

2005 Edition

Going For the Gold



Girl Scouts®

Going For the Gold is a workbook for Senior Girl Scouts. It contains the forms, suggestions, and checklists for girls as they start to develop their Gold Award project, gain approval of the project and complete the project. This publication is distributed 2 per Senior Girl Scout Troop; 1 per Senior Girl Scout. Going For the Gold is Revised every 1-3 years as program changes warrant, with updates published in intervening years as needed.

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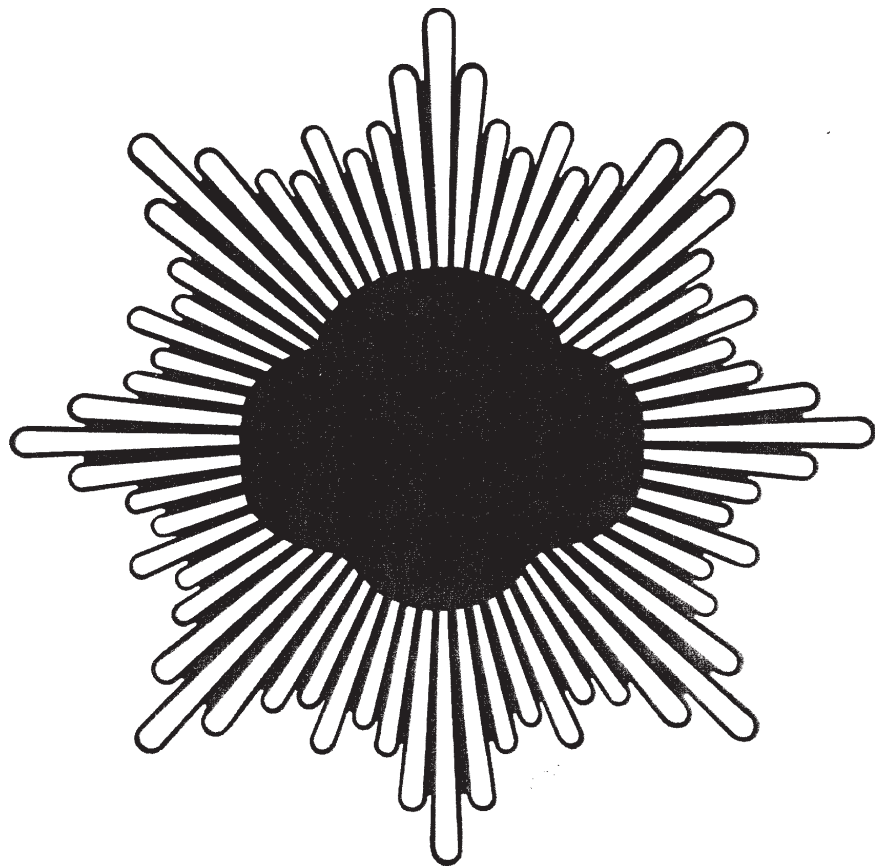
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GOING FOR THE GOLD – A SURVIVAL GUIDE

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CONGRATULATIONS ON DECIDING TO GO FOR THE GOLD!

In deciding to earn this award, you are making a commitment to yourself, your community, your world and your future. Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award will require hard work and the willingness to take on significant responsibilities. It will involve choices, decision-making and the ability to follow a plan you have set for yourself. You will have the opportunity to use your leadership and organizational skills to create a project that has a lasting benefit to your community,

There are **several steps** to this process. The prerequisites will help you develop skills, practice leadership, explore career possibilities, and discover both personal interests and community needs. You will bring these together in the development and implementation of your Gold Award Project.

Your journey may not be easy. In fact, you will probably encounter some setbacks along the way. This is natural, especially considering the scope of what you are undertaking. However, remember that **learning to overcome the challenges** that come your way is one of life's most valuable lessons.

This booklet is designed to help guide you on your journey. It provides the rules and procedures that are applied in GSCNC. The booklet also includes guidance from the Gold Award Panel and GSCNC staff based on their collective experience in working with Gold Award projects. There are some **sample projects** and ideas offered to illustrate specific points. Keep in mind, however, that the sentence of paragraph that describes a project provides only a glimpse of what the actual project entails. You can use the samples to get you started, but your project should be just that – YOURS. It should reflect YOUR interests, YOUR passions, and YOUR vision for creating a better world.

The booklet is laid out in a logical fashion taking you through the steps and questions, as they are likely to arise while you go for the Gold. However, it is a good idea to **skim through the booklet** now to get an idea of what is here, in case you encounter a question in a different order from how the book is laid out. Also **look for FAQs** (frequently asked questions) throughout the booklet.

One of the first things you will notice as you start to go through the book is that **there are currently two paths to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award**. If you are just starting, you will be following Path B. If you started working on the pre-requisites before November of 2004, you may be working on Path A. Neither path is easier or harder than the other. Some of the steps leading to the actual project (previously called the pre-requisites) have been streamlined and designed so each step is a progression leading you toward your Gold Award project. The project itself requires more hours under Path B, but you are allowed to count some of the hours from the Girl Scout Gold 4 B's Challenge where you are laying the groundwork for your project. Some steps in Path B require you to use STUDIO 2B® Focus books. On the surface these may seem easier than Interest Project awards, but this can be deceptive. Yes, you can breeze through some Focus books (just as you can breeze through an IP if you want to), but doing so really works against you. The activities in both Focus books and IPs are designed to give you skills that you will use in your project. As in many aspects of life, you are "on your honor" to put forth your best effort to get the greatest gain.

While this book is written for you (girls 14-18), the adults who are supporting you also should refer to it. As you work on the Girl Scout Gold Award, you have several adults guiding, coaching, mentoring, and generally cheering you on – your family, your troop advisor, your project advisor and the GSCNC Gold Award Panel and supporting staff. **Pages 25 and 26 are especially for your advisors and your family**. Be sure to share these with them if they do not have a copy of the booklet of their own.

Other groups also want to support you. The Women's Advisory Board, a group of women who are prominent in local business, government and organizations have a special interest in supporting and encouraging girls who are *Going for the Gold*. One of their projects is sponsorship of "dine-arounds" which are informal dinners held at their home or place of business. See page 22 for a sampling of what is available. When your project proposal is accepted, you will receive additional information.

So, now onto the information to get you *Going for the Gold!*

INTRODUCTION

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest honor that can be achieved by a Girl Scout ages 14-18. This award is presented for outstanding accomplishments in the areas of leadership, community service, career planning and personal development.

GSCNC is proud of the approximately 130 girls from our area who join 4,000 girls nationwide to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award each year. Girls who complete the rigorous journey to earn this award become community leaders by improving lives and making their mark on their community.

A girl must be a registered Girl Scout and have met specific requirements by completing activities in areas of interest and by putting the Girl Scout Law into practice. The final step in earning the Girl Scout Gold Award is the Gold Award project, an extension and compilation of all that the girl has learned in Girl Scouting. This project, created by the girl herself, requires 50 hours or more of work that often extends over one to two years.

Benefits of Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award

- The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest girl award in Girl Scouting. It is a national award with national standards.
- A young woman who has earned the Girl Scout Gold Award has become a community leader. Her accomplishments reflect leadership and character that set her apart from the crowd.
- More than 100 colleges and universities recognize the achievements and leadership abilities of Gold Award Girl Scouts and offer scholarships to these girls.
- GSCNC offers ten \$1,000 scholarships to Gold Award Girl Scouts who plan to continue their education following high school graduation. Awards are also given to scholarship finalists.
- Gold Award Girl Scouts are eligible to apply for scholarships from organizations such as the Elks Foundation to help provide funds to attend the college of her choice.
- All branches of the United States military offer Gold Award Girl Scouts an opportunity to enter the military at the higher pay-scale rank of E-2 – the equivalent of having 30 college credits.
- Each year a select number of Gold Award recipients who have made extraordinary achievements in the design and implementation of Girl Scout Gold Award projects are recognized as national Girl Scout Gold Award Young Women of Distinction.
- Governments and non-profit organizations and state and local officials often acknowledge the achievements of Gold Award Girl Scouts. The community benefits because the process creates assets for the community and the future.

RESOURCES

GSUSA and GSCNC Publications

This booklet provides you much of the information you will need as you work toward your Girl Scout Gold Award, but it will not be your only resource. Details about the pre-requisites and steps can be found in one of the following GSUSA publications, both of which are available from the GSCNC shop.

- *A Resource Book for Senior Girl Scouts* – provides details on Path A requirements.
- *Girl Scout Gold Award Go for It!* insert to *STUDIO2B Basics* – for Path B requirements

Other GSUSA resources

- *Interest Projects for Girls 11-17* (or for *Cadettes/Seniors* if you have an older copy)
- *STUDIO2B Focus Books*
- *Safety-Wise* – borrow from your troop advisor for safety rules and regulations
- www.gsusa.org or www.studio2b.org

Also remember to check out these GSCNC resources

- *TTG* – teen magazine distributed by troop advisors in August, October, January, March & May
- *Kaleidoscope* (2005)- information about ongoing opportunities and awards for girls 11-17
- www.gscnc.org

Gold Award Workshops

Gold Award Workshops are designed to help you as you begin *Going for the Gold*. Current and past members of the Gold Award Panel conduct these workshops and can walk you through the process, help with some ideas based on your particular interests and answer your questions. Workshops are held throughout the year and throughout the council. **You are not required to attend a Gold Award workshop, but it is recommended** to help you create a more successful project. Watch *TTG* or check the GSCNC website for workshop information. Parents and advisors are welcome to attend a workshop.

General Overview & Timeframe

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO	WHEN
Read this booklet and other resources	Early and often!
Attend a Gold Award Workshop (Recommended, but not required)	Anytime, but it is recommended you do this as soon as you consider <i>Going for the Gold</i>
Complete the pre-requisites (Steps 1-4)	Must be 14-18 or in Grade 9-12 and not working on Cadette/ Silver Award recognitions
Find a Project Advisor	As soon as you identify your project area
Complete the Project Proposal form (pages 31-34) and submit to GSCNC Gold Award Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow 6-8 weeks for review and revision prior to your anticipated project start date. • Due 1st of the month for review that month • Under new requirements you must be 15 or 10th grade to begin your actual project
Wait for Council approval of your Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification mailed the 3rd week of the month
Revise/resubmit if required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due 1st of the month for review that month
Begin your project Keep track of your hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When you have <i>written</i> approval from the GSCNC Gold Award Panel • Allow time to complete each portion of the project.
Complete project and submit final paperwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By April 1 to be included in In Your Honor • By Sept 30 of year you graduate from high school or the year you turn 18. (Age 21 for young women who are developmentally delayed.) • Consider completing by fall of Senior year to include on college applications and so it will not interfere with Senior year activities

PATHWAYS TO THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

In 2004, GSUSA changed the requirements for earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. In doing so, they addressed the following concerns expressed about the prior requirements:

- Pre-requisite steps were often seen as “busy work”
- Many girls were uncertain how to have an impact in their community with their project.
- Many steps were not girl-driven because they were not relevant to the girl’s interest.
- Many projects involved only the Girl Scout community

In response to the findings, GSUSA created new requirements designed to do the following:

- Put more emphasis and value on the project rather than on the pre-requisites.
- Have a more streamlined approach to all the steps leading up to the actual project.
- Include parts of the pre-requisites in the total number of hours
- Help girls learn skill sets throughout the process of *Going for the Gold*.
- Enhance the value of the projects in the community.

