

## Girl Scouts of Middle TN Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Award FAQs

**1. Which award guidelines should my troop follow?**

The guidelines currently posted on the [www.gsmidttn.org](http://www.gsmidttn.org) website may still be used. However the project and final paperwork must be completed by **September 30, 2011**.

**2. When can my troop start the new award guidelines?**

Girls may start with the new guidelines anytime. The new guidelines are available at [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org).

**3. I see a Girl Scout Journey is part of the new guidelines. May our troop go ahead and start a Journey?**

Yes, a Girl Scout Journey is the pre-requisite for each award process. The earlier you start a Journey, the further along the award process your troop will be. The Take Action project required to complete your journey is not the Bronze, Silver or Gold Award Project.

**4. Will there be a training available either for the leader, the girls or both?**

Training will not be available based on the guidelines currently posted on the website. Girl Scouts of the USA is in the process of developing a training for adults which covers the parameters of a Take Action project. Be looking for training dates through all Girl Scout communications December 2009.

### Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Award Comparison

AWARDS	CURRENT GUIDELINES MUST BE COMPLETED BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2011	NEW GUIDELINES
<b>GIRL SCOUT BRONZE AWARD®</b>	<p><b>Pre-requisites include:</b> Two Girl Scout Badges One Girl Scout Sign Either Junior Aide or Junior Leadership Award or two more Girl Scout Badges.</p> <p><b>Project:</b> Individually or group</p> <p><b>Approval:</b> Troop leader</p>	<p><b>Pre-requisites include:</b> A Junior Journey</p> <p><b>Project:</b> Group/troop only</p> <p><b>Approval:</b> Troop/group volunteer</p>
<b>GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD®</b>	<p><b>Pre-requisites include:</b> Earn the Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award Earn three Interest Project Awards (IPA) Spend 15 or more hours in a leadership role. Earn the Girl Scout Silver Career Award Earn "Your Own Business" IPA Complete the Silver 4B's Challenge</p> <p><b>Project:</b> Individually or group</p> <p><b>Approval:</b> Council staff</p>	<p><b>Pre-requisites include:</b> Complete a Cadette Journey</p> <p><b>Project:</b> Individual or small group (two – four)</p> <p><b>Approval:</b> Troop/group volunteer</p>
<b>GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD®</b>	<p><b>Pre-requisites include:</b> Earn three Interest Project Awards (IPA) Earn the Girl Scout Gold Leadership Award Spend 30 hours or more in a leadership role. Earn the Girl Scout Silver Career Award Spend 40 hours in career exploration. Complete the Gold 4B's Challenge</p> <p><b>Project:</b> Individually or small group</p> <p><b>Pre-Approval and Approval:</b> Council staff and Gold Award Committee</p>	<p><b>Pre-requisites include:</b> Complete two Journeys (Senior or Ambassador) or Earn the Silver Award and complete one Senior or Ambassador Journey.</p> <p><b>Project:</b> Individual</p> <p><b>Pre-Approval and Approval:</b> Council staff and Gold Award Committee</p>

### Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards at a Glance

AWARDS	GIRL SCOUT BRONZE AWARD®	GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD®	GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD®
<b>GRADE</b>	Girls must be in 4th or 5th grades and a registered Girl Scout Junior	Girls must be in 6th, 7th, or 8th grades and a registered Girl Scout Cadette	Girls must be in 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grades and a registered Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador
<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Complete a Junior Journey</li> <li>✓ Be part of a Troop or Group where girls take the lead</li> <li>✓ Take action on a community issue the troop or group cares about</li> <li>✓ Help and guidance provided by Troop/Group Volunteer</li> </ul> <p>Suggested 20 hours *Council approval needed for any money earning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Complete a Cadette Journey</li> <li>✓ Work as an individual or in a small group where girls take the lead</li> <li>✓ Take action on a community issue that the girls care about</li> <li>✓ Help and guidance provided by Troop/Group Volunteer</li> </ul> <p>Suggested minimum 50 hours for each Cadette. *Council approval needed for any money earning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Complete two Journeys (Senior or Ambassador) <b>or</b> Earn the Silver Award and complete one Senior or Ambassador Journey</li> <li>✓ Individually girl led; girl selects and recruits Project Advisor</li> <li>✓ Take action on a community issue the girl cares about</li> <li>✓ Help and guidance provided by Project Advisor</li> </ul> <p>The suggested minimum hours to complete the steps to the Girl Scout Gold Award is 80 hours. Quality projects should be emphasized over quantity of hours. *Council approval needed for any money earning</p>
<b>TAKE ACTION PROJECT</b>	<p>Group Take Action Project focuses on something the girls care about that they would like to improve within their Girl Scout or local community.</p> <p>Puts the Promise and Law into action</p>	<p>Individual or group Take Action Project that makes the local neighborhood or community better.</p> <p>Puts the Promise and Law into action</p>	<p>Individual Take Action Project that makes a lasting difference in the local community, region, or beyond.</p> <p>Puts the Promise and Law into action</p>
<b>SUSTAINABLE</b>	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.
<b>GLOBAL</b>	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.
<b>PROJECT APPROVAL</b>	Troop/Group Volunteer	Troop/Group Volunteer	Council or Council's Gold Award Committee
<b>RESOURCES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junior Journey</li> <li>• Bronze Award guidelines on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Adult guide on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Council guide on the OCN</li> <li>• Council learning opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cadette Journey</li> <li>• Silver Award guidelines on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Adult guide on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Council guide on the OCN</li> <li>• Council learning opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior and/or Ambassador Journeys</li> <li>• Gold Award guidelines on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Adult guide on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Council guide on the OCN</li> <li>• Council learning opportunities</li> </ul>

\*Adhere to guidelines in the Volunteer Packet and Safety-Wise.

TRANSITION: THERE IS A 2-YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD. THESE GUIDELINES BECOME OFFICIAL IN OCTOBER 2011 (BEGINNING 2012 MEMBERSHIP YEAR). IF THE MAJORITY OF WORK WILL BE DONE DURING THE 2012 MEMBERSHIP YEAR, THESE NEW GUIDELINES SHOULD BE USED.