

GOLD

Option 2



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Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan

Supporting girls in Genesee, Lapeer, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Sanilac, and Wayne counties who achieve the highest recognition in Girl Scouts.

Detroit Service Center
500 Fisher Building
3011 W. Grand Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48202

Flint Service Center
2300 Austins Parkway
Flint, MI 48507

**Port Huron
Service Center**
2186 Water Street
Port Huron, MI 48060

**Clinton Township
Service Center**
42804 Garfield
Clinton Township, MI 48038

**White Lake
Service Center**
8545 Highland Road
White Lake, MI 48386

Contact Us: 800-482-6734

2009 GSUSA Guideline for the Gold Award - Option TWO

Prerequisites: Complete TWO Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador journeys OR having earned the Silver Award and completing one Senior or Ambassador journey. Each journey you complete gives you the skills you need to plan and implement your Take Action project.

STEP 1: CHOOSE AN ISSUE

Use your values and skills to identify a community issue you care about.

- Live the Girl Scout Promise and Law
- Demonstrate civic responsibility

STEP 2: INVESTIGATE

Research everything you can about the issue.

- Use a variety of sources: interview people, read books and articles, find professional organizations online – Remember to evaluate each source's reliability and accuracy.
- Demonstrate courage as you investigate your issue, knowing what you learn may challenge your own and other's beliefs.
- Identify national and/or global links to your community

STEP 3: GET HELP

Invite others to support and take action with you

- Seek out and recognize the value of the skills and strengths of others.
- Respect different points of view and ways of working.
- Build a team and recruit a project advisor who will bring special skills to your Take Action Project.

STEP 4: CREATE A PLAN

Create a project plan that achieves sustainable and measurable impact.

- Lead the planning of your Take Action project.
- Work collaboratively to develop a plan for your project that creates lasting change.

STEP 5: PRESENT YOUR PLAN AND GET FEEDBACK

Sum up your project plan for your Girl Scout council.

- Submit a Project Proposal to your council that is concise, comprehensive, and clear.
- Describe your plan including the Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes you want to achieve and the impact you plan to make on yourself and the community.
- Articulate your issue clearly and explain why it matters to you.
- Accept constructive suggestions that will help refine your project.

STEP 6: TAKE ACTION

Take the lead to carry out your plan.

- Take action to address the root cause of an issue, so that your solution has measurable and sustainable impact.
- Actively seek partnerships to achieve greater community participation and impact for your Take Action project.
- Challenge yourself to try different ways to solve problems.
- Use resources wisely.
- Speak out and act on behalf of yourself and others.

STEP 7: EDUCATE AND INSPIRE

Share what you have experienced with others.

- Reflect on what you have learned when you present your Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report to your council.
- Summarize the effectiveness of your project and the impact it has had on you and your community.
- Share the project beyond your local community and inspire others to take action in their own communities.

SUPPORT TEAM

Standard of Excellence

When you decide to earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, you are on your honor to uphold the Standards of Excellence. These standards set a high benchmark for everything you do and invite you to think deeply, explore opportunities, and challenge yourself. Following the Standards of Excellence challenges you to develop yourself as a leader, achieve the Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes and make a mark on your community that creates a lasting impact on the lives of others.

The troop/group volunteer is the adult who works with an ongoing troop or group. One who supports and challenges Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors to strive for excellence. The troop/group volunteer supports girls in developing their leadership skills, achieving the Standard of Excellence outline in the Gold Award guidelines and making a lasting impact in the community. Once a girl identifies her issue, the troop/group volunteer might help her identify a person in the community who could be a great project advisor.

The Mentor is an adult who can provide additional ideas, materials and resources to support your efforts and will be assigned by the Council Office after they receive your Letter of Intent.

The Project Advisor is a volunteer who guides a girl as she takes her project from the planning stage through implementation.

