



GIRL SCOUTS OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA GOLD AWARD RUBRIC MY2026

Rev 1/22/26

		Exceeds Standards 4	Meets Standards 3	Needs Improvement 2	Does Not Meet Standards 1
Step 1: Choose an issue					
<i>Related questions in proposal: My Gold Award aims to address this issue</i>					
A	Project identifies a credible community need	<input type="checkbox"/> Identified issue is based on a credible community need <input type="checkbox"/> The need is important and hasn't been addressed before in this community	<input type="checkbox"/> Identified issue is based on credible community need	<input type="checkbox"/> Identified issue is based on girls' interests only and is not a credible community need <input type="checkbox"/> Does not fully dig into the core issue. It may stop at surface-level explanations or provide only partial analysis	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not identify an issue OR issue is already being fulfilled in the community the girl plans to serve
<i>Related question in proposal: The root cause of my issue is...</i>					
B	Project identifies a root cause of that community need and plan addresses that root cause	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies root cause <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan shows well-constructed approach to address the root cause <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan shows careful attention to detail, creative thinking and innovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies root cause <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan shows well-constructed approach to address the root cause	<input type="checkbox"/> Root cause is not related to the community need	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not identify a root cause or provide a plan to address the root cause
<i>Related question in proposal: The target audience(s) for my Gold Award project is/are...</i>					
C	Target audience is clearly identified and engaged in project	<input type="checkbox"/> Target audience is clearly identified as members of the community affected by the issue <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan engages appropriate community members in the solution and demonstrates benefit to the target audience <input type="checkbox"/> Community is committed to sustaining the girls' work	<input type="checkbox"/> Target audience is clearly identified. <input type="checkbox"/> Members of the community are affected by the issue. <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan engages appropriate community members in the solution and demonstrates benefit to the target audience.	<input type="checkbox"/> Target audience is not part of the community affected by the issue <input type="checkbox"/> Project plan marginally benefits the target audience	<input type="checkbox"/> Target audience is not identified OR is not part of the community affected by the issue
Step 2: Investigate					
<i>Related question in proposal: The reasons I selected my issue are...</i>					
D	Research sources are cited and thoroughly investigated	<input type="checkbox"/> Thorough research has been conducted and 3 or more sources are cited	<input type="checkbox"/> Some research has been conducted and 1-2 sources are referenced	<input type="checkbox"/> Research is implied, but no sources are provided.	<input type="checkbox"/> No validation or research has been conducted to help shape project

Exceeds Standards		Meets Standards	Needs Improvement	Does Not Meet Standards
4		3	2	1
<i>Related question in proposal: My Gold Award's national and/or global link is...</i>				
E	Project identifies national or global link to issue	<input type="checkbox"/> Makes a specific connection to a larger national and/or global issue <input type="checkbox"/> Research and evidence from other communities informs this project with research cited	<input type="checkbox"/> Includes broad research and evidence connecting project specifically to a larger national and/or global issue; solution contributes to addressing the national/global issue	<input type="checkbox"/> Some research or evidence suggests limited connection to national or global issue
Step 3: Get help				
<i>Related question in proposal: List the names of individuals and organizations you plan to work with on your Gold Award project</i>				
F	Team members are identified	<input type="checkbox"/> Has established a team of 3-5 members that may include family as well community members <input type="checkbox"/> Team includes at least 2 people who are not family members or Girl Scouts <input type="checkbox"/> Team includes members of the community impacted by the issues and/or team members with expertise in the area of the issue	<input type="checkbox"/> Has established a team of 3-5 people that includes community members <input type="checkbox"/> Team includes at least 2 people who are not family members or Girl Scouts	<input type="checkbox"/> Team includes Self, Family, and Girl Scouts only OR is comprised of fewer than 3 team members
<i>Related question in proposal: Girl Scout Gold Award Project Advisor information</i>				
G	Project Advisor is identified and supports your issue	<input type="checkbox"/> Advisor has expertise in one or more areas of the selected issue <input type="checkbox"/> Additional experienced advisors are listed as part of the team	<input type="checkbox"/> Advisor has expertise in one or more areas of the selected issue	<input type="checkbox"/> Advisor is a family member or troop leader/volunteer OR does not have knowledge of issue
Step 4: Create a plan				
<i>Related question in proposal: I will address the root cause by...</i>				
H	Clear project description	<input type="checkbox"/> Project plan shows both careful attention of detail and creative thinking and as a result there is particularly innovative approach/plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Project is clearly described and shows a well constructed approach on how the root cause will be addressed	<input type="checkbox"/> Project is vaguely described and it is unclear what will be done
<i>Related questions in proposal: The skills, knowledge, and/or attitudes my target audience will gain are; I will know that my audience has gained the desired skills/knowledge because; Measurement of my project's success chart</i>				
I	Project will have a measurable impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Impact is clearly defined and measurable <input type="checkbox"/> There is a clear measurement tool defined <input type="checkbox"/> Project's impact is clearly defined and a significant amount of individuals would be impacted	<input type="checkbox"/> Impact is clearly defined and measurable <input type="checkbox"/> There is a clear measurement tool defined	<input type="checkbox"/> Impact is vague or not realistically measurable
<input type="checkbox"/> Impact does not relate to issue or is not defined.				

