



NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S  
CLUBS OF GFWC

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Barbara McCloskey, President

Together in Service United in Friendship

**SCHOOL COUSELORS:**

The New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs (NJSFWC) is a non-partisan, nonsectarian, non-profit organization founded in 1894 with a current membership of approximately 6,000 volunteers. Reflecting NJSFWC'S interest in helping young women face a challenging future, the organization sponsors an annual Girl's Career Institute (GCI), a four-day mini college and career exploration experience. The program affords a unique experience for approximately 168 girls finishing their Junior year in a New Jersey High School. A local NJSFWC Woman's Club sponsors each delegate and pays the full tuition.

This program will be of interest to students who are considering attending college but may need some encouragement or incentive. GCI provides the delegates with a taste of college life. They will live in a dorm, with a roommate on the Douglass Residential College Campus at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey. They will eat at the College cafeteria, meet Delegates from other New Jersey towns and take on the responsibility of scheduling their own free time. More importantly, GCI offers the Delegates an opportunity to learn of the many career options available to young women today. Since 1955 the NJSFWC has also offered a scholarship to incoming Douglass Residential College Freshmen who attended GCI.

The Delegates will be challenged by successful women who followed their own vision and gained prominence in their chosen profession. The presenters have a wide range of skills. Past presenters have included women with careers in Medicine, Journalism, Counseling, Accounting, Law, Music, Film Production, Transportation, Law Enforcement, Architecture, Graphic Arts, Education, Math, Environmental Stewardship, Science, and Business.

Your assistance is needed in the selection process, Distribution of the GCI flyer and collecting the information of Junior girls at your school interested in attending GCI must be accomplished throughout January and February and then shared with your local GCI coordinator. This will still leave enough time for the club representatives to review those submitted, possibly interview, and make a selection within the time frame allowed. The GCI Coordinator will be your primary contact with the sponsoring club. Please ask all Junior girls interested in the GCI program to complete the for School/Club GCI Delegate Registration Form included with this letter. Parental permission is required to apply. The application form with the signed parental permission should be returned to you or directly to the Club GCI Coordinator.

It is essential that applicants, parents, and the School Administration understand that the student must be academically able to be excused from School for the three days of GCI June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026. This may involve foregoing some pre-exam reviews, missing a sporting event or other School activity. Accepting the GCI opportunity carries with it the responsibility to stay for the entire session. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE!** We request that you follow up with the Delegate(s) and Alternate selected to ensure that they have cleared their academic and activity responsibilities to decrease the number of last-minute withdrawals.

Upon selection as a Delegate or Alternate, the Club GCI Coordinator at the sponsoring club will provide the link for registration and the time frame in which they **MUST** register on-line. They will also provide information about the sponsoring club which we be required to complete the on-line registration. Please supply students representing your school with the name, phone number, and email address of someone from the school. This could be you or the principal as this information will also be required for registration. Selected students, together with their Parents/Guardian must complete the on-line registration by **MARCH 15, 2026**.

An invitation to an Orientation Reception in each area will be sent to all **DELEGATES** and **ALTERNATES** and their parents by the end of March. A response to this invitation is especially important! If Delegate or Alternate has a conflict with their local Orientation Reception, a list of the other seven Receptions will be provided. Receptions will take place throughout the month of April. Attendance is **MANDATORY** for all Delegates and Alternates to be eligible to attend the GCI Program.

Most questions can be answered by your Club Coordinator. You may also contact the GCI Director for additional information.

Ellen Lund NJSFWC GCI Director

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