The years 2004 through September 30, 2008 will be a transition period. During this period girls have the option of working on different paths to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, based on when they began working on Gold Award requirements. GSCNC has designated these as Path A and Path B. These two paths are identified throughout this booklet. The paths are designated as follows:

- **PATH A** For girls who began their work toward the Girl Scout Gold Award under the old set of requirements prior to November 2004. They will have the option of completing their award using that set of requirements. They also have the option of doing some steps using the old requirements and some using the new.
- **PATH B** For girls who began their work toward the Girl Scout Gold Award in November 2004 or later. They are expected to complete all steps using the new requirements.

Additional points to keep in minds during this transition period:



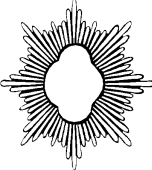
- GSUSA determined in 2004 that Focus Books could not be directly substituted for Interest Project Patches as they had originally stated. However, any girl who chose a Focus Book as a substitute for an IP prior to fall 2004 may still count that as an IP. Focus Books that are formally recognized with an IP (such as the GSCNC pilot Focus Book IP outlined in the October 2005 *TTG*) may be counted as an IP if the structured path is followed.
- **Regardless of the path chosen, GSCNC will ensure the choice of the old pin or the new STUDIO 2B charm to mark completion of an award. This means that the Senior Leadership Pin, The Dreams to Reality Pin, and the Senior Challenge pin will be available at least through the transition period and girls may be choose those pins or the comparable STUDIO2 B charm, regardless of which requirements they use.**
- **Flexibility and sensitivity are important during the transition period to ensure that a girl receives credit for all work she has done in good faith to earn an award.**

Q. I am new to Girl Scouts and did not earn the Girl Scout Silver Award. Can I still go for the Gold? **A.** The Silver Award is NOT a pre-requisite for the Gold Award, nor do you have to have been in Girl Scouts for a certain length of time. If you meet the age/grade requirements, you can start working on your Gold Award as you as you become a member of Girl Scouts.

Q. Can I start working on the requirements the summer after 8th grade, or do I have to wait until the fall? **A.** As long as you are not still working on Cadette/Silver requirements you can start right away. We don't want you to lose enthusiasm and momentum over the summer!

OVERVIEW OF PATHWAYS FOR EARNING THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

	<p>PATH A – For girls who began prior to Nov. 2004</p>	<p>PATH B –For girls who began Nov. 2004 or later</p>
Eligibility	Any Senior Girl Scout in the 9 th grade and up (14-17 years old) and not working on Cadette activities	Any registered Girl Scout in (or entering) 9 th grade and above or ages 14-17.
Resource	A Resource Book for Senior Girl Scouts (Senior Handbook), <i>Going for the Gold</i>	“Go For It” insert to STUDIO2B Basics; www.girlscouts.org , <i>Going for the Gold</i>
Recognitions	Interest Project patches and award pins	IP patches, STUDIO2B charms, and a continuation of the traditional pins
Scope	Girls encouraged to go beyond the Girl Scout community	The project <i>MUST</i> address an issue outside of Girl Scouting
Requirements	Requirements 1-4 may be completed in any order, but must be fulfilled prior to beginning the Gold Award project.	Step 1 must be completed first. Steps 2-4 may be completed in any order or worked on simultaneously, but must be completed before going on to Steps 5-7.
 	<p>Requirement 1 – Earn four Interest Project Patches.</p> <p>Requirement 3 – Earn the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Pin (<i>this is listed out of order to provide logical visual presentation with new requirements</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the chapter on leadership in the handbook • Log at least 30 hours or more in two or more leadership activities • Evaluate experience 	<p>Step 1: Build a Framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read “Go for It” Girl Scout Gold Award STUDIO 2B insert • Meet with advisor and develop timeline for steps 2-5 • Sign an agreement with your advisor <p>Step 2 – Earn the Girl Scout Gold Leadership Award, to focus on living specific aspects of the Girl Scout Promise and Law and then putting leadership into action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set the Spark: Earn three Interest Project Awards that relate to specific sets of values from the Girl Scout Law. • Do It Yourself! Choose a STUDIO 2B Focus Book and set goals to complete activities and earn the charm (or IP*) <p>Take Action: spend 30 hours in a leadership role.</p> <p>FAST TRACK: apply hours you are pursuing for PA, LIT, CIT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate your experience
 	<p>Requirement 2 – Earn the Senior Girl Scout Career Exploration Pin by completing the first two and at least one additional option:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the Careers chapter in handbook • Write a resume • Options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Plan a career fair ○ Plan a career trip ○ Carry out a career internship ○ Get a paying job ○ Start your own business 	<p>Step 3 Earn the Girl Scout Gold Career Award</p> <p>Do one or a combination of the following for a total of 40 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career-shadow one or more people • Work as an apprentice or intern • Visit colleges or trade schools • Organize a career fair • Publish a newsletter or create a Web page about careers <p>FAST TRACK: If you currently have a paying job or have started your own business and have put 40 hours into it, you can use this experience in place of the above step.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection: What types of jobs do you like and dislike?

 	<p>Requirement 4 – Earn the Girl Scout Challenge Pin which focuses on the four program goals</p> <p>Challenge 1 – Develop your potential by designing a self-development plan</p> <p>Challenge 2 – Relate to others by examining your skills in relating to others</p> <p>Challenge 3 – Develop values for living by deciding what you value most</p> <p>Challenge 4 – Contribute to society by participating in a service project with a minimum of 15 hours</p> <p>Challenge 5 – Help others know about Girl Scouting</p>	<p>Step 4 – Earn the Girl Scout 4 B's Challenge, which focuses on the four program goals as written for teens and how activities relate to the Girl Scout Law. The challenge helps lead a girl to a relevant Girl Scout Gold Award project by helping her discover her strengths and interests and the needs and resources in the community. <i>Up to 15 hours spent on earning the 4 B Challenge may be applied to the Gold Award project hours.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Become: Yourself - Decide on skills you need to improve using SMART goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Specifically, what will you do? o How will you Measure your goal? o Is your goal Achievable? o Is your goal Realistic? o What is your Timeframe to reach your goal? • Belong: Your Community - Learn about your community • Believe: A Vision for Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o What are the needs of your community and why? o What project can be done to address these needs? o Where do I fit into addressing these causes? o What will be the long-term effects of the project? • Build: Your Network - Read pages 18-19 in the STUDIO 2B Focus Book <i>Write Now</i> on building persuasive skills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Who in the community is involved with your issue? o Which people have the power to help solve this issue? o Who supports young people and community service? o Who are the community leaders or officials? o How can you gain the support of the people?
	<p>Requirement 5 – Plan a Gold Award Project that requires at least 50 hours of work. Submit a project proposal to Gold Award Panel. Begin work when proposal is approved</p> <p>Turn in Final Project Report</p>	<p>Step 5 – Plan a Gold Award Project that requires at least 65 hours or work (counting up to 15 hours from Challenge.) You must be 15 or going into 10th grade to begin STEPS 5-7. Submit project proposal to Gold Award Panel.</p> <p>Step 6 – Take Action – begin project when approved by Panel</p> <p>Step 7 – Think about it – evaluation and complete your Final Project Report</p>

THE PROJECT

Forms, Forms and More Forms

You may not be ready to write your project proposal yet, but this might still be a good time to take a look at the forms so you know what information you should be gathering and tracking. When you flip to the back of the booklet you may feel a bit overwhelmed by the number of forms. Relax. **There are only two forms that you absolutely need:**

- The GSCNC **INITIAL PROJECT PROPOSAL** form and
- The GSCNC **FINAL REPORT FORM** (you must also include a time log, so we have included one to use)

Beginning December 1, 2005, you must use the new (2005) GSCNC version of the Initial Project Proposal form and the Final Report form. These forms are slightly different from the forms available on the GSUSA website. Using the GSCNC form ensures that you are responding to the questions specifically required by GSCNC. The GSCNC forms are (or shortly will be) available on the GSCNC website in a format you can complete on line. Watch the January 2006 *TTG* for information on this.

The other forms fall into two categories:

1. Worksheets

These will help you track what you are doing and the skills you are learning. You do **not** have to turn these into GSCNC – in fact, we really do not want to see them. They are tools for you to use. You may want to use them to help keep you on task. You can also refer to them when you fill out your Project Proposal form.

- Leadership in Action** – to track hours for you Leadership Award
- Exploring Careers** – to track the activities for your Career Award
- Challenge** – two forms, one for Path A and one for Path B

2. Optional Forms for Specific Situations

You will need these forms only if you are applying for a Gold Award grant or Gold Award scholarship

Girl Scout Gold Award Program **Grant Request Form** – to request financial help from GSUSA for either your Gold Award project or for a local Gold Award celebration

GSCNC **Wachovia Girl Scout Gold Award Scholarship** – to apply for \$1,000 scholarship

Q. What if I did some of the requirements before I decided to work on the Girl Scout Gold Award? Can I still count these activities and hours? **A.** When you decide to go for the Gold, the activities you do to prepare you should be designed specifically to help you reach your goal. If you try to take a short cut by saying, “I’ve already done that” and check off the requirement, you are short-changing yourself by not doing everything you can to lead to a successful Gold Award project. You might be able to “get away with it” but that is not what the Gold is all about. However, if you started an IP or even completed a Focus Book before you decided to work on the Gold Award, and now decide that topic would be helpful for your project, you can go back choose a new set of goals or new activities so you are essentially doing the IP or Focus Book over. Obviously you would not get a second patch or charm, but you would benefit from the learning and experience and could now apply the award or hours to your Gold Award.

Q. Can I use the forms available at www.studio2b.org? **A.** Beginning December 1, 2005, you must use the new forms in this book or available at that time at www.gscnc.org. We used the GSUSA forms as the basis for the GSCNC forms, but the GSCNC Gold Award Panel looks at some very specific qualities in a project that were not directly addressed in the GSUSA form. Not only do we want to be sure you have a chance to provide all of the information they will be looking for, it is important the information to be easily located by the panel members who often have 20 or more proposals to review for each meeting. If they can always expect the leadership hours to be addressed in part C, they will look for it there and are more likely to see what you are doing than if they have to hunt for the information.

