Start an Esteem Girls Lab

Partner Information Packet

STEM discovery. Confidence. Leadership. Community.

Bring girls-centered STEM enrichment to your school, library, church, nonprofit, or community organization. Esteem Girls Lab helps girls in grades 3-8 explore their ideas and see themselves as future scientists, engineers, doctors, creators, and problem-solvers.

$500 to start, including year one
$250 annual renewal beginning in year two

One simple chapter model. Free participation for girls.

Host organizations and community supporters fund the chapter license and local operating costs, so families are not charged to participate.

Inside: program overview, proposed license and resources, partner responsibilities, fundraising ideas, and a launch checklist.

Planning edition | 2026
Pricing, included resources, and terms in this packet are proposed for review. Final scope and start dates will be confirmed in the partner agreement. This packet does not activate a license.

esteemgirls.org/partner-with-us-1

A place to believe, build, and lead

Esteem Girls Lab combines hands-on STEM activities with career exploration, confidence-building, leadership development, and reflection. The program centers representation and belonging, especially for Black and Brown girls who have been underrepresented in STEM.

What girls practice

• Asking questions, testing ideas, and learning from revisions.

• Connecting science, technology, engineering, and math to everyday life.

• Exploring STEM careers and the contributions of women in STEM.

• Sharing ideas, collaborating, and taking leadership roles.

• Reflecting on their strengths and imagining future possibilities.

Flexible delivery, a consistent purpose

Labs can meet after school, on weekends, or during a short enrichment series. A suggested starting group is 5-15 girls. Partners select their schedule with Esteem Girls during onboarding. Grades 3-5 and 6-8 receive different levels of support and challenge within shared themes.

Illustrative 90-minute meeting

Time	Experience
10 minutes	Welcome, check-in, and confidence-building prompt
10 minutes	STEM career connection and challenge introduction
45 minutes	Plan, create, test, and improve a hands-on solution
15 minutes	Share discoveries and practice explaining ideas
10 minutes	Journal reflection, celebration, and cleanup

Possible themes include Girls Who Build, Hidden Figures, Cosmetic Chemistry, Culinary Chemistry, Environmental STEM, and Coding & Creativity. Final lesson selections are confirmed before launch.

One start-up price. One annual renewal.

	Start your Lab	Renew your Lab
Proposed price	$500 once at launch	$250 each year after year one
Term	First 12 months from activation	Next 12 months
Coverage	One approved physical site; up to two designated adult facilitators	Same approved site and facilitator coverage
Curriculum	Six complete STEM lesson guides, plus a 12-month theme and extension calendar	Six additional or refreshed lesson guides, plus an updated theme calendar
Training & support	One 60-minute virtual onboarding session and two 30-minute virtual check-ins	One 30-minute virtual planning/check-in session
Resources	Digital chapter launch toolkit and participant printables	Continued use of licensed resources, plus updated templates

Included digital toolkit

Facilitator directions and supply lists; reflection journal pages; STEM career activities; family communication templates; speaker and volunteer invitation templates; a fundraising appeal and budget template; recruitment and branding guidelines; attendance and simple program reflection tools.

How the license works

The proposed license allows approved facilitators to deliver Esteem Girls Lab at the named site and print participant materials for that site during the active term. It covers repeated use with groups at that site; group size depends on space and supervision capacity. Additional locations require separate approval and licensing.

The name, logo, and curriculum remain Esteem Girls resources. Partners may not resell materials, publish lesson files online, sublicense the program, or share resources with unlicensed sites. Ongoing delivery and brand use require an active license. Final use, payment, renewal, cancellation, and end-of-term provisions belong in the signed agreement.

What your chapter provides

Esteem Girls supplies the program framework and the digital resources described on page 3. The local partner organizes and delivers the experience. No advanced STEM background is required; facilitators should be comfortable guiding youth, preparing activities, and learning alongside participants.

Partner responsibilities

• Identify a lead adult and backup facilitator; complete the onboarding process.

