

## STEAM Mobile

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **What is it?**

Thanks to funding from PPL Corporation, Pennsylvania College of Technology, and other generous donors the STEAM Mobile is a completely FREE science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics based program opportunity that Girl Scout troops and/or service units can request.

#### **What types of activities are available?**

There are a total of 14 different STEAM Mobile programs, all of which are available from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. You can review a complete listing of programs in the [GIRL Guide](#) or current listings as you are reserving your STEAM Mobile.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Some STEAM Mobile programs will fulfill portions of GSUSA badgework. Please refer to the website and discuss with your Program Coordinator completing the remainder of the badge.

#### **Do we get in the STEAM Mobile?**

The STEAM Mobile has all the necessary portable technology to bring to your local Girl Scout activity. GSHPA staff facilitators will unload and set up all the materials in a location of your choosing. Girls will not actually get inside the vehicle, it is simply designed to house all the fun, hands on activities!

**Please note:** on rare occasions our Program Coordinators travel in regular vehicles when the STEAM Mobile is having scheduled maintenance. Our staff will notify you when we can of this change.

#### **How do I reserve it?**

Reservations are simple. First, click [here](#). You will select the STEAM Mobile that travels to your county and then view the available dates by clicking on the calendar dates you would like to reserve.

Once you find a date, you will select reserve and then enter some basic contact information, the lessons you are interested in, the age level of your group. Additionally, you will provide the location where you would like the STEAM Mobile to go.

Your reservation is considered confirmed once you complete the process and receive an email receipt. Within three business days a GSHPA Program Coordinator will connect with you to review additional details.

**Please note:** STEAM Mobile reservations are open up to three months. Reservations will be open at the dates below:

October 1, 2019 – Reservations accepted through December 31, 2019  
November 1, 2019 – Reservations accepted through January 31, 2020  
December 1, 2019 – Reservations accepted through February 29, 2020  
January 1, 2020 – Reservations accepted through March 31, 2020  
February 1, 2020 – Reservations accepted through April 30, 2020  
March 1, 2020 – Reservations accepted through May 31, 2020  
April 1, 2020 – Reservations accepted through June 30, 2020  
May 1, 2020 – Reservations accepted through July 31, 2020  
June 1, 2020 – Reservations accepted through August 31, 2020

July 1, 2020 – Reservations accepted through September 30, 2020

### **What if I want to reserve the STEAM Mobile for my community organization?**

Because of generous funding, the STEAM Mobile is available for community organizations to reserve. Please follow the same reservation process as GSHPA Troops, but note that we will need to review your request before we can confirm your reservation. Within three business days of your request a GSHPA Program Coordinator will connect with you to review your request.

### **What should I expect at my program?**

GSHPA facilitators will bring all the necessary materials to facilitate a fun experience and even a snack for all the members of your group! Our facilitators will need 30 minutes to set up, so please ensure your meeting location can accommodate that.

Girls will also receive a STEAM Mobile fun patch!

### **What do I need to do?**

All you need to do is reserve the location where you would like the STEAM Mobile to come and ensure that the space is suitable for girl activities. A member of the GSHPA team will discuss the specifics of the lesson you choose, in order for you to ensure adequate space. The only other thing that you need to do

– bring the Girl Scouts and provide the appropriate adult to girl member ratio!

### **Why are there so many trip choices on the date selection screen?**

There are program options for weekday afternoon, Saturday morning, and Saturday afternoon. To make viewing dates easier, uncheck the "Include unavailable" box below the calendar.

### **What happens if I need to cancel?**

If you need to cancel, please contact GSHPA Member Services at 800-692-7816 immediately. We thank you in advance for this, as it helps us to provide as many STEAM opportunities as possible.

### **How many girls can participate?**

Most programs are planned for smaller groups of 10 – 30, although there are always two programs available for larger groups of up to 100. Because of travel requirements, you must have at least ten participants. If your Troop has fewer than ten participants, please reach out to your Volunteer Service Coordinator to connect you with Troops to partner with.

**Please note:** if you are scheduling the STEAM Mobile for your troop and do not have ten girls attending, non-Girl Scout children are not permitted to attend.

### **My GSHPA login isn't working. What do I do?**

You will need to create a new account for this online platform (DoubleKnot). Follow the prompts to do so as you follow the registration steps.

### **What happens in the case of inclement weather?**

While it is GSHPA's intention to always deliver scheduled programming to troops and community organizations, inclement weather may necessitate cancellation of programming. The protocol below outlines best practices, but Program Staff, in coordination with the Program Director, may make decisions to hold or cancel programs on an individual basis based on the safety and well-being of all involved.

If the home office of the Program Staff member delivering curriculum is closed during the day, no programming will run during business hours or evening hours. Friday office closures with Saturday programming will also be cancelled.

In the event that the office is open, and evening or weekend programming is scheduled within 30 miles of the Program Staff member's home office the above policy will be followed, with consideration of school closings in the program's area. Communication to the participants/event coordinator/troop leader regarding cancellations will be made 6 hours and 2 hours before programming.

In the event that the office is open, and any programming is scheduled to occur more than 30 miles from the Program Staff member's home office the considerations below inform the decision to hold programming and will be made 24 hours and 12 hours prior to the scheduled event.

- The school district is closed the day of the program or on a delay the morning after a program.
- The county in which the program is to be held is in a State of Emergency.
- Snow/Ice/Winter Mix predicted at more than 70% and:
  - Predicted snow accumulation is over 3" and precipitation will stop more than one hour after programming ends.
  - Any predicted accumulation of ice.

We will do our best to reschedule your program. The Program Coordinator will reach out within 48 hours of returning to the office.

**Still have more questions?**

Still have questions? Call Member Services at 800-692-7816 or email [memberservices@gshpa.org](mailto:memberservices@gshpa.org).