Choosing a Project

The hardest part of any job, including the Girl Scout Gold Award project, is getting started. You may already have an idea of what you want to do. If not, spend a little time thinking about the topics shown below. (If you followed Path B for the Girl Scout 4Bs Challenge, these should sound familiar.)

- What are some of your talents, abilities and interests? What skills did you learn while doing the pre-requisites? You will be working on this project for several weeks if not months, so you should choose something that you will stay excited about. If you pick a project related to something you are interested in, it may help you develop even greater skills in that area and perhaps lead you to future opportunities.
- What are some of the resources in your community? Does your community have parks, community centers, libraries, playgrounds, etc. that benefit the entire community? What about places like senior centers, shelters for the homeless or animal shelters that provide services to specialized segments of the community? What are some of the groups within the community? Consider the schools and organizations that help those who live in your community. What are some of the things those groups do?
- What are some of the needs of your community? Pay attention to local news in your community to find out about some of the problems that need to be addressed. Talk to your advisor and to people in your community for ideas. While the actual project should be your idea, they may be able to suggest a problem that needs to be addressed. Do you have an idea about how to help solve one of these problems?
- Now see where all of these things match up. Is there a need in your community that matches an interest or skill that you have? Are there groups or individuals who share an interest in that area who could help you once you have developed a plan or who could benefit from your project?

Your Gold Award Project must provide a service or benefit to the community but it must be more than a service project. One of the key components of your project must be a demonstration of **leadership**. It should involve girl planning, and decision making, and focus on addressing a real need in your community, reaching beyond the Girl Scout community. Your project does not have to be a totally new idea, but it must have your individual mark on it that distinguishes it from other similar projects. It is possible to work on a project with others, but each girl needs to play an individual role and have a portion of the project that is clearly her own and stands alone.

Characteristics of A Successful Project:

- ❖ **Vision:** You look at your community, see a need and try to meet that need.
- ❖ **Connection:** Your project should connect you and your team of volunteers with those who are being served.
- ❖ **Passion:** Your project is something that should come from your heart. It is the difference between doing a project just to get it done and doing something that is important to you.
- ❖ **Longevity:** The impact of Gold Award projects should be ongoing, whether you create something that will last or train others to continue the work.
- ❖ **Community Impact:** Your project must go beyond the Girl Scout community.

From Good to Great: Successful Girl Scout Gold Award Projects

A Girl Scout Gold Award project is different from a good community service project. It should involve girl planning, leadership and decision making and focus on addressing a real need in your community. When you provide service, you are often doing an activity that others have planned. Leadership means you are doing the planning, directing, delegating, assigning, motivating, and making decisions and arrangements to ensure the success of the project.

The following examples, taken from the GSUSA Girl Scout Gold Award Council Guide Girl Scout of the USA, 2004, show good service projects that have been expanded into great Girl Scout Gold Projects.

Good Service Project	Great Girl Scout Gold Project
Volunteering many hours at a park picking up litter.	Reseeding an area with native vegetation and ridding the area of non-native vegetation. Creating an interpretive guide on what the area was like 50 years ago. and why it is important to preserve native species
Working at the local library doing children's story hours	Creating a reading program for a migrant work camp in the summer. Doing a book drive concentrating on bilingual books to ensure that each child receives a book. Matching young children with volunteer tutors from the high school Spanish club creates an ongoing service project.
Volunteering to collect games and food at the mall for a teen center.	Creating a health access booklet for teens in the community; culminating with a teen health fair with various organizations presenting their services. Admission is canned goods for the teen center.
Acting in a play to commemorate the 100 th anniversary of a community.	Researching and writing a script for a cemetery tour focusing on the founders of the community. Casting parts, creating costumes and arranging for a series of evening cemetery tours to kick off the celebration of the founding of the community.
Planting flowers in a park during a community service day.	Working with the city parks department to start a public gardening project in your community. Providing food to a food bank from the garden. Using a greenhouse at a school so children can start plants each year to go into the garden and do so with the help of retired members of the community as mentors.

Q. My project was the same as one that was done in my service unit last year. Why was that one accepted and mine turned down? **A.** It is rare for two projects to be *exactly* the same – remember each project is supposed to have a girl's unique mark on it. Also project summaries are just that- summaries. When we write or talk about a project we often highlight only a small portion of the project. We might say, "a girl cleaned a park," but do not give details. What she really did was research and plant native bushes after removing not-native species, develop an interpretive trail and install signs, and create a book about the park. Also remember that the members of the Gold Award Panel must rely on what you write. Your project might be fabulous and clear in your head. but it might not be so clear on paper.

Not All That Glitters Is Gold – Projects That Don't Measure Up

No one likes that sinking feeling – you know the one where you sense things are not working out as you had hoped. That's the feeling members of the Gold Award Panel get when they start to read a project proposal that just does not measure up to the standards of a Gold Award project. Their greatest joy is to read about great projects that they know will be successful and a source of pride for the girl, the community and Girl Scouts everywhere. The following four categories are ones that give the panel members that sinking feeling. Fortunately there is hope for rescue!

Collection Projects are those with the primary focus of collecting items (food, eyeglasses, clothing, etc.) to be donated to another organization. These may be great service projects, but generally cannot stand alone as a Girl Scout Gold Award project. To move a project of this type to the caliber of a Gold Award project, the focus must shift from the collection to another component that showcases your creativity, leadership and innovation and allows you to interact with the people you hope to serve. The collection of items can be a part of the project, but not the project itself. For instance, you could develop a reading program for a homeless shelter and, as part of the project, ask for donations of books.

Canned Projects or projects that are established programs where the structure, groundwork and much of the actual work has already been done for you. Projects such as blood drives, making items where you have to follow a prescribed structure, or putting together the *annual* clean up day for your community are examples of "canned" projects. These projects must be expanded to include your individual mark. If your school has an established SADD chapter but needs someone to lead it this year, you would not be creating something new. However, if you will create a new chapter for your school, make all of the arrangements to organize it, get permission for meeting, recruit members and also develop a campaign for safe graduation parties you could be creating something of lasting value to your school that has your individual mark.

Group Projects or partner projects are possible, but pose several challenges. Some important considerations include:

- Do you share the same passion for the topic?
- Do you share the same level of commitment?
- How can each girl's interests and skills be utilized?
- Is the project broad enough to allow each girl to earn the required hours? (You can count only YOUR hours and you cannot duplicate tasks.)
- Will each girl have a part of the project that is distinctly hers and will that part be sufficient to stand on its own as a Gold Award project?
- What will happen to the project if one girl does not complete her portion?
- **Each girl must submit her own project proposal in her own words.**

Projects That Don't Quite Work Out

Sometimes a project sounds good on paper, gets approved, but then just does not work out as planned. Take heart – that happens to everyone at least once! The key is to learn from what went wrong and move on from there. In some cases, it will not affect the completion of your Gold Award? If you go through all of the preparations but few people show up at your event, you probably still have enough hours to complete your project. Just remember to evaluate what went astray so you can learn from the experience. In rare cases, a project may just seem to fall apart. Do not despair. Contact the Teen Program Specialist or a member of the Gold Award Panel to brainstorm ways to rescue your project. You may need to submit a revised proposal, but still be able to save what you have already done.

LESS THAN GLITTERING PROJECTS TO GLITTERING GOLD PROJECTS

The following ideas show how a project idea that does not meet the standards for a Gold Award Project or one that is in trouble might be restructured to accomplish your objective and still qualify as a Gold Award project.

Less than Glittering Projects	Glittering Gold Projects
<p>You plan a clothing drive to collect items for victims of a recent natural disaster. <i>(A classic collection service project.)</i></p>	<p>You make arrangements with your church to turn an empty storage closet into a clothes closet for those in need in your community. You recruit volunteers to help you put up shelves in the closet. You put up fliers that the closet will accept donations of clean, good condition clothes every week before services and you recruit volunteers to work at the closet every weekend distributing the clothes to those in need.</p>
<p>You plan to make teddy bears for an organization to donate to needy children. The group requires you to follow their pattern and directions exactly, use fabric they suggest, and tie a red ribbon around each bear. They even tell you the best way to set up your production line, and send you fliers to use to recruit volunteers. <i>(A "canned" project)</i></p>	<p>You contact the local rescue squad and learn they would like stuffed teddy bears to give to children in rescue situation. You design a pattern, select fabric, make arrangements to use sewing machines at the local senior center and enlist the off duty fire personnel and seniors at the center to help sew the bears. Each bear is unique and carries a message of love and hope written by the volunteer.</p>
<p>You and three friends plan to revitalize a local park. To get volunteers you each design a flier to distribute in your own neighborhood. You work together on landscape plans and on the big cleanup day you all work on projects together. <i>(A group project with no individual mark.)</i></p>	<p>You and your friends plan to revitalize a local park. You divide responsibility for advertising the event: one develops a flier, one records a short promo for the local cable station, one speaks at a community meeting and one makes phone calls to invite key people. You each have a specific focus area. One will redesign and refurbish the trails to make them accessible. One will supervise the repainting of the picnic shelter and tables. One will research and plant native plants and one will develop nature activities for children to do while using the park. Your project proposal indicates this is a group project, but you each write only about your own portion of it.</p>
<p>Your project is to hold a birthday party bash at the homeless shelter. You and your volunteers have taken clowning lessons so you can entertain the children. You have arranged for volunteers to make birthday cakes and you have collected and wrapped gifts and made decorations. The week before the event, the shelter abruptly closes due to mismanagement and lack of funding. It seems your project is about to come crashing down.</p>	<p>Take a deep breath. You have already put in most of your hours and shown leadership, planning and other required elements of a great project. You just need to figure out a way that this planning does not go to waste. Brainstorm with your supporting adults on other sites: have the residents been relocated? What about a pediatric wing at the hospital. Perhaps you could shift focus to a nursing home. The presents might not work, but everyone loves a party, even the elderly!</p>

Money Matter\$

One of the big challenges facing every girl *Going for the Gold* is how to fund a project. On the one hand, you are asked to meet a need in your community; on the other hand, you have some major constraints outlined in *SafetyWise*. Take heart - others have figured it out and you will too.

Let's start by getting some of the "don'ts" out of the way. Then we can look at things you can do.

