tax return.

**If you need further guidance, please contact our Accounting Department- Angie or Pam @ [AMiller@gsgms.org](mailto:AMiller@gsgms.org) or [PBritt@gsgms.org](mailto:PBritt@gsgms.org). Thank you**