

2023 Silver Award Ceremony FAQ's

Q: What are the dates for 2023 Silver Award Ceremonies?

A: The virtual ceremony will premiere on:

- Tuesday, May 16

Q: What are the deadlines to earn the Silver Award?

A: The deadline to participate in the annual ceremony is March 1. Girl Scouts that submit between March 1 of one year and March 1 of the next will be honored in that year's ceremony.

The final deadline is the September 30 following their 8th grade year. Girl Scouts cannot submit Silver Award final reports after this date as they are no longer eligible to earn the award.

Q: I/Girl Scouts in my troop have completed my Silver Award project. Now what?

A: Each Girl Scout must complete their own Silver Award Final Report eForm. The form can be found on our website (<https://www.girlscoutsla.org/en/about-girl-scouts/our-program/highest-awards/silver-award.html>). Each girl will need to attach a detailed time log, budget sheet, and leader signature page. The attachments can be found on our website (<https://www.girlscoutsla.org/content/dam/girlscoutsla-redesign/documents/events/Highest%20Awards/Silver%20Award%20FINAL%20REPO RT%20Attachments%202016-17.pdf>).

Q: I/We have submitted our Final Report. How quickly will we hear back if our project was approved?

A: Staff go through the Silver Award inboxes approximately once a month. The Girl Scout will receive an email from your staff representative after their review. Please keep in mind the projects are leader approved, and council reviewed. If there were errors, items missing, project aspects not completed, etc., staff will reach out to the Girl Scout about how to correct this so they can earn the award.

Q: When will I/we receive more information on the 2023 Silver Award Ceremony, and who does that email go to?

A: Ceremony information, eForms, due dates, etc. will all be emailed in early March after the March 1 ceremony deadline.

One email is sent to caregivers and Girl Scouts. This has basic ceremony information and instructs them to talk to their troop leader for more details as well as to confirm that their troop leader completes the eForm by the due date.

Another email is sent to the troop leader. This email will contain the ceremony dates, link to the ceremony eForm, and information about how to get the pins and certificates for those in their troop that earned the award. The leader is responsible for submitting the eForm for the entire troop.

Q: Why do I need to submit the ceremony eForm? Don't you have project information already?

A: Yes, we have some project information for each Girl Scout. However, we use the eForm to ensure we have the most up to date information for each Girl Scout, project title, etc.

Only troops that submit the eForm will be featured with slides detailing their project (1 per project) in the ceremony. If we do not receive an eForm from a troop, that troop's project will not be featured in the ceremony.

As part of the eForm we invite troop leaders to submit a video congratulating their Girl Scouts on completing their Silver Award. Video recording instructions will be provided. Please note there is no guarantee that the video will be included in the virtual ceremony. Video quality, background sound/noises, and length of video are factors that will determine which videos will be included.

The eForm is also used to track which Service Center the pins and certificates will be picked up from. It is very important for this reason to submit the eForm. If we do not receive an eForm for the troop, the pins and certificates will be sent to the troops assigned Service Center.

Q: Are the ceremonies in-person or virtual for 2023?

A: The 2023 Silver Award ceremonies will be virtual. We know virtual may not be the preferred method for most troops. However, this is a decision that we had to make on a council level.

Q: With the ceremony being virtual again, will anything special be done to honor/recognize the Girl Scouts that have earned the Silver Award?

A: Yes! This year we are again excited to offer Silver Award recognition pick-up events. This year we are going to make them even more special in the form of watch parties. We will have 2 locations available on the ceremony premiere date, May 16, from 5-8pm where troops and immediate families can gather and watch the premiere together! The ceremony videos will be shown on a continuous loop (approx. once each hour of the event). We will also have fun treats for all to enjoy. This is also a great time to pick up the pins and certificates. You will be asked to RSVP in the ceremony eForm, so we can track attendance for capacity.

Event Locations:

- El Ranchito in Long Beach (4040 N Bellflower Blvd. Long Beach, CA 90808)**
- Montrose Program Center in Montrose (2732 Montrose Avenue Montrose, CA 91020)**

Q: If I/we are not able to attend one of these watch parties, will we still be able to view the ceremony on May 16?

A: Yes, the videos will still premiere on our YouTube channel. If you are not able to join us at one of the two locations, you are welcome to host your own watch party

either that evening or anytime in the future. Caregivers and leaders will be sent the link to the YouTube channel so they can share that link with other family, friends, and supporters.

Q: How do I/we pick up the pins and certificates for the Girl Scouts in our troop that have earned the Silver Award?

A: On the eForm that troop leaders will receive in March, they will be asked which Service Center location they would like to pick up the pins from, or if the troop will be attending the watch party events. Following the watch parties in Long Beach and Montrose, the pins will be available for pick up at the Service Centers. We ask that a representative from the troop (leader or parent) pick them up within 2 weeks. Please pick up all pins and certificates for the whole troop, not just one Girl Scout.

If you choose to purchase the pins prior to the ceremony (or also opted out of participating or did not submit an eForm), please bring a copy of the email stating the Girl Scout has earned her Silver Award to the Girl Scout Shop. When you pick up the certificates, please be sure to let the staff know that you don't need the pins, as you already have them.