- **As a girl member of Girl Scouts you cannot ask for money.** You also cannot ask for materials or services (technically called gifts-in-kind) either. Asking for money or goods is considered fundraising by the IRS and Girl Scout policy, and only adults can do the actual asking. (*Asking for money is different from your troop doing an activity to earn money.*)

The good news is that adults can ask for money and goods, so you need to work with an adult partner such as your troop advisor or your project advisor if you need materials or funds. You can describe your project to others, write a letter or create a PowerPoint presentation, but an adult has to do the actual "ask" and sign any documents. Be sure GSCNC knows and approves of any such requests, so you do not conflict with broader fundraising efforts being done by the council. *You must list all proposed request on your project proposal, including what you will ask for, projected value and specifically who or what organizations will be asked.*

- **You cannot raise money for another organization when you are representing Girl Scouts.** This means your Gold Award project cannot be designed to raise money for another group. However, if your goal is to support an organization by providing them with items they need, you might be able to approach it from another angle.

So what can you do?

The first and most important thing to do is to create a realistic budget for your project. While you want to think big as you develop a vision for change, you must also be realistic. Consider everything you will need to complete your project. Don't forget to include costs such as copying of fliers. Get an estimate of how much everything will cost.

Now consider possible sources for the funds to cover your budget:

- Funds you may have available to you in your troop account. Some troops keep records based on your participation in troop money-earning efforts and make these funds available to girls working on Gold Award projects. See ideas on the following page.
- Check to see if your Service Unit or Association provides funds to help girls with projects.
- If your project will benefit a specific organization or group, they may offer to support the project. (The offer needs to come from them, however, not you asking them.)
- You may decide to use your own money from a job or your family may offer to cover some of the costs. However, *a Gold Award project should not be a financial burden on you or your family.* Coming up with creative ways to plan your project and earn the money is all part of the fun and responsibility of planning a Gold Award.

You cannot charge a fee – your project is offering a service to the community. Charging a fee may also limit the ability of some people to participate. However, you may ask participants to help cover the cost of specific items as long as you do not charge more than the items actually cost you. For instance, if you are holding a community fair as part of your project, you could ask participants to pay the actual cost for refreshments. If children will be doing crafts or getting their face painted, you could charge a nominal fee to cover the cost of materials for those activities. You could also ask people to bring an item – "please bring a bag of chips or bottle of soda for the refreshment table" or "a small bottle of glue, glitter or paint for the craft table." The project ceases to be a service project if you charge a fee above the cost. *All money coming in and going out (other than your personal money) should go through a Girl Scout account and be documented with receipts.*

You can also work with your troop to help fund your Gold Award project. Your troop can hold an approved troop money-earning event to raise money for troop activities. (Individual girls cannot earn money directly to benefit themselves.) The girls in your troop can make decisions as a group on how to spend the money earned and may allocate the money to support Gold Award projects for girls within the troop. Remember, all girls in the troop must be part of the decision-making process. This is a good way for girls in a troop to support one another's Gold Award projects. (The time you spend raising money through these activities cannot count toward your project hours.)

Ideas for troop money-earning activities:

All money-earning activities must be approved by service unit manager

- Plan ahead so your troop can think BIG during Girl Scout cookie selling time. Look for creative places to hold booth sales – but get permission from your local cookie booth coordinator first.
- Provide group childcare during a holiday season or community events
- Put on a gigantic community yard sale. Enlist friends and neighbors to donate goods to sell and items for a great bake sale.
- Learn clowning activities and face painting and offer to put on events for large gatherings.
- Wrap gift packages at holiday fairs
- Provide birthday parties for groups
- Offer Brownie Try-It events or Junior Badge days for your Service Unit or create simple “badge in a bag” supplies for new troops
- Offer personalized letters from the holiday elf or other character

Activities to avoid

- Money-earning projects where you are performing an activity that someone normally gets paid to do – in other words where you are taking a job away from someone. However, if this activity has been previously defined clearly in your community as an activity offered to nonprofit groups, you can undertake these activities with council approval.
- “Cheap labor” projects disguised as money-earning activities. This may sound like a good idea, but you are actually being taken advantage of and you are taking away the job of someone who would be paid more than you. This is part of the reason there are child labor and minimum wage laws.
- Any activity where it might appear that your council or Girl Scouts of the USA is endorsing a product or political point of view or cause. Activities of this nature include passing out political fliers or handing out freebees for the opening of a business.
- Money earning projects where the money goes to individuals rather than to your group. In your capacity as a Girl Scout you cannot be employed or paid individually. If your troop is doing an activity for money, such as working at the concession stand at an event (where this service is clearly and traditionally set aside for non-profit organizations) all money must go to the troop treasury.

All Girl Scout money must be in Girl Scout group account, not held by individuals. Juliettes should contact the Teen Program Specialist to discuss options.

Program Grants

If the cost of your project exceeds the funds available, you may apply for a Program Grant, but this should not be your initial source of funding. Your project proposal should include a plan for obtaining the needed funds. A grant could be considered if your plans do not yield the needed amount. The form on page 39 is designed specifically for requests associated with the Gold Award. Requests must be received by the 2nd Monday of the month to be reviewed by the Program Grants Panel, which will consider your need and the effort you have put forth to finance the project. *Program Grants are not automatically approved, so you should have an alternate plan in case the grant request is not approved.* If a grant is approved, the money is sent to your troop advisor by the end of the month.

Safety Matters

One of the most important roles of a leader is to do everything possible to ensure the health and safety of those around them. As you plan your Girl Scout Gold Award project, it is important for you to consider potential health and safety risks to you, your volunteers and participants and put into place measures to minimize those risks. *Safety-Wise* is a GSUSA publication that outlines basic Girl Scout program standards and specific activity checkpoints that apply to all Girl Scout activities to help ensure that a sound program experience for all participants. Your troop advisor has a copy of *Safety-Wise*, so make arrangements to borrow it or contact the Teen Program Specialist to borrow a copy.

Many of the Program Standards have been addressed in sections on Money Matters and descriptions of appropriate Girl Scout Gold Award projects. Therefore this section concentrates on the guidelines, standards and checkpoints that focus primarily on the actual well-being of you and your participants. You should set aside time now to skim through the book to be familiar with those issues that might apply to your project.

You do not need to read *Safety-Wise* cover to cover, but you do need to become familiar with so you can easily locate those sections that will apply to your project. You can skim through the chapter and section headings to find those sections that are most applicable.

Chapter 1 describes the **safety net** provided for girls in Girl Scouting

Chapter 2 is on group **leadership**, and provides tips on being a successful leader.

Chapter 3 is on group **planning and budgeting**.

Chapter 4 is on **basic safety guidelines** that are fundamental to the prudent planning and smooth implementation of most Girl Scout functions. This is an important chapter to read as it will help make you more aware of basic safety considerations. It also contains information on the presence of **first aiders** at certain types of Girl Scout activities.

Chapter 5 is on **trip planning and travel** so it probably will not apply unless your project involves a trip or you are providing transportation to volunteers or participants as part of your project.

Chapter 6 contains "**Girl Scout Program Standards**" that describe the essential components of quality Girl Scout experience. Each of the 35 standards is important, but most will not apply to your particular project so skim through the standard heading to select those that apply. Standards 10, 13, 14 and 22 refer to **parental permission, adult supervision and site safety** and will apply to most projects so pay particular attention to them.

Chapter 7 introduces **activity checkpoints** which are the minimum requirements for common Girl Scout Activities. This chapter gives more detail on the basic guidelines and program standards.

Chapters 8, 9 and 10 provide information on **camping, land sports** (such as bicycling, horseback riding and skiing) and **water activities**, respectively.

Chapter 11 provides information on **other activities** such as arts and crafts, computers, large group gatherings, playgrounds and science activities.

Don't overlook the appendix where you will find a checklist of things to consider in selecting a **site**.

An important part of safety is following the Girl Scout motto: **Be Prepared**. If you have any questions about safety in planning or carrying out your project be sure to discuss them with your troop or project advisor, a member of the Gold Award Panel or the Teen Program Specialist.

Writing Your Proposal

Now that you have come up with your idea and looked at money and safety issues you can start putting your idea on paper. This is one of the most important parts of your project. Do not rush it. The Gold Award Panel will base their decision on what you write here. They cannot read your mind. You must clearly tell them about your vision and how you expect to put this vision into action. It may take you four or five hours to get all of your ideas on paper. (You can count up to 5 hours of this writing.) When you think you are done, have someone who knows nothing about your project read your proposal. This is a good way to check if you have clearly said what you want.

Beginning December 1, 2005 all proposals must use the new GSCNC Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal. Be sure the form is dated 2005 or later. The form is on pages 31-34 of this booklet and is also available at www.gscnc.org. If you have access to a computer, you will be able to fill out the new forms on line and send them in automatically, but if you do this or if you fax or email the form, remember to send printed version with signatures of page 31. You may also print a copy or use the one in the book and type or handwrite neatly using black or dark blue ink so everything will show up when we copy the form.

In answering the questions you may write in paragraph form or use bullets where appropriate. For instance, you could say, "I will demonstrate leadership by recruiting my friends to volunteer, teaching them how to do the activities, and assigning stations at the event." Optionally you could write "I will demonstrate leadership by doing the following:

- recruiting my friends to volunteer
- teaching them how to do the activities
- assigning stations at the event

Many of the questions on the form are self-explanatory. The major questions are outlined below with an explanation (**in bold**) and/or examples (*in Italics*). (Remember sample is just summary.)

A. Describe the issue your project will address, what you hope to achieve, and who will benefit. If your project culminates in an event, estimate the number of participants:

If your project will benefit a specific organization, attach a letter a letter of endorsement from them.

This is your project summary. Be brief, but clear what you will do.

I will create a garden for the community library, planting native plants and then hold gardening workshops for preschoolers..

Attaching a letter from the organization shows they have agreed to the project.

B. Discuss the reasons for selecting this project. **This is where you explain your vision.**

Explain the need you saw in the community and what you hope to accomplish. You might include statistics or statements from community leaders about a problem.

I volunteer at the library preschool reading hour and when I recently read a book to the children about a little boy who loved to garden with his grandmother and I told them about how I used to do the same thing, the children loved the idea of a garden. Most of them live in apartment buildings so do not have a garden. The library is new and has not done much landscaping yet so there is room for a garden and it would help beautify the library..

C. a. .Outline your strengths, talents, and skills that will be put into action.

I like the out of doors and nature I have done the Plant Life IP and have learned about the benefit of native plants. I also love to work with small children and hope to be a teacher

. b. How will you will use LEADERSHIP skills (recruiting, directing, teaching, organizing, etc.)

Tell what skill you will use and how you will use them. *I will use my leadership skills by:*

- *Recruiting friends and training them in planting techniques*
- *Assign volunteers to specific jobs for planting days*
- *Plan workshop activities to teach to preschoolers.*

D. Describe your project plan. You may use the chart below or attach your project plan to list the steps that you will use to prepare for and put your plan into action. Your project must take at least 50 hours (Plan A) or at least 65 hours (Plan B-, but may include up to 15 hours planning and writing from the Challenge Award).

This is the heart of your project. Be specific and estimate how much time each step will take and what supplies you will need. Show what you will be doing and how. Be sure to add up the hours and show the total.