- The project advisor is typically not a girls' parent or a Girl Scout troop/group volunteer.
- The project advisor is typically someone from the community who is knowledgeable about the issue and who can provide guidance, experience and expertise along the way.
- The project advisor should be identified in the planning phase before the Girl Scout Gold Award Project Proposal is turned in to the council.
- The projects advisor expands the network of adults and provides expertise for a girl's project
- If the girl has an idea before she starts any part work on her Girl Scout Gold Award, she might want to identify her project advisor from the very beginning.

Girl Scout Gold Award Committee is there to support Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors as they go through the process of earning their Girl Scout Gold Award. The committees are typically comprised of community members, educators, key volunteers and young women who have earned their Girl Scout Gold Award. The committee works with designated council staff.

TIP:

A parent should not be the advisor because the girls are encouraged to connect with their community when earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. That means working with a project advisor who is not her parent.

Project Council Time Line for Gold Award Process

- _____ Submit letter of Intent to your local service center
- _____ Receive response from council with contact information for your mentor
- _____ Select project advisor
- _____ *Submit completed project proposal to your local service center
- _____ Received council notification of approval
- _____ Begin Gold Award Take Action Project – remember to journal, scrapbook and photograph during ALL phases of your project.
- _____ Write Final Report
- _____ Create Project Display Board
- _____ **Submit completed Final Report to your local service center by March 1
- _____ Attend council review interview (you will receive notice on time/date/location)
- _____ Attend council recognition ceremony

*Check with your local Gold Award Committee team to find out their monthly meeting dates to give you an idea of when to submit your paperwork.

**March 1st is the final date for completed projects to be accepted for that year's recognition event.

For Office Use Only

Date Received: _____ Name of Mentor: _____ Copy to Mentor: _____

**Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan Senior/Ambassador Girl Scout Gold Award
NOTICE OF INTENT**

Submit this "Notice of Intent" to your local service center as listed below before you begin working on your Project Proposal. A Gold Award Mentor will be assigned to assist you along with your leader or the adult consultant working with you. Your Mentor can provide additional ideas, material and resources to support your efforts. You will need to secure a project advisor (project consultant) to work with you to help meet your needs as it relates to your project.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Graduation Year: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Grade: _____

Troop #: _____ Service Center: _____

Please indicate which method you would like to receive confirmation of this Intent and the name of your Mentor:

Check all that apply: Letter e-mail phone call

Do you have an adult to assist you with your project? Yes No

Are you a currently registered Girl Scout? Yes No

Adult's Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please make sure to make a copy for your record before mailing and send to your local service center attn: Program Specialist

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GIRL SCOUTS OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN GOLD AWARD MONEY EARNING APPLICATION

DIRECTIONS: PRIOR to beginning the money earning activity, the girl completes the application with the help of her Advisor. It is then reviewed and signed by her Gold Award Project Advisor, who forwards all copies to the Product Sales Department. After Council approval, copies of this application will be sent to the girl, Advisor, and Gold Award Project Advisor.

Girl's Name _____

Address _____ City & Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Troop/Group # _____ SU # _____

Date of (Re) Registration with GSSEM _____ Date of proposed money earning activity _____

Proposed money earning activity description _____

Estimated Cost of Project..... (A)

Sources of Income for Project: (Amount each source will contribute, as applicable)

Parents.....

Troop Donation.....

Other Donation.....

Total Income from all Sources..... (B)

Amount needed from this money earning activity (**Line A minus Line B**).....

I have read and agree to advise this girl in following the Council Guidelines and Safety-Wise Standards 28, 29, and 30, regarding money earning. I understand that this girl cannot enter into contracts in the name of Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan. I approve of this money earning activity as it relates to her Gold Award project.

Advisor Name _____ Day Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Gold Award Project Advisor Name _____ Day Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Advisor's Signature _____

Gold Award Project Advisor Signature _____

Date _____

Date _____

FOR OFFICE USE

Date Received _____

This Project is: Approved

Not Approved

Comments _____

GSSEM Approval _____ Date Copies mailed _____

Take Action Project

Project Title: _____

Proposed Start Date: _____ Proposed Completion Date: _____

On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following statements in complete paragraph format.

