

## Sample Statement for Early Cookie Program Start

Provided here is a sample message you may share to a family in the Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa (GSGI) area in the case you spot a post or come across a cookie program order form circulating before the official GSGI cookie program start date of February 1, 2024.

## Hello!

It looks like you are excited about Girl Scout Cookie Season 2024, and we are too! We noticed you were collecting orders for Girl Scout Cookies before the official start of the Girl Scout Cookie Program at Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa—February 1, 2024. Being a sister to every Girl Scout, I wanted to reach out and ask that you refrain from taking pre-orders before the official start date.

Just to provide all the information—Girl Scout Cookie Programs begin at various times depending on which council the Girl Scout is registered in across the country. Because of this, you may see posts from friends and family from other councils selling cookies before our Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa start date.

At Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa (which includes 67 counties in Iowa, two counties in South Dakota, and one county in Nebraska), the Girl Scout Cookie Program officially kicks off on February 1, 2024. Troops can place an early cookie order, so a Girl Scout family may have been asked about how many cookies they plan to sell. This early order allows a Girl Scout to have cookies on hand to sell right away on opening day, beginning February 1!

As a fellow Girl Scout, I understand your excitement about promoting your Girl Scout's cookie program! As we have personally seen, there will be plenty of opportunities to sell cookies after February 1. Being such a fun fundraising program that so many look forward to, customers seek YOU out knowing you have a Girl Scout selling those delicious cookies.

With millions of households in Iowa, the number one reason people say they do not buy Girl Scout Cookies is because they were not asked. Having the February 1 start date allows each Girl Scout selling to have an equal opportunity to reach out and make those asks and reach their goals.

Thank you for waiting until February 1 to begin taking orders. If you have any questions about how the program works, feel free to contact info@gsiowa.org.

\*Here is a link to a <u>fun free graphic</u> and announcement to share with your customers! This shareable image is found in the Cookie Program photo album located on the Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa Facebook page:

