



Girl Scout Gold Award

The Girl Scout Gold Award—the highest and most prestigious award in Girl Scouting—acknowledges the power behind each recipient’s dedication to not only empowering and bettering herself, but also to making the world a better place for others.

The Gold Award represents the culmination of over 80 hours of work on a project that is important to each girl. Approximately one million Girl Scouts in grades 9-12 have earned the Gold Award or its equivalent since 1916.



A young woman who has earned the Gold Award has become a community leader. Girls who pursue their Gold Award aspire to transform an idea and vision for change into an actionable plan with measurable, sustainable and far-reaching results. Gold Award recipients report a more positive sense of self, are more engaged civically and in community service, have more confidence in their leadership abilities, and experience greater life satisfaction and success relative to their non-Gold Award peers.

Seven steps to earning the Gold Award:

1. Identify an issue: Use your values and skills to choose a community issue that you care about.
2. Investigate: Research everything you can about an issue.
3. Get help and build your team: Form a team to support your efforts and help you Take Action.
4. Create a plan: Identify the root cause of an issue, and then create a plan to tackle it.
5. Present your plan and gather feedback: Submit your Project Proposal to your Girl Scout council for approval.
6. Take Action: Lead your team and carry out your plan.
7. Educate and inspire: Tell your story and share your results.

Did you know?

A Girl Scout who earns the Gold Award:

- Expands her resume and distinguishes herself among other college applicants
- Enters the U.S. Armed Forces one rank higher
- May apply for scholarships that universities and colleges offer to Gold Award earners
- Demonstrates leadership by tackling a community issue, locally or globally

If you have questions about recognizing Gold Award Girl Scouts in your community, please contact the Girl Scouts Public Policy and Advocacy Office at advocacy@girlscouts.org or (202) 659-3870.