• Provide a safe, accessible meeting space and appropriate adult supervision.

• Complete applicable background clearances and host approval requirements before adults work with children.

• Recruit girls in grades 3-8 and obtain family permissions, emergency contacts, and any separate photo consent.

• Purchase supplies, prepare activities, manage attendance and pickup, and follow host safety and emergency procedures.

• Use the approved program name and materials, build a supportive environment, and keep participation free for girls.

• Share simple participation totals and program feedback; do not send identifiable student information without an agreed process and appropriate permission.

Not included in the license fee

Physical science supplies or kits; printed books; shipping; snacks; transportation; venue costs; staffing or facilitator pay; background-check fees; insurance; devices or internet access; guest-speaker fees; on-site instruction; custom curriculum development; or grant-writing services.

A library or school may offer donated space.
Availability, fees, and host approval must be confirmed locally.

Esteem Girls can discuss possible host locations during onboarding; a free venue is not guaranteed. Activities involving food, ingredients, or tools require advance review for allergies, age suitability, and safe handling.

Small gifts can keep girls learning for free

The chapter fee is paid by the host or a sponsor, not participating families. Community fundraising can cover both licensing and the supplies girls need. The examples below are planning ideas, not promised funding.

Ways to cover the license

Goal	Simple fundraising example
$500 launch fee	20 supporters give $25 each, or one sponsor gives $500.
$250 annual renewal	10 supporters give $25 each, or five supporters give $50.

Sample first-year budget: 12 girls, six meetings

Expense	Illustrative amount
First-year chapter license	$500
Consumable supplies: 12 girls x 6 meetings x $5	$360
Printing and reflection journals	$60
Snacks: 12 girls x 6 meetings x $2	$144
Contingency	$100
Total fundraising goal	$1,164

Assumptions: donated space, volunteer facilitators, and existing basic equipment. This example excludes paid staff, insurance, clearance fees, transport, and any additional host costs. Supply costs vary by lesson; build a local budget before setting a fundraising goal.

Community support ideas

Invite a local business to sponsor the Lab, ask a sorority or civic group to fund renewal, request approved supplies from a host wish list, or hold a community giving campaign. Participation and access should never depend on a girl or her family raising money.

From interest to launch

1. Review this packet

Discuss the proposed fee, resource package, staffing needs, and operating budget with your host organization.

2. Submit an application

Visit the Partner With Us page at esteemgirls.org to access the Lab application and share your location, audience, and plans.

3. Schedule a partner call

Discuss program fit, the venue, your proposed schedule, fundraising, and facilitator needs.

4. Complete approval and onboarding

Confirm the site and facilitators, complete required clearances, sign the agreement, arrange payment, and attend training. Activation and resource delivery dates are confirmed in writing.

5. Prepare and launch

Recruit participants, collect permissions, purchase supplies, review the first lesson, and begin your Lab.

6. Reflect and renew

Review participation and feedback, plan next year's budget, and confirm renewal before the first-year license ends.

Before your first meeting

Confirm your space and dates; facilitator availability and clearances; family permissions and pickup arrangements; emergency procedures; supply and allergy review; participant materials; and a way to record attendance and feedback.

Ready to explore a chapter?
esteemgirls.org/partner-with-us-1

Application review comes before approval. Downloading this packet or submitting an application does not authorize use of the Esteem Girls name or program.

Partner planning worksheet

Use this worksheet to prepare for your application and partner call. It is a planning aid, not the chapter agreement.

Organization / proposed host site

Contact name, role, and preferred email / phone

Site address and type of organization

Girls you hope to serve: grade bands and estimated number

Lead facilitator and backup facilitator

Preferred launch date, meeting frequency, and session length

Available space, equipment, and accessibility needs

How will you cover the $500 launch fee and supplies?

Who will help raise the $250 annual renewal?

Questions or support needed before launch

Next step: Visit esteemgirls.org/partner-with-us-1 to connect with Esteem Girls.