



# FAQs and Tips for the Girl Scout Gold Award



## Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What grade or level earns the Gold Award?

A: Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts, grades 9-12, are eligible to earn the Gold Award.

Note: Girls may not begin working on their Gold Award prerequisites until October 1, of their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year.

Q: What are the prerequisites for earning the Gold Award?

A: All Senior / Ambassador Girl Scouts are required to complete two Senior / Ambassador Girl Scout level journeys, including the two journey's Take Action projects. OR- Have earned their Silver Award (as a Cadette) and complete one Senior / Ambassador Girl Scout level journey. All prerequisites must be complete prior to beginning work on the Gold Award Project.

Q: Are girls required to complete the council Gold Award Workshop?

A: Yes, girls are required to complete the GSGLA Gold Award Workshop. The workshop should be taken after the completion of prerequisite requirements. Girls should re-take the workshop if more than one year passes before submitting their proposal.

Q: How many girls can work together on a group Gold Award Project?

A: The Gold Award project is an individual leadership and take action project.

Q: How many hours are required to earn the Gold Award?

A: Senior/Ambassador Girl Scouts should spend a minimum 80 hours and 3 months of time planning and implementing their project. Note: This time does not include time spent on prerequisites. Girls are responsible for their own 80 hours of time and may not count the time of others helping them on the project.

Q: What is the standard for a Gold Award caliber project?

A: All Gold Award projects are "Take Action" style projects. This means the project is done with the community and not for the community. It should address the root cause of an issue and the Girl Scout should be able to clearly articulate what their community issue is and how the project impacts that issue. The project should also be measurable, sustainable, and involve community partners.

Q: Does council need to approve the project idea before beginning the award?

A: Yes, GSGLA must approve all projects prior to beginning work. Gold Award applicants must use the GoGoldOnline website, link provided here <https://gogold.girlscouts.org/en/sign-in.html> to design and create their project proposals. The proposal is submitted to GSGLA via the GoGoldOnline site, and each applicant will be scheduled an interview to pitch their project idea. More details on this process are covered in detail in the GSGLA Gold Award Workshop and within the Gold Award Workbook.

Q: Does council need to approve the project once the project is complete?

A: Yes, each Gold Award applicant will need to create and submit a Gold Award Final Report through GoGoldOnline. Once the Final Report is received, GSGLA will notify applicant of an exit interview. More details on the final process are covered in detail in the Gold Award Workshop and within the Gold Award Workbook.

Q: Is there an annual council-wide ceremony for girls?

A: Yes, GSGLA does offer an annual ceremony to honor its recipients. The ceremony is held each year in June. Qualifying Girl Scouts will receive detailed information regarding the ceremony in mid-March.

Q: Where can we find details and resources for earning the Gold Award?

A: Please visit the Gold Award page on the GSGLA website. Visit <https://www.girlscoutsla.org/en/about-girl-scouts/our-program/highest-awards/gold-award.html>

Q: Can girls request in-kind donations from local businesses or friends and family members?

A: Yes, in-kind donations may be sought. Girls should write a formal letter requesting donations from businesses. If she visits a business in person, she should wear her Girl Scout uniform. Girls should speak about their project when requesting donations.

## **For additional questions contact:**

### **Southwest and North Regions**

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