- A. Describe the issue your project will address and who is your target audience. Remember your 15-second pitch.
- B. Discuss your reasons for selecting this project.
- C. Outline the strengths, talents, and skills that you plan to put into action. What skills do you hope to develop?
- D. Describe the steps involved in putting your plan into action, including resources, facilities, equipment, and approvals needed. (Attach a detailed project plan.)
- E. Enter the names of people or organizations you plan to inform and involve.
- F. Estimate overall project expenses and how you plan to meet these costs.
- G. What methods or tools will you use to evaluate the impact of your project?
- H. How will your project be sustained beyond your involvement?
- I. Describe how you plan to tell others about your project, the project's impact, and what you have learned (Web site, blog, presentations, posters, videos, articles, and so on).

Your Signature: _____ Date: _____

Project Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved: _____ Date: _____
Mentor Signature Required

Return proposal form to your local service center attn: Program Specialist

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**Girl Scout Gold Award Final Report for
Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan**

Please print or type in blue or black ink. Use additional paper if needed. Make two copies when completed. Keep one for yourself and give one to your advisor. Submit the original to the Service Center for approval. Do not begin your project until you have received council approval.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Troop/Group #: _____ Troop/Group Volunteer: _____

Troop/Group Volunteer Phone: _____ Email: _____

Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor: _____

Project Advisor's Phone: _____ Email: _____

Your Team: List the names of individuals and organizations that worked with you on your Take Action Project.

Team members	Affiliation	Role

Take Action Project

Project Title: _____ Start Date: _____ Completion Date: _____ Hours: _____

On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following statements in complete paragraph format.

- A. Describe the issue your project addressed, what impact you had hoped to make, and who benefitted.
- B. What was the root cause of the issue? How did you address it?
- C. How will your project be sustained beyond your involvement?
- D. Explain the national and/or global link to your project.
- E. Describe any obstacles you encountered and what you did to overcome them.

F. Describe what steps you took to inspire others through sharing your project. (Web site, blog, presentations, posters, videos, articles, and so on).

G. Describe what you learned from this project including leadership skills you developed. What did you learn about yourself as a result of this project?

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

I. What aspects of your project would you change or do differently if you could start over?

IMPACT:

On a separate sheet of paper, describe the impact signs your project has had and will have on your community and your target audience.

Community:

What community issue was addressed?

What are concrete examples that you made a difference?

What examples of the project impact might you see in the future?

Target Audience:

What skills, knowledge, or attitudes did your target audience gain?

What examples demonstrate that the target audience gained skills or knowledge?

What would be examples of a long-term impact on your target audience?

You:

Which of the 15 Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes* listed do you think you were able to develop through this project?

Discover:

- I developed a stronger sense of self.
- I developed positive values.
- I gained practical life skills.
- I sought challenges in the world.
- I developed critical thinking.

Connect:

- I developed healthy relationships.
- I promoted cooperation and team building.
- I resolved conflicts.
- I advanced diversity in a multicultural world.
- I felt more connected to my community, locally and globally.

Take Action:

- I will identify community issues.
- I will be a resourceful problem solver.
- I will advocate for myself and others, locally and globally.
- I will educate and inspire others to act.
- I will feel empowered to make a difference in the world.

*Want more information on the Girl Scout Leadership Outcomes? Visit www.girlscouts.org/research/publications/outcomes/transforming_leadership.asp.

Within each leadership key (Discover, Connect, and Take Action) list one or two examples of your growth as a leader:

Possible Future Impact

How do you think your leadership skills will grow in the future because of this project?

Your Signature: _____ Date: _____

Project Advisor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Mentor Signature Required

Return final report & additional attachments to your local service center attn: Program Specialist

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