1. *I will create a flier which I will distribute at school to recruit volunteers to help with the planting and the garden workshops. (3 hours - need computer and paper)*
2. *I will talk to the staff at the plant nursery to get planting tips and then I will train volunteers in planting techniques. (5 hours - snacks for training)*
3. *Research and purchase native plants (7 hours - computer & library, then nursery)*

.....**Be sure to list all steps. This is just part of sample**

4. *Plan activities for gardening workshops (4 hours -small pots, seeds, potting soil)*

If you use the chart instead, part of it might look like this:

Project Steps	Estimated Hours	Facilities/equipment needed
<i>Hours from Girl Scout 4Bs Challenge</i>		
<i>Met with library director to discuss plan</i>	<i>1 hour</i>	
<i>Talk to extension service plant expert</i>	<i>1hour</i>	
<i>Researched books about gardens</i>	<i>1 hour</i>	
<i>Writing of proposal</i>	<i>4 hours</i>	
<i>Total from Girl Scout 4Bs Challenge</i>	<i>7 hours</i>	
<i>Create flier to recruit volunteers</i>	<i>2 hours</i>	<i>Computer, printer, paper</i>
<i>Research native plants</i>	<i>5 hours</i>	<i>Computer and library</i>
<i>Train volunteers in planting techniques</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>Snacks</i>
<i>Buy bushes</i>	<i>2 hours</i>	<i>Bushes</i>
<i>Supervise planting of bushes</i>	<i>4 hours</i>	<i>Bushes, shovels, work gloves</i>
..... Be sure to list all steps. This is just part	<i>Total 67 hours</i>	

E. Indicate methods and /or tools you will use to evaluate the effectiveness of your project. **Part of your planning should include a way to know if your project was successful. This will depend on the type of project. Possible methods of evaluation might include:**

- **Number of people who came (to event designed to bring community together)**
- **Before and after pictures (for beautification project)**
- **Feedback from participants (written evaluation is one method)**

In example given: *I will use before and after pictures of the garden area. .*

F. List the names of individuals who will help you with this project.

You will have specific names for some of the people, but you may not know who all of your volunteers will be so you can tell who you will be recruiting. It might be your Girl Scout troop, friends or kids form your school. Remember that many students need service hours for other clubs or service learning and would be very willing to help.

G. Estimate project expenses and how you plan to meet these costs. Provide as much detail as you know at this time. You must list donations of money or materials you anticipate, including the estimated value and the organization. If you later decide to ask for a donation that is not listed here you must contact the Teen Program Specialist for approval. Remember that an adult must do the actual "ask" for all donations. **Include the cost of all items you will buy for your project, such as paper for fliers, food, or craft supplies. Also include the cost of items you will give to your volunteers or participants such as a t-shirt. If you hope to have items donated include the value of them and include an alternate plan if they are not donated. Do not include the cost of durable items you already own. If money will come from your Troop account, tell how much is available to you.**

See the chart on the next page for excerpts form the sample.

G. Estimate of Project Expenses, continued					
Item	Unit cost	How many	Total cost or value	Source of donation or funds for purchase	Alternate source for donated or borrowed items
<i>Sodas for snack</i>	<i>\$1.25</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>\$2.50</i>	<i>Buy using \$250 in troop account</i>	
<i>Cookies for snack</i>	<i>\$2.50</i>	<i>3 bags</i>	<i>\$7.50</i>	<i>See above</i>	
<i>Computer paper</i>	<i>\$3.50</i>	<i>1 ream</i>	<i>\$3.50</i>	<i>Donated by Mom</i>	<i>\$250 in troop acct.</i>
<i>Bushes</i>	<i>\$9.95</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>\$298.50</i>	<i>Donated by XYZ Garden Center</i>	<i>From troop account and babysitting</i>
<i>Shovels</i>				<i>Borrow from neighbors</i>	<i>Volunteers bring own</i>
<i>Work gloves</i>				<i>Volunteers bring own</i>	<i>Borrow from school</i>
<i>Markers</i>	<i>\$2.99</i>	<i>2 boxes</i>	<i>\$5.98</i>	<i>Buy using \$250 in tr. Acct</i>	
<i>Construction paper</i>	<i>\$1.99</i>	<i>1 pack</i>	<i>\$1.99</i>	<i>See above</i>	
<i>Seeds</i>	<i>\$1.95</i>	<i>2 packs</i>	<i>\$3.90</i>	<i>See above</i>	
<i>Potting soil</i>	<i>\$6.95</i>	<i>1 bag</i>	<i>\$6.95</i>	<i>See above</i>	
<i>Total Cost</i>			<i>\$330.82</i>		
<p>H. Explain how you will implement Safety-Wise Guidelines and Activity Checkpoint(s) that apply to your project.</p> <p>What parts of the Basic Safety Guidelines chapter apply to your project and how will you ensure they are addressed? <i>I will use good judgment and be alert to severe weather on planting day and days children are outside.</i></p> <p>Will you require a first aider for any part of your project? If so, what specific first aide training will be required? Who will serve as your first aider? <i>I will need a first aider for planting day. My Troop advisor will be my first aider. The children's gardening event will take place during their normal storytime at the library and the librarian is a first aider.</i></p> <p>Do any of the following Safety-Wise Program Standards apply to your project and if so how will you address them? Standard 3, 8, 10, 13, 14, 22, 24, 25 and 27 <i>My volunteers will have permission slips. The preschoolers are at storytime with a parent or guardian. There will always be 2 adults. Since I expect only 12 volunteers planting, I will not need more adults.</i></p> <p>Do any Activity Checkpoints (chapters 7-11) apply to your project and if so how will you address them? <i>I will instruct my volunteers in safety of using shovels.</i> <i>For the children's workshop, we will do activities appropriate for their age.</i></p>					
Does your project involve raising money for another organization? <i>No</i>			Does your project involve political activity? <i>No</i>		
Describe any additional details about the content or results of your Project that you think the Panel should know. Describe here any special circumstances or considerations you want the panel to know as they are reviewing your project.					

Proposals may be mailed, hand delivered, emailed, faxed or sent on line, but must be received at the Connecticut Avenue Girl Scout Council office by 5:00 PM on the first working day of the month to be considered at the Gold Award Panel meeting that month. Applications received after that time will be reviewed the following month. If your application is faxed, emailed or sent on line, the original of page 1 must be received within 5 business days.

Approval Process

Projects are reviewed by the Gold Award Panel -Gold Award Girl Scouts and adult volunteers- who are committed to encouraging girls and ensuring that the standards of the award are maintained. **Members of the Gold Award Panel are always willing to talk to a girl about her project.**

The **deadline for project submission (and resubmission) is 5:00 PM on the 1st of each month.** Proposals received at the GSCNC Connecticut Avenue office after this deadline will be reviewed the following month. This deadline ensures fairness to all girls and shows respect for the time given by volunteers and staff to ensure that each submission is given time for a thorough review.

Panel members are provided a copy of the project proposal without girl identification information to ensure that review takes place without bias toward any individual. Review is based on the standards outlined in the preceding pages. Panel members meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month to discuss proposals, with final decisions based on a majority vote of the members present or submitting a review. Panel actions include the following:

Approve – The project meets all expectations and **may be started upon receipt of letter**

Approve with caution – Similar to the above, but the panel has included a comment or reminder to ensure a successful project. Project **may be started upon receipt of letter.**

Approved with clarification – The proposal is sound, but is missing some limited information. The requested information can be submitted to the Teen Program Specialist who will then give final approval to begin the project. These projects do **not** have to be reviewed again by the panel.

Resubmit – The project is seen as a potentially good project, but is missing a key element or information. The project itself may need to be revised or expanded, or the written proposal may need to more clearly describe the plan. The letter from the panel will state what is missing and the action that needs to be taken. When the revision is complete, the proposal **must go back to the panel** following the deadline above. In some cases the missing information is such that the panel has authorized the Teen Program Specialist to give final approval when information is provided.

Denied as submitted – As written, the project does not meet the standards of a Girl Scout Gold Award. It may not meet certain *Safety-Wise* standards, not be sufficient in scope to meet the leadership, vision or other criteria of a Gold Award project, or the panel may question the project's benefit to the community. Joint or group projects that are written identically or do not show individual components will be given this designation. Projects denied as submitted have potential, but must be more thoroughly developed to address the areas of concern raise by the panel. Panel members should be consulted for suggestions on how to further develop this project. Projects **may be resubmitted** following the deadline for submission stated above.

Denied – Project does not quality as a Gold Award Project or is counter to *Safety-Wise* standards. Projects are rarely denied outright: most projects can be restructured to meet standards. Consult a member of the Gold Award Panel for clarification or suggestions.

You may start your project once you have received written notification of approval. Letters are mailed by the Tuesday following the panel meeting. We know you are anxious to learn the status of your Gold Award project. However, in fairness to others, please do not call to check on the status of your project as these calls slow down the process of getting all letters out. ***If you have not received a letter by 4:00 PM on the 3rd Friday of the month you may call*** the Teen Program Specialist at 202-237-1670 ext. 236 or the Administrative Assistant to the Program Department at 202-237-1670 ext. 270.

Carrying Out Your Project

Once you have received written approval you may begin work on your project. Remember that your project is a major undertaking and should not be rushed. Rushing your project may create undue stress for you and lead to a project that does not reflect the best you have to offer. Two of the more important things to consider are to be flexible and give others involved in your project more time than you expect is needed. Like you, they have busy lives. Unlike you, they have not been thinking about this project for weeks or months. People and considerations should include:

- If your project will take place on a certain day and you have not set the date yet, be flexible if you can. The site you have chosen may not be available on your preferred date. Also talk to your project advisor, troop advisor and potential volunteers to make sure your proposed date does not conflict with a major event. You want as many people as possible to participate.
- Recruit a few more volunteers than you think you will need. This is *your* project and you have put it on *your* calendar and *you* will be there no matter what. Your family and advisors have probably also committed to keep that date clear. The reality is that some of your volunteers may end up canceling out for a variety of reasons, so it is good to have more than you may actually need. One good way to be sure they are committed to your project is to involve them early. If they help you in the planning stages, they are more likely to take a greater interest in the project than if they are just expected to show up on a certain date to help out. Don't be afraid to call them to remind them and confirm they will be participating.
- If your project is one where you hope to have several people come together, such as a community event allow time to advertise and advertise in as many ways and places as you can.
- If you hope to get donations, work with an adult to ask early. Many businesses must refer all requests to a corporate office which can take time.

If you see a problem developing, brainstorm ways to address it. Part of the responsibility of being a leader is making decisions on how to handle the unexpected. Don't be afraid to consult with your project advisor or a member of the Gold Award Panel. They are all here to support you.

