



Gold Award Fact Sheet

Same Gold Award Standards....

1. The Gold Award is the highest honor that you can earn as a Girl Scout and the standards in earning the award are established by Girl Scouts of the United States of America (GSUSA).
2. There are no new standards for earning the Gold Award due to realignment. GSUSA implemented new standards in 2004 prior to the creation of Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania (GSEP) and all three legacy councils adhered to these standards.
3. For you, the following information remains the same:
 - a. GSUSA does not recognize general "collection" projects as meeting its Gold Award standards. While collecting items can be a part of your project; your project should focus on leadership, not just service.
 - b. After completing Step 1, Steps 2 and 3 can be worked on simultaneously. Steps 2 and 3 must be completed before starting Step 4. A girl can start Step 5 after her Gold Award Project Proposal is approved by the Gold Award Committee.
 - c. A Project Advisor is someone different than your troop leader or a parent or relative. Your Project Advisor is a person who has experience working in and knowledge about your project idea.

Different Gold Award Process....

1. Girls who wish to earn the Gold Award must use the current forms that can be found on our web site: www.gsep.org. From the Home page, click on Events & Programs/Girl Scouts. Then scroll down the right side of the page to find the Gold Award Fact Sheet and Manual. **Please toss out Gold Award forms and manuals from former councils and dated prior to April 2010.**
2. There is only one GSUSA resource that contains the current guidelines for the Gold Award – Girl Scout Gold Award *Go For It!* The current guidelines can also be found on the GSUSA and GSEP web sites. The information on the Gold Leadership Award, Career Award and Challenge Award are not current in the Resource Book for Senior Girl Scouts. Please do not use this resource when working on the Gold Award.
3. **For girls currently in 12th grade, the deadline to submit a Gold Award Project Proposal is May 1st.** This allows a girl 2-3 months to

complete her project. A girl must conduct her Final Presentation with the Gold Award Committee two weeks before she begins college courses. If that is not applicable, her Final Presentation must be held no later than September 15th, after high school graduation.

4. Group Gold Award projects will not be accepted.
5. To start earning the Gold Award, you need to get yourself into the process by sending your Gold Award Project Proposal to Joan Hannahoe, 2633 Moravian Avenue, Allentown, PA 18103; or email to jhannahoe@gsep.org. Submit your proposal at least four weeks prior to when you want to start the project.
6. When we receive your proposal, you will be contacted to schedule an interview with the Gold Award Committee. This group meets four times a month in four locations.
7. At this meeting you can discuss your project ideas in a safe place where folks with lots of Gold Award experience can help you move forward. They will give you suggestions on how to structure your ideas, raise money to support your project, and help you with any questions that you have. A member of the Gold Award Committee will be assigned as your own Gold Award mentor.
8. At the meeting you will learn whether your project idea meets all of the GSUSA standards and if so, you can begin earning your Gold Award!!!
9. After putting in all of your hard work, you get to present your completed project to the Gold Award Committee. This is your final presentation so that everyone throughout the Council can learn about your exciting work!! You need to just let the group know when you are ready to present and Joan Hannahoe will schedule it for you. Make sure that you bring a copy of your Final Report with all of the necessary signatures, your 65-hour timeline, final budget, project notebook, and four digital photos (3 project photos and your headshot).
7. Receive your Gold Award at the Achievement Ceremony scheduled in the Spring of each year. Invite your family and friends as we recognize you for having earned the highest award in Girl Scouting!!