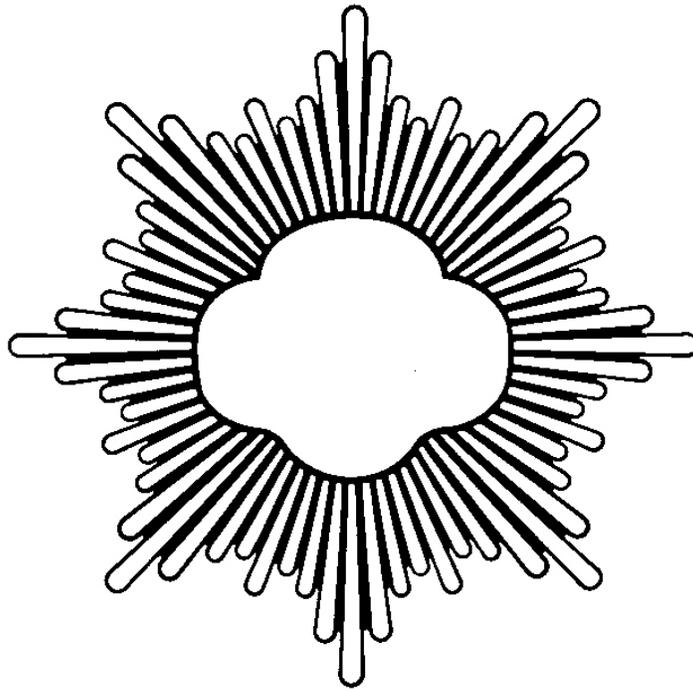


The Girl Scout Silver Award



Girl Scout Council of Orange County

P.O. Box 3739

Costa Mesa, CA 92628-3739

(714) 979-7900

What is the Girl Scout Silver Award?

The Girl Scout Silver Award is the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout can earn. It is symbolic of accomplishments in Girl Scouting and community activities, as you grow and work to better your life and the lives of others. The first four requirements of the Girl Scout Silver Award help you build skills, explore careers, gain leadership skills, and make a commitment to improving yourself. The final activity, the Girl Scout Silver Award Project can be undertaken when the first four requirements are completed. The Silver Award requirements include:

1. Earn three interest project patches. The requirements can be found in *Interest Projects for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts* and *Cadette and Senior Girl Scout Council's Own Interest Projects*. Both books are available at the Girl Scout Center in Costa Mesa.
2. Earn the Dreams to Reality Patch, which is about careers
-OR-
Complete five Career Exploration Activities from *Interest Projects for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts*.
3. Earn the Cadette Girl Scout Leadership Award.
-OR-
Earn the Cadette Leadership Interest Project.
4. Earn the Cadette Girl Scout Challenge.
5. Design and carry out a Girl Scout Silver Award Project.

A more complete discussion of the Girl Scout Silver Award can be found in your *Cadette Girl Scout Handbook*. You will find the requirements for each of the recognitions listed above in this book.

What is the Girl Scout Silver Award Project?

The Silver Award project builds upon your accomplishments in Girl Scouting and represents your personal action plan for helping others. This project should be determined by your interests, the interest project patches you have earned, and the service projects in which you have participated. The project could be done in or outside of Girl Scouting and must reflect some aspect of community service. If the project is done with Girl Scouting, it must reach out to the community in some way. For example, calling on people outside Girl Scouting as resources, doing something that reaches girls who aren't Girl Scouts, or affecting something that is used by people other than just Girl Scouts.

When can I begin working on the Girl Scout Silver Award?

To begin working toward the Silver Award, you must be a Cadette Girl Scout in the 6th, 7th, 8th, or 9th grade.

Can we do a project as a troop?

Yes! One or more girls may use the same project for her Girl Scout Silver Award but each girl **MUST** identify her personal contribution from beginning to end. Each girl's contribution must be a minimum of thirty (30) hours in duration. This includes the time used for planning and evaluation of the project. The actual implementation of the project should take **10 hours**. "Implementation" means actually carrying out the plan. Generally, a project should not be so large in scale that it requires more than five (5) girls to complete it.

How long should the planning phase take?

The Silver Award Project planning should involve at least three (3) months. This would include Steps 1 through 4 in the *Cadette Girl Scout Handbook*, page 137-138. The implementation of the project should total 10 hours. This may be broken into segments.

Do I need to submit a plan to the council for approval?