Learn from other girls:

The following comments on what girls would do differently were taken from Final Project Reports:

- "I would publicize more and earlier, send out reminders and get firmer commitments."
- "I would schedule a rain date or backup plan for my outdoor event."
- "I should have planned the details better."
- "Clearly delegate with project partner who does what. ... I ended up taking up the slack."
- "Plan, plan, plan! Do not take it personally when volunteers back out. Have plenty of backups."
- "Plan activities so all ages and abilities can participate."

You will be busy getting your project done, but be sure you take time to enjoy it as well. Enjoy the praise that comes your way as you are doing your project. You deserve it! When someone compliments what you are doing, enjoy the compliment and say, "Thank you."

Q. How much time do I have to finish my project? **A.** Once our project has been approved, you can spend as much time completing it as you want to keeping the following in mind. Many girls try to complete their project before or very early in their senior year so it can be included on college applications. Your senior year will also get very busy so you might want to have this out of the way if possible. You **must** complete your project, including submission of the final report, by September 30th of the year you graduate from high school or the year you turn 18. To be recognized at the GSCNC In Your Honor Ceremony in May, your final report must be turned in by April 1. If your project is completed after that date, you will be invited to the ceremony the following year. Girls who are developmentally delayed have until they turn 21 to complete the project.

Your Final Report

Congratulations! You have finished your Gold Award project. You have put considerable time and energy into the project and you are probably ready to set it aside. However, you are not quite done yet. You must still evaluate your project and then complete the Girl Scout Gold Award Final Project Report. The evaluation step is very important because it gives you a chance to consider what worked and what did not go quite as planned. While you will never do another Girl Scout Gold Award project, the lessons you learn here can be invaluable as you go on to do other projects in Girl Scouting, at school, and later on in your career.

One of the questions asked on your Initial Project Proposal was how you would evaluate the success of your project, so you may have already started this process. If you held an event and used a written evaluation, now is the time to read the comments. Hopefully most of them will be very positive. However, do not be upset if there are some negative comments as well. Often these are included as constructive criticism to help you plan better the next time. Every project, whether it is your first one or the fiftieth one done by a seasoned professional has room for improvement. You may also get some negative comments for someone who is simply never happy. What is important is to look at the overall sense of the majority of the evaluations. Learn from the few negative comments, but don't take them personally.

If your project will use before and after picture, be sure to take them right away. In some projects you might be looking for long-term changes which you may not be able to document right away. Record the immediate effect of your project and then go back later to record later changes.

The actual Final Report Form should be pretty easy to fill out because most of the questions are ones you projected on your initial plan. You are now reporting on what actually took place. Hopefully you kept a detailed log of what you did so it should be just a matter of summarizing this. That does not mean you should rush through this process, however. You want your final report to reflect the quality of your project. Just as your initial plan gave details of what you wanted to do, your final report should give someone who did not participate in your project a clear picture of what you did. Speaking of pictures, include them in your report. They will help show off your project.

Your final report must include the following:

- A letter of recommendation from the group that your Gold Award project benefited
- A detailed Time Log of hours spent on the project (**including** the Log from your Initial Project Proposal for your Challenge and proposal writing hours)
- Your most recent school picture for our PR files and the *In Your Honor* booklet
- Photos, brochures, journals or other items that were a part of your project

Review by Council and Receiving Your Award

Your Final Gold Award Project Report will be reviewed within two weeks of receipt. If you have included all of the required elements and followed your plan, your project will be approved and you will receive a letter stating that you have earned the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Your Troop Advisor will receive a letter notifying her/him of the successful completion of your project along with your Gold Award pin which is provide at no cost by GSCNC. You should work with your troop advisor to plan a suitable ceremony at which you will be presented your Gold Award.

Q. Will my project be returned to me? **A.** Some girls want their project, pictures, etc. returned. Others have made duplicates of everything so do not need the submitted copy returned. **If you want your project returned, you must indicate this on your Final Report Form, or notify the Teen Program Specialist within one year of your final submission.** Projects are kept for one year.

CELEBRATING YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT

As a Gold Award Girl Scout, you will be invited to several celebrations described below. However, you might want to also plan your own celebration or Court of Awards to actually be given your Girl Scout Gold Award. The following page gives you thoughts and suggestions for this.

In Your Honor is the official GSCNC celebration that recognizes our newest Gold Award Girl Scouts. The event is held each year in May to recognize those girls who earned their award during the 12 months from April to April. Every Gold Award Girl Scout who turned in her completed Final Report by 5:00 PM on April 1st is recognized at the event. The date, location and exact format of the event varies from year to year so pay close attention to the date, time and location on the invitation you receive.

Other honors for Gold Award Girl Scouts

For several years GSCNC Gold Award Girls Scouts have been invited by the **Military District of Washington** to be honored at a **Twilight Tattoo**. This is a formal military musical pageant held outside on the Ellipse in front of the White House. The invitation to GSCNC in the past has included transportation from and back to a local military base and a reception. While the event is not guaranteed, our expectation is that GSCNC Gold Award Girl Scouts will continue to be invited to this event. The actual pageant event is open to the public, but the special honors reserved for the Girl Scouts have a more limited participation restricted by both space and security considerations. Pay close attention to details about guests for that year's event provided with the invitation.

The **Women's Advisory Board** supports the Girl Scout Gold Award in two ways. Girls who are working on Gold Award projects are invited to take part in a "**dine-arounds**." These dine-arounds are informal dinners with mentors for the Women's Advisory Board. They generally consist of a handful of girls and a handful of women and are held at the home or place of business of the mentor. The dine-around season generally begins with a kick off event in the fall, but girls who begin their Gold Award journey after the kick-off will include information on future events when they receive approval for their project. The season concludes with a very special celebration. Recent celebrations have included a formal buffet dinner at a prominent DC location and have included a well-known woman as a speaker. Because of space limitations and the special mentoring support the Women's Advisory Board wants to give to girls, invitation to this event is for girls only. Adults who provide transportation will be provided with a space to wait during the event.

Many local organizations such as the **Elks**, also work with GSCNC to provide celebration events for Gold Award Girl Scouts. Watch for special invitations or announcements in eEdition and *TTG*.

Young Women of Distinction is the designation given by GSUSA to the top ten Gold Award Girl Scouts in the country each year. Each council is entitled to submit three projects for consideration. Once a year the GSCNC Gold Award Panel reviews all of the projects submitted during the specified time and selects projects to forward to GSUSA. Young Women of Distinction are normally recognized at a ceremony held in Washington, DC or at the GSUSA Nation Conference.

Upon completion of the Girl Scout Gold Award, a girl becomes a member of the **Gold Award Alliance**, a sisterhood of all past recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award or prior similar awards. GSCNC is in the process of redefining the function of this alliance within GSCNC so watch *TTG* and the GSCNC website for further details. As a Gold Award Girl Scout you are also eligible to become a member of the **Gold Award Panel**. Contact the Teen Program Specialist for details.

Scholarships and Other Special Honors

Many colleges, universities and other organizations recognize the special character and leadership qualities exemplified by Gold Award Girl Scouts. Two specific scholarships are described below and others are listed periodically in *TTG* and on the GSCNC website. You are also encouraged to talk with your school guidance counselor or admissions counselors at the college of your choice.

The GSCNC - Wachovia Foundation Girl Scout Gold Award Scholarship

High school seniors who have earned their Girl Scout Gold Award are eligible for one of ten \$1,000 educational scholarships awarded by GSCNC. A Gold Award Scholarship Selection Committee, comprised of local businesswomen, reviews the written applications and identifies semifinalists to be interviewed in person at the council office. Based on the interviews, committee members select the ten finalists, with equal representation from the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, and one finalist selected at-large. Semifinalists who are not selected to receive a scholarship each receive a \$100 savings bond. The Wachovia Foundation has provided GSCNC with a generous grant to support the Gold Award Scholarship Program for the next two years, so the scholarship now carries the name of the foundation.

Requirements:

- Currently registered GSCNC Girl Scout and senior in high school at the time of application
- Successful completion of all Girl Scout Gold Award requirements, including Final Report
- Plans to continue education on a full or half-time basis following high school graduation
- Submission of a completed application package by 5:00 PM April 1 to GSCNC main office

Application Procedures:

- Complete application on pages 41 & 42 in this book, in *Kaleidoscope* and at www.gscnc.org.
- Application packet must be clearly written and include:
 - ❖ One letter of recommendation addressing the candidate's achievements in the areas of leadership and service.
 - ❖ Written confirmation from the Girl Scout council where Gold Award was earned. If application and GSCNC Gold Award Final Report are submitted at the same time to meet the 5:00 PM April 1, deadline, GSCNC will provide documentation to the committee.
- Finalists must take part in personal interviews with the Gold Award Scholarship Committee.

Receiving the Gold Award Scholarship:

- Recipients will be notified in writing within one week of interviews.
- Checks will be issued upon proof of acceptance at an educational institution
- Check or certificate will be presented at the annual "In Your Honor" ceremony.
- Scholarship may be used to pay for tuition, books and materials for course of study.

Trinity University in Washington, DC is proud to join forces with the Girl Scouts of the Nation's Capital in celebrating women's achievements and encouraging new generations of girls and women to pursue their dreams through obtaining undergraduate and graduate degrees through the **Girl Scouts of the Nation's Capital Leadership Scholarship** program. This award is available to any GSCNC Gold Award Girl Scout who meets Trinity's academic requirements and who chooses to attend Trinity College of Arts and Sciences on a full-time basis during the academic year. This \$5,000 merit scholarship is renewable annually if the student meets Trinity's academic criteria for scholarship renewals, and these awards are in addition to any other scholarships and financial aid for which the Girl Scout is eligible.

Detailed information about the Trinity Girl Scout Scholarship is available at Trinity's Office of Admissions at 202-884-9400, or e-mail admissions@trinitydc.edu or at Trinity's website, www.trinitydc.edu.

Holding Your Own Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony

In addition to the Council's recognition event, you are encouraged to plan your own Gold Award Ceremony. One big advantage of holding your own ceremony is you design it around the people and places that are important to you. At the GSCNC In Your Honor Ceremony you will have to share the stage with 100 or more other girls. At your own event, you will be the star!

You can share your success at any level: Troop, Service Unit, area teen group (if applicable to your area) or at the Association level. It can also be a community event, perhaps at the site of your Gold Award project if applicable. The ceremony can be just for you, you can join with a few other girls, or the presentation can be part of a larger ceremony. The following tips and suggestions will help you plan a ceremony. Enlist the aid of your troop advisor, members of your troop, or other people in your Service Unit or Association. Also, check the "*Just For Girls*" section of the Girl Scouts of the USA website (www.girlscouts.org) for updated ideas on Gold Award ceremonies.

