

Silver Award Online Approval Tool

Frequently Asked Questions

What is it?

This is an online tool for girls to use with their leaders, project advisors, or parents to gain approval for their Silver Award project ideas before beginning their projects.

Who should use it?

A girl along with her troop leader, project advisor, or parent can use this to approve a Silver Award take action project idea. It is most useful if one of the above-mentioned adults is present while the girl is entering her answers. It will take approximately 30-45 minutes to complete if your project meets the Silver Award standards and moves all the way through the questions to approval.

When should it be used?

Plan to use this tool after the girl has completed the prerequisite (a Cadette Leadership Journey) and has thought about her project idea, but before she starts to implement the project.

Why use it?

Because the Silver Award has changed in the past few years, this resource provides leaders with a consistent standard to use to approve girls' take action project ideas.

How to use it?

Leaders, project advisors, or parents should use this in partnership with the Girl Scout Cadette. Review the questions with the girl ahead of time, as well as the resources on the Council website, Girl Scouts of the USA website, and in the *Cadette Girls Guide to Girl Scouting*.

When the girl's answers are entered in the online tool, the response will either allow her to move forward to another question or let her know that she needs to rethink that element of her project before it can be approved.

When the project is approved, it will generate an approval screen and project summary. **Please print this and keep it on file.** Starting on March 17, 2015, a copy of the approval will be required for purchase of Silver Award pins in Council shops.



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Questions Guide

Use this guide to review the questions you will be asked in the survey.

Questions with an asterisk will result in a denial if your answer does not meet the Silver Award guidelines. If your answer does meet the requirements, you will move forward. Don't worry, if your answer does prompt a denial, the tool will provide direction so that you can meet the Silver Award guidelines and gain approval once you have reworked your project idea.

Because the Journey is a prerequisite for the Silver Award, the following groups of questions indicate that a girl has met the prerequisite. It also indicates that her Journey completion met the standard of earning the three Journey awards, completing a Take Action project, and reflecting on her Take Action experience.

***Question 1:**

Did you work on a Cadette-level Girl Scout Journey (aMaze, Breathe, or MeDIA) before starting the Silver Award?

***Questions 2-4:**

Did you complete the awards for that journey? (Example: aMaze, Breathe, Media, Think Like a Citizen Scientist, Think Like an Engineer, Cadette Outdoor Journey, or Think Like a Programmer)

***Question 5:**

Did you complete the Journey take action project? Describe it.

Girl Scouts of the USA's guidelines are that the Silver Award should be worked on individually or in groups of 2-4 girls.

***Question 6:**

How many people, including yourself, will earn the Silver Award with this project?

Girl Scout Silver Award projects must address a community need. Examples of your community could include your school, Girl Scout service unit, outreach camp, or where you live.

***Question 7:**

Who is the audience for the project?

The next question is for informational purposes.

Question 8:

Does your project benefit an organization?

Girl Scouts of the USA's guidelines are that a take action project must be more than a service or collection project.

***Question 9:**

Is the only focus of your project a collection (canned food drive, clothing drive, etc.)?

Girl Scouts are not allowed to raise money for other organizations.

***Question 10:**

Does your project raise money for another organization?

The next questions are for informational purposes.

Question 11:

What category best describes your project topic?

Question 12:

Who is on your project team?

Girl Scouts of the USA's guidelines are that Silver Awards should take approximately 50 hours.

***Question 13:**

How long do you think your project will take?

The next set of questions is for informational purposes.

Question 14:

Please describe your Silver Award Project.

Question 15:

Why does this project matter? What impact will you have on your community?

Question 16:

Who does your project help?

Question 17:

How much will your project cost to implement?

Question 18:

How are you funding your project?