



**Girl Scouts of
Central
& Southern NJ
Go for the Gold**

Gold Award Prerequisites

- Senior or Ambassador Girl Scout
- 2 Senior/Ambassador journeys OR 1 Senior/Ambassador journey + silver award
- Girl does webinar
- Has Girl Scout Mentor (not related to girl)
- Girl Scout Mentor does webinar (plus optional recommended advisor training)
- Has a Project Adviser (not related to girl)

Gold Award Project Requirements

- Addresses Issue and root cause – take action
- Leadership: not just community service
(not just doing)
- Has guaranteed sustainability
- 80 hours project time
- individual project

Gold Project Cannot

- Raise money for other organizations
- Be one-time programs like a book drive

Mentor's Role

Make Sure Project Meets GSUSA Standards

- If not, gold girls will not be approved by the review committee or will need to restructuring their project to meet the new GSUSA standards as per the new **GSUSA Gold Award Rubric**

Advisors Role (cont.)

IS NOT TO:

- Make sure every girl has a silver award project
- Supervise the girls doing their projects
- Make sure every girl finishes

GIRLS are responsible for coming up with projects and doing their projects, with parental support.

Gold Proposal Process

Key Process Rules

- Submit electronically – GOGOLD only
- Proposal must be approved before she begins
- Personal Interview
- Allow 4 – 6 weeks

New Gold Proposal Process

- GSUSA rubric review
- GSCSNJ Gold Supplemental form
- Preliminary reviews
- Guide to Going Gold



		Does Not Meet Standards	Needs Improvement	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards <i>(These standards can only be evaluated at project completion)</i>
Prerequisites					
<i>Related question in proposal: Prerequisite chart</i>					
A	Completion of two S/A Journeys OR Silver Award and one S/A Journey	<input type="checkbox"/> Is not a registered Senior or Ambassador Girl Scout; not in grades 9–12 <input type="checkbox"/> Has not completed two Senior/Ambassador Journeys or the Cadette Silver Award and one Senior/Ambassador Journey		<input type="checkbox"/> Is a registered Girl Scout in grades 9–12 <input type="checkbox"/> Has completed two Senior/Ambassador Journeys or the Cadette Silver Award and one Senior/Ambassador Journey	
B	Gold Award Training	<input type="checkbox"/> Has not completed the council's Gold Award training/workshop		<input type="checkbox"/> Has completed the council's Gold Award training/workshop	
Step 1: Choose an issue					
<i>Related questions in proposal: My Gold Award aims to address this issue</i>					
C	Project identifies a credible community need	<input type="checkbox"/> Identified issue is based on Girl Scout's interests only and not on credible community need or <input type="checkbox"/> Identified issue is already being fulfilled by the community the Girl Scout intends to serve		<input type="checkbox"/> Identified issue is based on credible community need	<input type="checkbox"/> Identified issue is based on credible community need BONUS: Identified need is important and rarely addressed
<i>Related question in proposal: The root cause of my issue is</i>					
D	Project identifies a root cause of that community need and plan addresses that root cause	<input type="checkbox"/> Did not identify root cause <input type="checkbox"/> Project addresses an immediate need with a short-term/one-off solution	<input type="checkbox"/> Identified root cause <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan does not address it	<input type="checkbox"/> Identified root cause <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan shows well-constructed approach to address it	<input type="checkbox"/> Identified root cause <input type="checkbox"/> Plan shows both careful attention to detail and creative thinking; as a result, project plan is especially innovative
<i>Related question in proposal: The target audience(s) for my Gold Award project is/are</i>					
E	Target audience is clearly identified and engaged in project	<input type="checkbox"/> Target audience is not part of the community affected by the issue <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan is designed FOR the target audience versus WITH	<input type="checkbox"/> Target audience is part of the community affected by the issue <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan marginally benefits the target audience	<input type="checkbox"/> Target audience is clearly identified members of the community affected by the issue <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan engages appropriate community members in the solution and demonstrates benefit to the target audience	<input type="checkbox"/> Target audience is clearly identified members of the community affected by the issue <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan engages appropriate community members in the solution and demonstrates benefit to the target audience, and the community is committed to sustaining the Girl Scout's work

