



GSUSA and GSMIDTN Standards and Guidelines  
 Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards at a Glance



AWARDS	GIRL SCOUT BRONZE AWARD®	GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD®	GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD®
GRADE	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
OVERVIEW	<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> <li>✓ Suggested 20 hours per girl</li> <li>✓ Must be completed by 9/30 of the year the girl completes 5<sup>th</sup> grade</li> <li>✓ Must be completed by 2/15 of the year the girls wish to participate in the annual council-sponsored ceremony</li> <li>✓ Council approval needed for any money earning; submit copy of <b>PERMISSION TO CONDUCT A MONEY EARNING PROJECT</b> with final report</li> <li>✓ Works best when completed as a troop, but can be done by an individual member if she leads others in completing the Take Action Project</li> </ul>	<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> <li>✓ Suggested minimum 50 hours for each Cadette</li> <li>✓ Must be completed by 9/30 of the year the girl completes 8<sup>th</sup> grade</li> <li>✓ Must be completed by 2/15 of the year the girls wish to participate in the annual council-sponsored ceremony</li> <li>✓ Council approval needed for any money earning; submit copy of <b>PERMISSION TO CONDUCT A MONEY EARNING PROJECT</b> with final report</li> </ul> <p>* Small group may consist of no more than four (4) girls</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Complete two Journeys (Senior or Ambassador) or 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> <li>✓ 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.</li> <li>✓ Must be completed by 9/30 of the year the girl graduates from high school</li> <li>✓ Must be completed by 2/15 of the year the girls wish to participate in the annual council-sponsored ceremony</li> <li>✓ Council approval needed for any money earning; submit copy of <b>PERMISSION TO CONDUCT A MONEY EARNING PROJECT</b> with final report</li> </ul>
TAKE ACTION PROJECT	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Puts the Promise and Law into action</li> </ul>	<p>Individual or group Take Action Project that makes the local neighborhood or community better.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Puts the Promise and Law into action</li> </ul>	<p>Individual Take Action Project that makes a lasting difference in the local community, region, or beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Puts the Promise and Law into action</li> </ul>
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	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.
PROJECT APPROVAL	<p>Approved by Troop/Group Volunteer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Troop/Group Volunteer submits a Bronze Award Report Form</li> </ul>	<p><b>TRANSITION PERIOD</b> Feb 2016 through 9/30/16: Approved by Troop/Group Volunteer; final report reviewed by Highest Awards Advisory committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Troop/Group Volunteer submits a Silver Award Final Report Form for each girl</li> <li>✓ <b>STARTING 10/1/16:</b> Troop/Group Volunteer submits pre-approval proposal form for each project <u>and</u> Silver Award Final Report Form for each project</li> </ul>	<p>Council or Council's Highest Awards Advisory committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Girl submits a project proposal</li> <li>✓ Girl has an interview for project approval</li> <li>✓ Girl submits a final report</li> <li>✓ Girl submits digital pictures of her project upon completion</li> </ul>
RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junior Journey: Take Action component</li> <li>• Bronze Award guidelines on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Adult guide on GSUSA website</li> <li>• GSMIDTN learning opportunities for adults</li> <li>• <i>GSMIDTN Bronze Award Guidelines, Tips and Information</i> on council website</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cadette Journey: Take Action component</li> <li>• Silver Award guidelines on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Adult guide on GSUSA website</li> <li>• GSMIDTN learning opportunities for <u>girls</u> and adults</li> <li>• <i>GSMIDTN Silver Award Guidelines, Tips and Information</i> on council website</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior and/or Ambassador Journeys: Take Action component</li> <li>• Gold Award guidelines on GSUSA website</li> <li>• Adult guide on GSUSA website</li> <li>• GSMIDTN learning opportunities for <u>girls</u> and adults</li> <li>• <i>GSMIDTN Gold Award Guidelines, Tips and Information</i> on council website</li> </ul>



## Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Award Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee Information

Although Bronze and Silver Award Take Action Projects (TAP) do not require pre-approval from the Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee, Gold Award Take Action Projects must be approved.

- ☼ Girls must submit a Gold Award Take Action project pre-approval form for review
- ☼ Upon receiving pre-approval, girls will need to schedule an interview with the committee.
  - Available dates for interviews are posted on our website calendar at [www.gsmidtn.org](http://www.gsmidtn.org)
  - At the conclusion of the interview, girls will be advised as to whether they may bring their Take Action Project or if further work is needed.

All Take Action Projects (Bronze, Silver and Gold) require final paperwork to be submitted to the Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee. Upon review of final paperwork, girls will be advised of the status of their project. If projects meet all criteria, girls will be eligible to receive the appropriate recognition.

- ☼ Bronze Award certificates are provided by the council. Bronze Award pins may be purchased from the shop with proper council documentation. Bronze Award ceremonies are done on a local level.
- ☼ Silver and Gold Award recognitions are provided by the council. Silver and Gold Award ceremonies are held at the council level.
- ☼ Final report deadline to be included in the spring Salute to Outstanding Leadership Awards (SOLA) is February 15

We are committed to ensuring that every girl has a successful experience in pursuit of our highest awards. Should a Take Action Project be judged to not meet the quality standards set forth, we will work with girls and their advisors to assist them in bringing their project up to an acceptable level. We are available for consultations, advice and assistance at any time during the process.

### 4 Key Points for Each of the Highest Awards

#### BRONZE AWARD®

- ☼ **TAP:** meets a need or improves their local or Girl Scout community
- ☼ **SUSTAINABILITY:** thought given to how their actions can be long lasting
- ☼ **THINK GLOBALLY:** are there any other local communities or Girl Scout councils that have this same need?
- ☼ **SPREAD THE WORD:** share your story with others who could be inspired to make a difference, too

#### SILVER AWARD®

- ☼ **TAP:** meets a need to improve their neighborhood or local community in collaboration WITH the community
- ☼ **SUSTAINABILITY:** demonstrate an understanding of how their improvement can continue
- ☼ **THINK GLOBALLY:** how it connects/relates to others outside of her school or community
- ☼ **SPREAD THE WORD:** share your story to get others to act to continue the project

#### GOLD AWARD®

- ☼ **TAP:** addresses the root cause of an issue while meeting a need in the community
- ☼ **SUSTAINABILITY:** provides sustainable change & includes provisions for continuation of TAP after the Girl Scout is no longer involved
- ☼ **THINK GLOBALLY:** girls identify a global or national link to the community issue that their TAP addresses
- ☼ **SPREAD THE WORD:** provisions are made to educate and inspire others to join you in addressing your issue