



# Getting Inside Government with Your Junior Girl Scout

A Guide for Parents and Caregivers



Inside Government  
badge

**As a Junior**, your daughter can earn the Inside Government badge on her own or with her troop. In the process, she'll learn how the government is run. She'll also understand how she can—and why she should—get involved.

## Who's Representing Your Girl?

Before your daughter can really get inside government, she needs to understand what it is in the first place. Try explaining it like this: "The government is a group of people who make decisions for and about their community. This might include things like how money is spent, what people can and can't do, and how to keep everyone safe. The members of the government are meant to represent all the different kinds of people and ideas in their community, so the laws and decisions they create and enforce help everyone—not just a small group."

Look up members of the local government with your daughter. How many women are there? Does she feel like government officials are representative of her beliefs and ideas? Do the people in charge of decisions share her background or her values? Discuss her answers and whether or not she thinks these things matter.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Girls and women make up more than half of the U.S. population, yet only 1 in 5 members of Congress is female.

## BADGE SPOTLIGHT!

### Help Her Take Part in Community Government

One badge requirement is to plan a campaign she could use to run for student council or another elected office, work on someone else's campaign, or create a pamphlet or poster to raise awareness about an issue she cares about.

Whether your daughter chooses to put her name on a ballot or not, make sure she knows she has the ability to affect her government by standing up for the causes she believes in. Just like Eleanor Roosevelt, Rosa Parks, and Malala Yousafzai, your girl has the power to change the world!



## SHE'S EARNED IT!

Purchase your daughter's **Inside Government badge**, then add it to her vest or sash so she can wear it with pride.