<i>Related question in proposal: The reasons I selected my issue are</i>					
F	Research sources are cited and thoroughly investigated	<input type="checkbox"/> No validation or research conducted to help shape project	<input type="checkbox"/> Research is implied, but no sources provided	<input type="checkbox"/> Some research has been conducted and 1–2 sources are referenced	<input type="checkbox"/> Thorough research has been conducted and 3+ sources cited
Step 3: Get help					
<i>Related question in proposal: List the names of individuals and organizations you plan to work with on your Gold Award project</i>					
H	Team members are identified	<input type="checkbox"/> Self and family only	<input type="checkbox"/> Self, family, and Girl Scouts only OR less than 3 team members	<input type="checkbox"/> 3–5 team members, beyond Girl Scout community and family, with skills and knowledge related to the issue, including members of the community impacted by issue	<input type="checkbox"/> 3–5+ team members, beyond Girl Scouts and family, with evidence of strategic thought for leveraging skill/expertise to impact issue; includes members of community impacted by issue
<i>Related question in proposal: Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor information</i>					
I	Project Advisor is identified and is an expert	<input type="checkbox"/> None selected	<input type="checkbox"/> Advisor is family member or troop leader/volunteer OR does not have knowledge of selected issue	<input type="checkbox"/> Advisor has expertise in one or more areas of the selected issue	<input type="checkbox"/> Advisor has expertise in one or more areas of the selected issue and additional expert advisors are listed in team
Step 4: Create a plan					
<i>Related question in proposal: I will address the root cause by</i>					
J	Clear project description	<input type="checkbox"/> Project is not at all described; there is no explanation of what will be done	<input type="checkbox"/> Project is vaguely described; it is unclear what will be done	<input type="checkbox"/> Project is clearly described and shows a well-constructed approach on how the root cause of the issue will be addressed	<input type="checkbox"/> Project plan shows both careful attention to detail and creative thinking; as a result, project plan is <i>especially</i> innovative
<i>Related questions in proposal: The skills, knowledge, and/or attitudes my target audience will gain are; I will know that my audience has gained the desired skills/knowledge because; Measurement of my project's success chart</i>					
K	Project will have a measurable impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Impact does not relate to issue OR is not defined	<input type="checkbox"/> Impact is a vague impression OR not realistically measurable	<input type="checkbox"/> Impact is clearly defined and measurable; there is a clear measurement tool defined	<input type="checkbox"/> Project's impact is clearly defined and would affect a significant number of individuals and/or affect individuals to a significant degree; clear measurement tools are defined
<i>Related question in proposal: My Gold Award project goals are</i>					
L	Project goals are clearly defined and realistic	<input type="checkbox"/> No goals identified	<input type="checkbox"/> Goals lack detail and are not clearly connected to planned project impact	<input type="checkbox"/> At least one goal is clearly defined and connected to project impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple goals are clearly defined OR one <i>especially</i> ambitious goal is outlined

M	Project plan will ensure sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/> No plan for project to be continued OR the solution can't be maintained following the project (it's a service project)	<input type="checkbox"/> Unclear idea of how the project will continue OR <i>hoping</i> someone else will sustain	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear, thoughtful plan that leads to sustainability beyond the Girl Scout's involvement	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan for sustainability is especially strong, galvanizing others beyond target audience to participate in the solution and/or advocate for involvement across multiple communities
<i>Related question in proposal: I will put my plan in to action by</i>					
N	Timeline is realistic and appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> Confusing or unrealistic plan that is missing key steps and is less than 80 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete project plan that highlights only a few steps and is less than 80 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive and realistic project plan that highlights all major steps in project and is about or over 80 hours	
O	Active leadership role planned and defined	<input type="checkbox"/> No strategy to lead a team or engage others to help with the project OR project appears driven by an adult	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy to engage teammates is limited, includes only assigning minor roles/peripheral tasks	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy to engage teammates is comprehensive, outlines specific roles and responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy to effectively lead a diverse team in execution; intention to transfer leadership skills to team members and target audience
<i>Related question in proposal: Estimate your project expenses and how you plan to meet those costs</i>					
P	Budget is realistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides incomplete information about project costs or how those costs will be met <input type="checkbox"/> Plans to raise money/fundraise for another organization	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides vague description of project costs; it is unclear how those costs will be met and/or the supplies listed appear inappropriate for the scope of the project	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides detailed description of project costs and clear explanation of how costs will be met	
Q	Income and money-earning activity explanations	<input type="checkbox"/> No explanation OR disregards money-earning policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, but unclear if following money-earning policy	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, follows all money-earning policies	
<i>Related question in proposal: The strengths, talents and skills I currently have and will put into action are; The skills I plan to develop as I work towards earning my Gold Award are</i>					
R	Leadership development	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not include information about leadership or personal strengths; does not identify a goal for developing a new skill	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides incomplete information about leadership and personal strengths; partially sets goal to develop new leadership skill	<input type="checkbox"/> Describes new skills to be developed	<input type="checkbox"/> Clearly describes how new leadership skill(s) will be developed
<i>Related question in proposal: I will let others know about my Gold Award by promoting via</i>					
S	Tell the World: Plan to actively share project	<input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete information		<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies the methods to be used for sharing the Gold Award project	

Common Problems

- Answers are incomplete
- Assume local knowledge
- Undersell themselves
- Don't state issue/root cause correctly
- Sustainability isn't clearly defined, is only speculated

Submitting Proposals - GOLD

Online GoGold App

- Project cannot be submitted without the Troop/Group Volunteers verification through GoGold that the girl has completed the pre-requisites
- Also the project adviser needs to review and verify the project proposal

Common Problems in Final Reports

- Don't correctly state issue or root cause
- Don't say how many/how often
- Undersell themselves so “leadership” isn't evident
- Don't explain sustainability correctly
- Omit things

What Counts Towards Total Hours Needed for Award Completion

Tasks that count:

- Developing your project
- Implementing your project
- Communication with others
- Research and planning to complete the project
- Recruiting, training and supervising your team
- Buying and gathering supplies
- Researching, developing and planning approved Money Earning Activities (to fund your project)

Tasks that do not count:

- Research to determine what project you will do
- Filling out award paperwork
- Award Workshop
- Completing the prerequisites
- Time given by the people helping you
- Implementation of the approved Money Earning Activities (unless directly related to your project)
- Volunteering for an agency that benefits from the project
- Driving to locations



Questions

