

Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards

The Basics

Updated 10/19

AWARDS	GIRL SCOUT BRONZE AWARD®	GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD®	GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD®
GRADE	Girls must be in 4 th or 5 th grade and a registered Girl Scout Junior	Girls must be in 6 th , 7 th , or 8 th grade and a registered Girl Scout Cadette	Girls must be in 9 th , 10 th , 11 th , or 12 th grade and a registered Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador
OVERVIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a Junior Journey Be part of a troop or group where girls take the lead Take action on a community issue the troop or group cares about, following the steps in the Bronze Award Guidelines. Help and guidance provided by troop/group volunteer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a Cadette Journey Work as an individual or in a small group of four or less, where girls take the lead Take action on a community issue that the girls care about, following the steps in the Silver Award Guidelines. Help and guidance provided by troop/group volunteer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete two Senior/ Ambassador Journeys (Silver Award recipients complete one S/A Journey) Individually girl- led Take action on a community issue the girl cares about Help and guidance provided by Project Advisor, Gold Award Advisory Committee
TAKE ACTION PROJECT FOCUS	Take Action Project focuses on an issue the girls care about that they would like to improve within their Girl Scout or local community.	Take Action Project focuses on an issue, outside of Girl Scouting, that affects the local neighborhood or beyond.	Take Action Project focuses on an issue, outside of Girl Scouting, in the local community, region, or beyond, outside of the Girl Scout community.
GROUP SIZE	Troop or individual girl working with a group.	Individual or small group of four or less girls.	Individual
SUSTAINABLE	After the project is complete, girls develop an understanding of sustainability by talking together about how solutions can be lasting.	Girls demonstrate an understanding of sustainability in the project plan and implementation.	Take Action Project includes provisions to ensure sustainability.
GLOBAL IMPACT	After the project is complete, girls develop an understanding of the wider world by talking together about how others may experience the same problem that their project helped resolve.	Girls connect with new friends outside their immediate community, learn how others have solved similar problems and determine if the ideas of others can help with their plan.	Girls identify national and/or global links to their selected issue. They learn from others and develop a plan to share the results of their project beyond the local community.
REQUIRED HOURS	GSNNJ acceptable minimum- 15 hrs. GSUSA suggested minimum- 20 hrs.	GSNNJ acceptable minimum- 40 hrs. GSUSA suggested minimum- 50 hrs.	80 hours must be proposed for project approval.
APPROVAL TO BEGIN PROJECT	Troop/Group Volunteer	Troop/Group Volunteer	GSNNJ Gold Award Advisory Committee
FINAL AWARD APPROVAL (SILVER AND GOLD ALLOW A MINIMUM OF 6 WEEKS FOR APPROVAL.)	Troop/Group Volunteer approves. Optional final report exchanged at council shop for free patches. Official pin may be purchased at any time.	Submit individual final reports to council for approval. Approval needed to purchase official pin. Council awards a certificate and patch.	Complete Go Gold Final Report and meet with Gold Award Advisory Committee for review. Council awards official pin and certificate.
DEADLINE	September 30 of 6 th grade *Membership must be current to receive final approval.	September 30 of 9 th grade *Membership must be current to receive final approval.	September 30 after HS graduation *Membership must be current to receive final approval.
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Junior Journeys Bronze Award Guideline Packet Adult Guide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cadette Journeys Silver Award Guideline Packet Adult Guide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior/ Ambassador Journeys Gold Award Guideline Packet Frequently Asked Questions document Adult Guides

GIRL SCOUT BRONZE, SILVER AND GOLD AWARD

Frequently Asked Questions

- ☀ ***Where are the guidelines for awards found?***
The award requirements can be found in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting binders for each level and on the council website www.gsnnj.org. All of the required forms are also on the website.
- ☀ ***Can girls begin their award Take Action Project while working on their Journey?***
No, they must complete their Journey(s) before moving on to the award Take Action Project. Working through the Journey provides the girls with a skill base that will help them to be more successful with their award Take Action Projects. Journeys offer the girls challenges to *Discover* community issues, *Connect* with their communities and *Take Action* to create lasting change. Each Journey deals with a community issue and is full of the information a girl would need to better understand that issue. Girls will follow the same path through the award Take Action project. They will *Discover* an issue they care about, seeking out information to better understand that issue. They will *Connect* with others in their communities to find resources to utilize. They will make a plan and *Take Action* to create lasting change.
Discover, Connect and Take Action- The Three Keys to Leadership.
- ☀ ***How do I know if I have finished my Journey requirement?***
Each girl must complete all of the awards in their Journey to complete that Journey. An adult volunteer or parent may act as the Journey Advisor and guide the girl through the Journey, signing off on her Silver and Gold reports.
- ☀ ***Is the GS Bronze Award required if I want to earn the GS Silver Award? Can I earn the GS Gold Award if I didn't earn a GS Silver Award?***
Girls who did not earn the Bronze Award can go on to earn the Silver Award. Girls who did not earn the Silver Award can go on to earn the Gold Award. Girls who earn the Silver do have the added advantage of dropping one of the required Journeys for the Gold Award.
- ☀ ***Is it true that girls are ineligible to earn highest awards if they haven't participated in the Council product sales?***
False! While the council would like to see all girls take advantage of the product sales program, lack of participation will not bar girls from earning their GS Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards.
However- Girls are required to participate in both product sales programs to be eligible for any additional fund raising- *money-earning or to solicit for monetary contributions*. For the Silver Award, only the girls who are eligible may apply for money-earning/raising contributions approval and count that activity toward the award. For the Gold Award, the individual girl must participate in both product sales for money-earning/raising contributions eligibility. Troops pursuing the Bronze Award would need to participate in both products sales (individual girl participation is not a factor) and utilize the troop application. For further information see the Money-Earning Application for Award Candidates and Request to Raise Contributions form in the "forms" section of www.gsnnj.org.
- ☀ ***What highest awards support does Council offer?***
Informational workshops are offered for all three awards. Highly recommended Bronze and Silver Award Workshops are offered to any adult who would like to learn more about the award and strategies for advising the girls. The Silver Quest program is available to help Silver Award candidates take the lead as they Take Action. The Gold Award Workshops (part 1- Gold Award Introduction/ part 2- Gold Award Project Planning) are mandatory for any girl who would like to propose a Gold Award project. The workshops are highly recommended for any parent or advisor. For Bronze, Silver & Gold Award candidates who need extra support, appointments are available. Register for any of the above through our website, www.gsnnj.org. For award related questions, contact Pat Christie, Awards Program Manager, pchristie@gsnnj.org, 973-248-8200, 973-906-0083.

Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey
www.gsnnj.org

Paramus Service Center
300 Forest Avenue
Paramus, NJ 07652
973-248-8200

Paterson Resource Center
Center City Mall, 301 Main St
Paterson, NJ 07505
973-248-8200

Randolph Service Center
1579 Sussex Turnpike
Randolph, NJ 07869
973-248-8200

Riverdale Service Center
95 Newark Pompton Turnpike
Riverdale, NJ 07457
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