- You may think about your ceremony while you are working on your project, but most planning should happen after you finish your project and final paperwork. The ceremony can take place any time after you have received your letter congratulations for the completion of your project.
- Find a place to hold your ceremony that will be inexpensive or better yet free to use. Check your house of worship, community center, or school. Ask about using a Girl Scout camp or other property, or space at the organization that your project benefited.
- Your guest list might include any of the following: your family, friends, people who helped you with your project, representatives from the organization your project served, other Girl Scouts, community leaders, Gold Award Panel members, and Girl Scout Council representatives.
- Invite someone from your Service Unit or Association to lead the ceremony or make the presentation. Ask someone to give a short presentation about such things as: your years as a Girl Scout, your Gold Award project, and/or other recognitions you have received. You may want to do part of this yourself – it can be serious or light-hearted.
- Invite troops and groups in your area to serve as the Color Guard; lead Pledge of Allegiance or the Girl Scout Promise; sing songs or take part in other parts of the ceremony. Having younger girls at the ceremony might help inspire them earn the Gold Award themselves. If you want, ask your faith leader to do an invocation after the flag ceremony.
- Highlight your project using a PowerPoint presentation, slides, pictures, music or display for your guests to enjoy and to highlight the work you have done. If your project was a workshop, consider offering a mini version. If your project included an area improvement (e.g., clearing a hiking trail, planting a garden), include a tour of the area and time to enjoy the new amenities.
- Ask someone special to you to pin on your Gold Award.
- Ask someone to take pictures!
- Thank those who helped you with your Gold Award. If you wish, present a small gift to your advisor, your Gold Award project advisor, your parents (Parent Pin), or others.
- Provide light refreshments at the end of the ceremony for your guests. This allows time for them to mingle and look through any displays that you have created for the occasion and to congratulate you. Ask Girl Scout troops to help out by bringing cookies and drinks. The event does not have to be fancy. The important thing is to celebrate your achievement with your friends and Girl Scout sisters.

THE ROLE OF GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD ADVISORS

	Your Girl Scout Advisor	Your Project Advisor
Overall Role	Trained adult who can provide guidance on Girl Scout policy and procedures, assist with Girl Scout resources, forms, deadlines, etc.	An adult with expertise in the area covered by the project or associated with organization project will benefit.
Building the Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take 151 training • Support and encouragement • Share GSCNC/GSUSA information • Direct girl to Gold Award workshop • Review resources with girl • Help girl create a timeline • Advise on safety and budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This person may not be on board at this step. If so, she/he can follow Advisor Role listed on left or begin to consult on girl's project idea
Leadership Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise on setting goals for Interest Projects and Focus Book • Advise on leadership opportunities • Approve activities and sign off • Provide way to celebrate award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above
Career Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise on career opportunities • Approve activities and sign off • Provide way to celebrate award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above
Challenge Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and guide as needed but empower girl to take responsibility • Help girl identify project advisor • Define role to project advisor • Sign off on completion • Provide way to celebrate award 	If on board at this time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise on project timeline • Assist with vision statement • Work with Troop/group advisor • Follow Troop advisor guidelines
Gold Award Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and encourage but allow girl to take responsibility • Help girl obtain GSCNC permission to raise money or ask for donations • Provide guidance on <i>SafetyWise</i> • Provide guidance on deadlines • Sign off on project when done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign agreement with girl • Establish schedule for meeting • Coach girl in project planning, implementation and record keeping • Advise on budget and safety • Make "the ask" for solicitation of money or materials • Sign off on project when done
Celebrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist girl in planning Gold Award presentation ceremony • Assist in providing notifying media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend Gold Award presentation ceremony
FAQs: <p>Q. Can my trop advisor also be my project advisor? A. This is possible, but if so, you are encouraged to consult with other adults in the community who have expertise in the project area to provide exposure to and an opportunity to work with a variety of adults.</p> <p>Q. Can a parent serve as my project advisor? A. See the response to the above question, as the same applies to this one. Also, remember that this is YOUR project, not that of your advisor. You will be spending considerable time working on this project. The support of your family is important, but it is also nice to have the opportunity to work with other adults.</p>		

JUST FOR PARENTS

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award in Girl Scouting that girls 14-18 can earn. It represents a girl's commitment to herself and her community, as she focuses on leadership, career exploration, personal challenges and completing a lasting project that will benefit her community. It takes many hours of preparation, planning and work to accomplish the goals a girl has set for herself.

Parents and guardians play a significant role in supporting a girl's path to the Girl Scout Gold Award. You may be called upon to be a coach, mentor, cheerleader, sounding board, volunteer and chauffeur. You are not expected to be a taskmaster nor should you do her work for her. **This is HER project.** Things like figuring out how to call or talk to adults about her project when she is in school or a is uncomfortable making the first move will help her to grow. She will learn and get the greatest benefit from this project when she does things for herself. Even her mistakes will provide her with wonderful learning experiences.

There are ways you can help her:

- Read through the materials provided to her regarding the Girl Scout Gold Award so you feel comfortable offering support.
- Help her choose a topic that will become the basis for her project, but do so only if she asks for ideas. Remember, the topic and project should reflect HER passions, not yours.
- Encourage and support her, but do not pressure her. "*Going for the Gold*" is something she has to want to do herself.
- Recognize that your daughter is capable, competent and worthy of respect as she assumes greater citizenship and responsibility. Provide her positive and constructive support on this journey.
- Aid her in accessing a network of adults who can lend insight, provide contacts, and point to resources. However, once you have pointed her in the right direction, allow her to make the contact herself.
- Practice good parenting when it comes to making sure she gets enough rest, eats well and is supported by the family in her endeavor. At times her project may overwhelm her, but help her put it into perspective.
- Work with her troop advisor on safety and money concerns to ensure that she is following Girl Scout guidelines on these issues. These are important to ensure the safety of your daughter and the integrity of the Girl Scout program.
- Allow your daughter to stumble and learn the lessons that come with doing a project like this. Continue to provide support and encouragement. Remind her to seek help from her troop advisor, her project advisor or the Gold Award Panel when she needs it, but remember she is the one who should ask for the help. This is part of the learning process.
- Help with her project as asked or cheer from the sidelines as appropriate.
- Join in the celebration as she is honored for her accomplishment! Be proud of her and let it show!

Going for the Gold Log

Challenge – Path A

Record activities you did to earn the Senior Girl Scout Challenge (Path A). This log is your record. It does not need to be turned in with your Gold Award Project Proposal

Section	Provide a brief description of what you did		Adult initials
Developing Your Potential			
Relating to Others			
Developing Values for Living			
Contributing to Society – 15 hour service project		Hours spent	
Helping Others Know about Girl Scouting			

Evaluate your experiences with your advisor or another adult, considering the following:

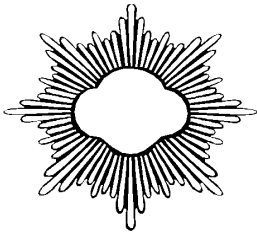
- What have you discovered about the world of Girl Scouting?
- How have you applied the Girl Scout Promise and Law to everyday living?
- How did your project benefit others? How could you continue to support this area?
- How have you shown that you are able to plan and share work with others?
- How have you demonstrated what you value?

Going for the Gold Log

Challenge – Path B

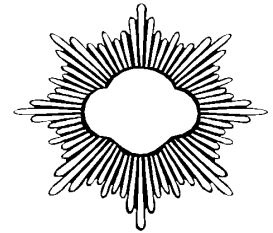
Record activities you did to earn the Girl Scout 4Bs Challenge (Path B). This log is your record. It does not need to be turned in with your Gold Award Project Proposal

Section	Provide a brief description of what you did	Hours	Adult initials
Become: Yourself- set SMART goals			
Belong: Your Community- discover your community resources			
Believe: A Vision for Change- Needs in the Community and How I Can Make a change			
	My vision statement:		
Build: Your Network of people to help make your vision a reality			
Have these steps led you to a Gold Award Project idea?			Hours related to your Gold Award Project idea



GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT PROPOSAL

Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital



This form is also available at www.gscnc.org. Form may be completed on line, sent as email attachment (to goldaward@gscnc.org), faxed to the attention of the Gold Award Panel at 202-274-2161 or mailed to address below. If using on line, email or fax, original of page 1 must be submitted within 5 business days. Retain a copy for yourself and your advisors. Mail projects to **GSCNC, Attn: Gold Award Panel, 4301 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008**

Submission deadline is 5:00 PM on the first working day of the month to be reviewed that month. Projects received after the deadline will be reviewed the following month.

Projects are reviewed on the 2nd Tuesday of the month and notification of action is mailed within 7 days. Do not call for information on action. Do not begin your project until you have received council approval.

Name		Girl Scout ID #	Troop/group #	Association #
Address			City	
County		State	Zip Code	
Phone		Email		
Age	Current Grade	School		Class of
US Congressional District		MD/VA General Assembly District/ DC Council Ward	MD/VA State Senate District	
Date/ location of Gold Award Workshop I attended (optional)				
My signature		Date		
Troop/group Advisor			Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor	
Name			Name	
Address			Title/Organization	
City/State/ZIP			Address	
Daytime Phone			City/State/ZIP	
Evening			Phone	
E-Mail			E-Mail	
Signature of Troop/Group Advisor			Signature of Project Advisor	
Date			Date	

Gold Award Project Proposal page 2 - Prerequisites

LEADERSHIP

Path A: -Begun prior to Nov 2004 Earn 4 Interest Project Patches	Path B: Begun Nov 2004 or later Girl Scout Gold Leadership Award	Date Completed	Advisor* Signature
Interest Project or Focus Book*	Interest Project		
Interest Project or Focus Book*	Interest Project		
Interest Project or Focus Book*	Interest Project		
Interest Project or Focus Book*	STUDIO 2B Focus Book		
Path A & B: Briefly describe what you gained by completing these requirements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New skills you learned • How you used the Girl Scout Law • How these activities will help you in doing your Gold Award project 			
Earn Girl Scout Senior Leadership Award –spend 30 hours in 2 or more positions	Put Leadership into action by spending 30 hours in a leadership role		
Path A & B: Describe your leadership roles. Include new skills learned, what you learned about being a leader and how this will help you in doing your project.			

CAREERS

Path A –Begun prior to Nov 2004 Career Exploration Pin	Path B –Begun Nov 2004 or later Girl Scout Gold Career Award	Date Completed	Advisor Signature
List activities did you complete to earn the Career Exploration award and one new skill you learned that will help you in doing your project.	List how you spent 40 hours on career related activities and one new skill that will help you in doing your project.		

