



girl scouts silver award

FAQ

Key Dates

- Girls can begin working on their awards the summer after they bridge from one Girl Scout level to the next.
- **July 1:** Last day to submit proposals for bridging Cadettes.
- **September 30:** Absolute last day for bridging Cadettes to submit their Silver Award Final Report.
- **March 31:** All Silver Award finals submitted by this date will be invited to that year's Gold Award Ceremony. All final reports submitted after this date, will be invited to the following year's ceremony.

What are the prerequisites?

Before beginning the Silver Award girls must:

- Complete 1 age level Journeys
- Attend a Silver Award workshop/ webinar

Why are journeys required?

Journeys give girls a full experience of what they will do as they work to earn the Silver Award. The skills girls gain while working on the journeys will help them develop, plan and implement their high award project. Girls can expect to reflect on their Journey in the Silver Award Proposal.

Do Girls have to complete their Bronze Award in order to earn their Silver Award?

No! Each award is set up as a progression but if they happen to miss earning their Bronze they are still able to go for their Silver Award.

How many hours does it take to earn the Silver Award?

The time it takes to earn the awards will depend on the nature of the project, the size of the team and the support of the community. Quality projects should be emphasized over quantity of hours. After the journey requirement is fulfilled, the minimum number of hours to complete a quality Silver Award project is 50 hours. Prior to proposal submission and approval, ONLY 10 hours of work will count towards your project. The remaining 40 hours must be completed AFTER proposal approval by committee.

How many girls can work on a Silver Award project?

Each award level brings a new progression of leadership development and each award level has different group guidelines. At the Silver Award level girls can work by

themselves or in a group with up to 3 other Cadettes. This isn't to say other troop mates can't help them with their project, they can but they would be listed as volunteers and would not earn the award.

Can a girl earn the Silver Award if she is an Individually Registered Member (called a Juliette), and not affiliated with a troop?

Yes. Earning the Silver Award is a team experience for a group of Cadettes. If the girl is an Individually Registered Member, she will need to partner with other Individually Registered Members, a troop, or a group of friends which can include non-Girl Scouts who may want to join Girl Scouting. Working as part of a team is essential to the leadership development learned through the Silver Award process.

Do plans need to be submitted to council prior to beginning?

Prior approval by council IS needed. Proposals must be submitted by July 1st of their bridging cadette year. Final reports must be submitted to council for review and approval in order to receive your council-purchased Silver Pin. Please arrange for pick-up of pins at the Leadership center with High Awards Coordinator.

Can Silver Award projects benefit Girl Scouts and/ or the camps?

Yes GSUSA just released in Oct. 2019 that all high awards can now benefit Girl Scouting. However, at the Silver Award level it is expected that girls will also advocate for their project outside of Girl Scouting as well as within. To do a project benefitting GSWCF please have girls fill out the "[Highest Awards Project proposal at camp](#)" form and submit to High Awards Coordinator with the proposal form.

Can girls fundraise for their projects?

Yes! For more information about the policies, ideas, and forms, visit: [Supplemental Earning Form](#) & Money Earning Form.

What is the difference between a Take Action project and community service?

Take Action and community service projects are different, and both are essential to Girl Scouting. When you earn the Silver Award, you bring the Girl Scout Law to life! Community service projects are acts of kindness and important ways to help something or someone right now. They are commonly "one and done" activities. Performing community service almost always multiplies efforts that are already in place. Examples include collecting food for an existing food pantry, providing clothing or toiletries to people who have suffered a disaster, cleaning up a run-down playground, or picking up trash at a park, forest, or beach. Girl Scout Take Action projects address an issue by tackling the factors that cause or contribute to it. As you may expect, these projects have a far-reaching impact. They are designed to change something for the better—forever.

Who's who?

GS Advisor- GS Advisors are adults that have taken the Take Action for Adults webinar in GSLearn. They can help make sure the Silver Award prerequisites have been met and may also agree to be a part of the volunteer team. They assist with the Girl Scout side of the process- funding, safety, and travel guidelines just to name a few.

Optional: Project Advisor- A project advisor is an adult who has some level of expertise in one or more areas of the issue the project addresses. Think of the project advisor as a professional consultant; they can guide you as you plan and implement your project. The project advisor does not design the project but does offer valuable insight, advice, and guidance.

What is sustainability?

Sustainability means that your project, as well as the work towards addressing your issue, carries on or continues even after you've done your part and earned the Silver Award. In a nutshell: you'll put a plan in place that ensures your Silver Award creates lasting change.