

# Bridging Member FAQ's

## So, you've completed the Ranger program – Now what?

The Guiding journey never ends! Did you know that you can enjoy more Guiding fun after you have completed the Ranger program? When you register as a Bridging Member, you can continue your Guiding adventures in a whole new way.

But what is a Bridging Member? We have compiled a list of frequently asked questions to help you better understand what comes next after Rangers.

If you have any questions that we have not mentioned on this list or if you're interested in learning about Guiding opportunities for youth members in Nova Scotia, please contact [ns-youth@girlguides.ca](mailto:ns-youth@girlguides.ca)

## FAQ's

### 1. What is a bridging member?

A Bridging Member (formerly TMBR or Transitioning Member) is a youth member who has not yet reached the age of majority in their province/territory (19 in Nova Scotia) but has completed the Ranger program. A bridging member is still a youth member and as such, has "youth" status, as opposed to "adult" status in Guiding.

### 2. How do I register to become a bridging member?

Youth interested in becoming a Bridging Member should fill out a paper registration form (A.5P). Forms can then be sent off to [ns-membership@girlguides.ca](mailto:ns-membership@girlguides.ca) for processing.

When filling out the registration form, select the box that says "Girls transitioning to adult membership (completed Rangers program)" in the "I want to join" section.

### 3. Do I have to pay a registration fee to become a Bridging Member?

Nope! Registration fees are covered by the Girl Guides of Nova Scotia Provincial Council and Girl Guides of Canada. We want you to stay involved! To help you ease through this transitioning period, we have waived all registration fees for Bridging Members.

### 4. I'm 18 years old. Does that mean I am a bridging member?

Not necessarily. If you have turned 18 after the current Guiding year has started (anytime between October and June) and you are in your final year of high school, you should register for the Ranger program. On the other hand, not all Bridging Members will turn 18 before the new Guiding year starts. For example, you could have finished Rangers in June but will not turn 18 until September, October, November, or December of the upcoming Guiding year. If this is the case, you will register as a Bridging Member and not a Ranger. If you have any questions about registration you can direct them to [ns-membership@girlguides.ca](mailto:ns-membership@girlguides.ca)

## 5. When do I register to become a Bridging Member?

We recommend that you register as soon as registration opens for the next Guiding year. See #2 above on how to register. Forms can then be sent off to [ns-membership@girlguides.ca](mailto:ns-membership@girlguides.ca) for processing

## 6. When do I register as an Adult Member?

In the month following your 19th birthday, you will be contacted (via the email associated with your iMIS profile) to complete a screening to become an Adult member. You can then fill out an [adult registration form](#).

## 7. Do I need a police record check to be a Bridging Member?

No. As a Bridging Member you are still considered a youth member and are therefore not required to have a police record check. When you turn 19, you will need to have a police record check if you wish to volunteer with Girl Guides of Canada. For more information, reach out to your local District Commissioner.

## 8. Can I be a Guider or Junior Leader while I am a Bridging Member?

Absolutely! Where you will still not be old enough to be considered an Adult Member and therefore cannot be a Guider, we encourage interested youth to register with a unit and volunteer as a Junior Leader. You can find more information on the Junior Leader program [here](#).

Keep in mind that Junior Leaders are only able to volunteer with units at least two branches below them. Therefore, you'll only be able to assist Spark, Brownie, and Guide units until you become a Guider.

## 9. Can I register as a Link Member and a Bridging Member?

Unfortunately, no. Link Members require an adult membership. When you are 19, we would love for you to register as a Link Member! For more information on Link opportunities in Nova Scotia [visit our website](#) or connect with our Link Advisor at [ns-link@girlguides.ca](mailto:ns-link@girlguides.ca)

## 10. Why should you become a Bridging Member?

There are so many reasons you should become a Bridging Member! Here are a few of the reasons why:

- Access to scholarships, travel opportunities and trainings.
- A smooth transition to Adult Membership (Guider) when you turn 19.
- Communication – Canadian Guider, Guidepost, and event emails – stay up to date!
- Ability to volunteer directly with girls as a Junior Leader or with committees/councils.
- It's totally free! We want you to stay – NS Council of GGC covers your membership fee



### 11. I'm 19 and no longer a Bridging Member. What's Next?

We would love for you to continue your Guiding journey and become an Adult Member! There are many different routes you can take as a volunteer with Girl Guides of Canada. Whether you choose to be a Guider with a unit, a Link Member, or a camp volunteer, there is something for everyone in Guiding.

There is also the option to join a Guiding Council in your district, area, or on the provincial level. For more information on opportunities contact [ns-youth@girlguides.ca](mailto:ns-youth@girlguides.ca)

Not only do these experiences look fantastic on a resume, they connect you with inspiring individuals from across the country and beyond.

