



## Girl Scout Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards - Transition to the New Journey Guidelines

Requirements for Girl Scout's highest awards—the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards—have changed. In August, 2009, GSUSA released new guidelines. The 2009-2010 membership year served as a transition period between the outgoing and new processes. The new Journey guidelines are now mandatory for those *bridging to a new level in the membership year 2010-2011*. Any girl beginning a new level (Junior, Cadette, Senior, or Ambassador) must begin their journey to the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Awards with the new Journey guidelines.

As of September 2010, girls who have begun the process to earn their Bronze, Silver or Gold through the outgoing method may continue to earn the award under those guidelines or they may choose to begin the new Journey guidelines. Whichever guidelines a girl chooses, as she bridges to the next level she will be following the new Journey guidelines. Any troop/girl who, by September 2010, has not *initiated* work on the prerequisites for the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award **must** follow the new Journey guidelines. Please see the GSGLA's [Transition Timeline](#) for more details.

The new guidelines for each award can be found in the links below. The outgoing guidelines for the Bronze Award can be found in the link below or "Junior Girl Scout Handbook." The outgoing guidelines for the Silver Award can be found in the link below or "Go For It" *Girl Scout Silver Award Insert* (Focus Book). The outgoing guidelines for the Gold Award can be found in the link below or "Go For It" *Girl Scout Gold Award Insert* (Focus Book). Remember, the outgoing guidelines should *only* be used for troops/girls that are currently in process toward earning that particular award. These guidelines will be obsolete (to begin) effective September 2010.

**(Please Note:** The award prerequisites at the Silver Award and the Gold Award levels that are outlined in the Girl Scout Cadette and Senior Handbooks are outdated and not accepted at the council as valid.)

[Links for New Journey Bronze Award guidelines](#)

[Links for New Journey Silver Award guidelines](#)

[Links for New Journey Gold Award guidelines](#)

### Transitioning to the New Awards Process

#### Council Workshops

GSGLA offers Silver Award and Gold Award workshops throughout the council. These workshops are offered in the new Journey guidelines only. Silver Award workshops are NOT required, however Gold Award workshops **ARE MANDATORY**. If you are following the outgoing award guidelines, you must attend Gold Award Part A and Part B workshops. If you have begun the prerequisites for the old criteria and have not taken the Part A workshop, you will need to contact the program liaison at your Girl Scout service center as these workshops will no longer be scheduled. Effective September 2010, these workshops will no longer exist.

There is one MANDATORY workshop for all girls seeking to earn their Gold Award. Girls following the new Journey guidelines may begin the award prerequisites – Level Journeys without attending a workshop. However, as girls approach completion of their prerequisites, **regardless of whether they began under the outgoing guidelines or under the new Journey guidelines**, they must attend the new project workshop titled "Gold Award Workshop." This is a workshop exclusive to GSGLA and may be taken anywhere in our council jurisdiction. **Only current GSGLA paperwork is accepted!**

## GOLD AWARD GUIDELINES AND PROCESS

Regardless of which set of guidelines (outgoing or new Journey), girls must follow that set of guidelines until they complete the project.

Upon completing the prerequisites (or near completion), girls **must**:

- Attend a Gold Award Project workshop
- Formulate a project and complete the Gold Award Project Proposal paperwork
- Submit proposal to the council for committee review, interview, and approval

Once the proposal is approved, the candidate may begin her project. Upon completion of the Gold Award project, girls must submit their Gold Award Project Final Report to the council office.

To qualify for participation in the GSGLA Gold Award ceremony, girls must meet the March 1 deadline for submitting their final report. If the project is completed and/or the paperwork is submitted after this date they will be eligible to participate in the following year's ceremony. The last possible opportunity for a girl to complete her project and submit the Gold Award Final Report is September 30 of the year she graduates from high school. All Gold Award requirements must be met before bridging to Adult Girl Scouts.

## SILVER AWARD GUIDELINES AND PROCESS

Regardless of which set of guidelines (current or new Journey) they choose, girls must follow that set of guidelines until they complete the project.

Silver Award workshops are held throughout the council, however they are not mandatory. These workshops are helpful in guiding girls and adults as they pursue the girl's goal of achieving the Silver Award.

Upon completing the prerequisites (or near completion), girls **must**:

- Formulate a project
- Get project approval from the Troop Leader

Once the proposal is approved, the candidate may begin her project. Upon completion of the Silver Award project, girls must submit their Silver Award Final Report to the council office.

To qualify for participation in their regional Silver Award Ceremony, girls must meet the March 1 deadline for submitting their final report. If troops/girls submit their final report after the deadline, they will be eligible to participate in the following year's ceremony. The last possible opportunity to submit a Silver Award Final Report is September 30 of the year a girl graduates from 8th grade.

## BRONZE AWARD GUIDELINES AND PROCESS

Regardless of which set of guidelines (current or new Journey) they choose, girls must follow that set of guidelines until they complete the project.

Upon completing the prerequisites (or near completion), girls, along with an adult **must**:

- Formulate a project plan
- Get project approval from the Troop Leader

Once the proposal is approved, the candidate may begin her project. Upon completion of the Bronze Award project, the Troop Leader may purchase the Bronze Award pins at any GSGLA retail shop (at the service centers).