No, however, you do need to submit a project report at the end of your work. The Cadette Girl Scout Silver Award Report Form is available from the Girl Scout Center. It needs to be signed by your troop leader or project consultant. Your project report should be sent to:

Girl Scout Silver Award
Girl Scout Council of Orange County
P.O. Box 3739
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-3739

Please send the report form only. We do not need any other information. These reports will be kept on file at the Girl Scout Center for future reference and monitoring the quality of projects that are completed.

Do I need a project advisor?

Your leader can act as your advisor. You are encouraged to use resource people whose knowledge or careers can make your Silver Award the best that it can be. If you are a Juliette Girl Scout you may ask any adult that has taken Cadette or Senior Leadership Training to be your advisor.

Do I need to complete the Silver Award before I become a Senior Girl Scout?

Yes, it really is just for Cadette Girl Scouts.

Does this mean I need to complete the Silver Award before I work on the Girl Scout Gold Award?

This is kind of a trick question. You can not work on the Gold Award as a Cadette Girl Scout. The good news is you don't have to have the Silver Award under your belt to begin the Gold Award as a Senior Girl Scout. It is helpful, as some of the processes are the same, and many of the skills you developed for the Silver Award are a foundation for working on the Gold Award.

I really want to help raise money for our local hospital, because someone in our troop is sick. Can we do this?

You need to follow national and council guidelines for fund-raising. You can not raise money for another organization according to GSUSA policy. However, you can volunteer for that organization. Instead of a walkathon, what about volunteering to help with registration, first aid, or making sure everyone has water and a snack along the route? It is very important that you clear any fund-raising plans with your membership development director at the Girl Scout Center.

Here are some sample Silver Award Projects.

The Arts

- An arts day for younger girls.
- Learning to be clowns and visiting hospitals on holidays.
- Writing and performing a puppet play for a special event.

Environment

- Starting a sustainable recycling program at school.
- Creating an environmental awareness display and fair at local mall.
- Working to get a stream cleaned up for wildlife.

Literacy

- Planning and hosting a book trading fair for younger children.
- Learning how to rebind books and opening a book hospital for kids.
- Collecting books for kids and adults at hospitals.
- Making puppet boxes to accompany stories for children.

Helping Others

- Setting up a computer center and teaching senior citizens how to use the Internet for e-mail or gathering information.
- Establishing a sustainable food pantry in your community.
- Making a video of how to use camp facilities for traveling troops and outside groups.
- Assist a child from another country in learning English.

Science

- Developing a troop web site.
- Planning and coordinating a science day for younger girls.
- Creating a science nook at camp.
- Building an exhibit at a local science museum.

These projects were taken from the Idea corner of GSUSA's website. Check www.girlscouts.org for more ideas. Click "Just For Girls," then click "Badges, etc." Scroll down to "Leadership Awards" and click "Silver Award." This is a good place to read what others have done or share your project. Remember that your Silver Award project should benefit the community outside of Girl Scouting.

Cadette Girl Scout Silver Award Report Form

Please type or print in black ink. Make a copy for your leader and yourself. Mail the original copy to the Girl Scout Center.

Part I: Personal Data

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____
Street City Zip

Age: _____ Grade: _____ Name of School: _____

Troop Number: _____ Community: _____ Service Unit: _____

Leader's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Part II: Requirements 1 through 4

1. Interest Project Earned	Date Completed	Consultant Signature

2. Career Exploration	Date Completed	Consultant Signature
From Dreams to Reality patch		
Career Activity		

3. Leadership Activities	Date Completed	Consultant Signature
Cadette Girl Scout Leadership Award		
Leadership Interest Project		

4. Cadette Girl Scout Challenge	Date Completed	Consultant Signature

Part III: Girl Scout Silver Award Project

Title of Project: _____ Date Completed: _____

A: Briefly describe your plan and your reasons for selecting this project.

B. List the name of the agency that you did your project for and the name of the person at the agency you worked with.

C. List the skills, talents, and abilities that you put into action.

D. List those people who worked with you on your project and the resources you found to be of most help.

E. Briefly evaluate your project. What did you learn? What did you accomplish? What would you do differently?

Leader Signature

Girl Signature

Date

Keep two copies (one for girl and one for leader) and mail to: Cadette Girl Scout Silver Award, Girl Scout Council of Orange County, P.O. Box 3739, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-3739