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J	Project goals are clearly defined and realistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple goals are clearly defined OR one especially ambitious goal is outlined	<input type="checkbox"/> At least one goal is clearly defined and connected to project impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Goals lack detail and are not clearly connected to planned project impact	<input type="checkbox"/> No goals identified
<i>Related question in proposal: My Gold Award will be sustained by...</i>					
K	Project plan will ensure sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan for sustainability is especially strong, galvanizing others beyond the target audience to participate in the solution and/or advocate for involvement across multiple communities <input type="checkbox"/> Project is sustainable in more than one of the ways described in the "meets standards" column	<input type="checkbox"/> There is a clear, thoughtful plan that leads to sustainability beyond the Girl Scout's involvement by doing one of the following: 1) Creates a permanent solution AND includes a plan to make sure it's used and maintained. 2) Educates others by inspiring them to change their attitudes, beliefs, or behaviors AND has a plan for proving the changes by using a measurement tool and either a) putting a plan in place to continue the education beyond the girls' involvement or b) enacting a call to action. 3) Advocates to change a rule, regulation, or law AND engages others in the advocacy. <input type="checkbox"/> If applicable, there is confirmation from the Community Partner that they have given their permission for the project.	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposal is unclear about how the project will continue, or relies on hoping someone else will sustain it	<input type="checkbox"/> There is no plan for the project to be continued, or the solution cannot be maintained following the project (i.e. it is a service project)
<i>Related question in proposal: I will put my plan in to action by...</i>					
L	Timeline is realistic and appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> There is a comprehensive and realistic plan that highlights all major steps of the projects and totals about 80 hours. Plan indicates when and how team members will be involved.		<input type="checkbox"/> Plan is confusing or unrealistic and/or is less than 80 hours.	
M	Active leadership role planned and defined	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposal outlines a strategy to effectively lead a diverse team and demonstrates how the leadership skills will be transferred to team members and target audiences.		<input type="checkbox"/> The strategy to engage teammates is limited and includes assigning minor roles and peripheral tasks	<input type="checkbox"/> There is no strategy to lead a team or engage others to help, or project appears to be driven by adult
<i>Related question in proposal: Estimate your project expenses and how you plan to meet those costs</i>					
N	Budget is realistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Budget provides comprehensive description of project costs and clear explanations of how costs will be met <input type="checkbox"/> Supply lists coordinate with costs		<input type="checkbox"/> Budget provides incomplete information about project costs or how those costs will be met. <input type="checkbox"/> Girl plans to raise money or fundraise for another organization in a way that is not permitted	

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O	Income and money-earning activity explanations	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan follows all money-earning policies		<input type="checkbox"/> There is no explanation about income OR disregards money-earning policy	
<i>Related question in proposal: The skills I plan to develop as I work toward earning my Gold Award are...</i>					
P	Leadership development	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies skills or personal strengths to be used and developed through the project	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides incomplete information about leadership and personal strengths	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not include information about leadership or personal strengths; does not identify a goal for developing a new skill.	
<i>Related question in proposal: I will let others know about my Gold Award by promoting via...</i>					
Q	Tell the World: Plan to actively share project	<input type="checkbox"/> Identifies methods to be used for sharing the results of the project	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not complete this step		
	Additional Reviewer Feedback/Notes				
Step 5: Present plan and get feedback					