CHALLENGE

Path A Begun prior to Nov 2004 Girl Scout Challenge Award	Path B -Begun Nov 2004 or later Girl Scout Gold 4 Bs Challenge	Date Completed	Project Advisor
For each step briefly describe what you did, what you learned and how this will help with your project			
Develop your potential	Become:		
Relate to others	Belong:		
Develop values for living	Believe:		
Contribute to Society	Build:		
Help others know about Girl Scouting	Number of hours related to your Gold Award Project _____(up to 15 hours).		

Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal – Page 4

R. Indicate methods and /or tools you will use to evaluate the effectiveness of your project.

S. List the names of individuals who will help you with this project.

G. Estimate project expenses and how you plan to meet these costs. Provide as much detail as you know at this time. You must list donations of money or materials you anticipate, including the estimated value and the organization. *If you later decide to ask for a donation that is not listed here you must contact the Teen Program Specialist for approval.* Remember that an adult must do the actual “ask” for all donations. .

Item	Unit cost	How many	Total cost or value	Source of donation or funds for purchase	Alternate source for donated or borrowed items

H. Explain how you will implement *Safety-Wise* Guidelines and Activity Checkpoint(s) that apply to your project. .

What parts of the Basic Safety Guidelines chapter apply to your project and how will you ensure they are addressed?

Will you require a first aider for any part of your project? If so, what specific first aide training will be required? Who will serve as your first aider?

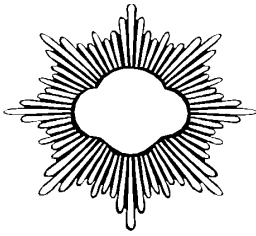
Do any of the following *Safety-Wise* Program Standards apply to your project and if so how will you address them? Standard 3, 8, 10, 13, 14, 22, 24, 25 and 27

Do any Activity Checkpoints (chapters 7-11) apply to your project and if so how will you address them?

Does your project involve raising money for another organization?

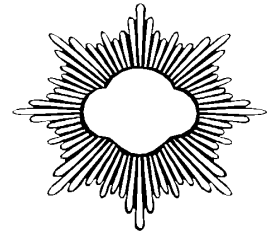
Does your project involve political activity?

I. Describe any additional details about the content or results of your Project that you think the Panel should know.



GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD GOLD AWARD PROJECT HOURS LOG

Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital



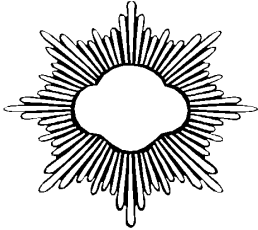
Record all activities you do as you work on your Girl Scout Gold Award Project. Log each activity as you do it so you do not forget to include an activity. While you may log hours spent on activities designed to earn money for your project so you have a record of them, you may not count them toward the required hours. You may count hours you spend with your Project advisor evaluating the success of your project, but not the time you spend in completing the Final Report form. Your Gold Award Project, must take at least the following number of hours:

Path A: 50 hours – You may include only hours spent after you received GSCNC approval

Path B: 65 hours (You may include a maximum of 15 hours from the Girl Scout 4Bs Challenge and/or hours spent developing and writing your plan. The remaining hours must be after you received GSCNC approval)

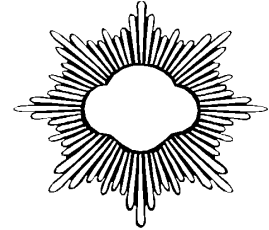
You must submit this log with your Gold Award Final Report.

Date	Start Time	Activities	End Time	Hours/minutes
Total Hours this page				



GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD FINAL REPORT

Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital



This form is available at www.gscnc.org. Form may be completed on line, sent as email attachment (to goldaward@gscnc.org), faxed to the attention of the Gold Award Panel at 202-274-2161 with original submitted within 5 business days. Form may be mailed to **GSCNC, Attn: Gold Award Panel, 4301 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008**

Submission deadline is 5:00 PM April 1 to be included in that year's GSCNC award ceremony, to be eligible for GSCNC Gold Award Scholarships that year, and to be eligible for other Gold Award honors that year. Projects received after the deadline will be recognized the following year.

Final Reports must be received by September 30 of the year in which you graduate or the year you turn 18, whichever is later. Girls with developmental delays have until age 21.

Name			Girl Scout ID #	Troop/group #	Association #
Address			City		
County		State		Zip Code	
Phone		Email			
Age	Current Grade	School		Class of	
US Congressional District		MD/VA General Assembly District/ DC Council Ward		MD/VA State Senate District	
Project Title			Date Started	Date Completed	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if we may use your project at Gold Award workshops or other events.			<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you would like to have your project returned after one year.		
I am including or submitting within 5 business days the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A letter of recommendation from the group that my Gold Award project benefited <input type="checkbox"/> A detailed Time Log of hours spent on the project <input type="checkbox"/> A recent school picture (or similar picture) for our PR department files <input type="checkbox"/> Photos, brochures, journals, or items that were a part of my project (optional, but encouraged) 					
My signature			Date		
Troop/group Advisor			Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor		
Name			Name		
Address			Title/Organization		
City/State/ZIP			Address		
Daytime Phone			City/State/ZIP		
Evening			Phone		
E-Mail			E-Mail		
Signature of Troop/Group Advisor			Signature of Project Advisor		
Date			Date		

Gold Award Final Report – page 2

A. Briefly (1-3 sentences) summarize your project. Include the issue your project addressed and the methods you used for meeting the project objectives.

B. Discuss the benefits your project provided to others in the community.

C. Detail the methods used for evaluating the impact of your project.

D. What did you learn about yourself as a result of this project?

E. What aspects of your project would you change or do differently?

F. What was the most successful aspect of your project?

Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital Program Grant Request for Girl Scout Gold Award – Project Assistance

This form may *only* be used to request program grants related to Girl Scout **Gold Award projects** (See other side for program grant for Girl Scout Gold Award ceremonies.) This form is available at www.gscnc.org. Form may be completed on line, sent as email attachment (to goldaward@gscnc.org), faxed to the attention of the Gold Award Panel at 202-274-2161. Form may be mailed to **GSCNC, Attn: Program Grants Panel, 4301 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008**.

Allow at least 3 weeks for review of request. Program grants are not guaranteed. Review will include financial need and effort made by girl to cover the cost. Grants that are approved will be made payable to the troop and sent to the troop advisor. In the case of a Juliette Girl Scout, other arrangements will be made to make payment to a Girl Scout group account.

Name		Girl Scout ID #	Troop/group #	Association #
Address			City	
County		State	Zip Code	
Phone		Email		
Age	Current Grade	School		Class of
I am requesting a grant of \$_____ to help cover the cost of my Gold Award project (Answer questions 1-5 below)				
1. Projected Start Date		2. Projected Completion Date		
3. Briefly describe your project and the benefit to the community.				
4. Estimate project expenses and how you expected to meet these costs. What will the expenses cover?				
5. Explain why you are not able to meet the expected cost of the project and are requesting a program grant.				
Girl's signature		Date		
Troop Advisor's Name		E-Mail		
Address		Office Use Only	Date rec.	
City/State/ZIP		Action taken		
Phone		Signature	Date	
		Account		
		Finance		
Signature of Troop/Group Advisor			Date	

Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital Program Grant Request for Girl Scout Gold Award – Ceremony Assistance

This form may *only* be used to request program grants related to Girl Scout **Gold Award ceremonies**. (See other side for program grant for Girl Scout Gold Award projects.) This form is available at www.gscnc.org. Form may be completed on line, sent as email attachment (to goldaward@gscnc.org), faxed to the attention of the Gold Award Panel at 202-274-2161. Form may be mailed to **GSCNC, Attn: Gold Award Panel, 4301 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20008**.

Allow at least 3 weeks for review of request. Program grants are not guaranteed. Review will include financial need and effort made by girl to cover the cost. Grants that are approved will be made payable to the troop and sent to the troop advisor. In the case of a Juliette Girl Scout, other arrangements will be made to make payment to a Girl Scout group account.

Name		Girl Scout ID #	Troop/group #	Association #
Address			City	
County		State	Zip Code	
Phone		Email		
Age	Current Grade	School	Class of	
I am requesting a grant of \$ _____ to help cover the cost my local gold Award Ceremony. (Answer questions 1-4 below)				
1.. Planned ceremony date		7. Location		
2 . Briefly describe plans for your ceremony; including others who else will take part in it.				
3 . List below the expenses you expect to have for your ceremony and how much you expect each item will cost.				
4 . What funds do you have available to you in your troop treasury? What other sources of money do you have to help pay for your ceremony?				
Girl's signature		Date		
Troop Advisor's Name		E-Mail		
Address		Office Use Only	Date rec.	
City/State/ZIP		Action taken	Date	
Phone		Signature	Date	
		Account		
		Finance		
Signature of Troop/Group Advisor			Date	

**The Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital
The Wachovia Foundation
Girl Scout Gold Award Scholarship
Application Form
(See page 23.)**

Eligibility

To be eligible for a GSCNC Gold Award Scholarship an applicant must:

- Be a currently registered Girl Scout in GSCNC
- Be a senior in high school,
- Be continuing her education following high school graduation
- Have earned her Gold Award

Applications must be

- Complete, typed, and clear enough to be duplicated easily. (*Application is 2 pages*)
- Accompanied by
 - A letter of recommendation addressing your achievements in the areas of leadership and service.
 - Written verification of receipt of the Gold Award from the granting council. (If application and GSCNC Gold Award Final Report are submitted at the same time to meet the April 1, deadline, GSCNC will provide the Gold Award Scholarship Committee with the required documentation.)
- **Received** at the GSCNC office at address below by 5:00 pm on **April 1st**.

Original application must be sent or delivered to:

**GSCNC Gold Award Scholarship
4301 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20008.**

Name		G.S. ID #	SSN
Address			
City		State	Zip Code
Phone		Email	
Assn #	SU #	Troop #	# of years Girl Scouting
Year Gold Award Earned		Council where Gold Award was earned	
Signature of applicant			Date

Gold Award Scholarship Application – page 2

<p>1. List your Girl Scout experience, extra-curricular activities, and other related community service. Include positions that you have held.</p>
<p>2. Briefly describe your Girl Scout Gold Award project. Discuss the need it was designed to address and what difference your project made to the community.</p>
<p>3. Describe the most significant community service you provided through Girl Scouting other than your Gold Award project.</p>
<p>4. Describe the most challenging situation you faced while in a leadership role and what you learned from that experience.</p>
<p>5. Explain how the principles and ideals of Girl Scouting have influenced your life.</p>
<p>6. What do you enjoy most about Girl Scouting?</p>
<p>7. What are your educational goals and how do you plan to achieve them?</p>
<p>8. How would this scholarship enhance your ability to achieve your educational goals?</p>
<p>9. Is there anything else you would like the selection panel to know when considering your application?</p>

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Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital
4301 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20008
202/237-1670
800/523-7898
www.gscnc.org

