

Do you want to  
change the world?  
Go for...



## Girl Scout Silver Award *for Girl Scout Cadettes*

Girl Scouts are all about making the world a better place and High Awards create the chance for girls to make big things happen! Find the full requirements at [GirlScoutsToday.org](http://GirlScoutsToday.org).

### Requirements at a Glance

1. Complete a Cadette-level journey.
2. Four or fewer Girl Scouts must contribute to the project. Larger troops can work in groups of two-four, tackling different projects working towards a similar theme.
3. Dedicate a minimum of 50 hours per girl towards a sustainable project to benefit the community.
4. Each Girl Scout must submit her own Silver Award final report online prior to advancing to the Senior level.

As Girl Scouts achieve this award, they will:

- Discover who they are, what they care about, and how they can use their talents.
- Connect with other people locally and globally, to make a difference in the world.
- Take Action to do something to make the world a better place – our mission!

Follow the guide to successfully earn the Silver Award with your Girl Scout Troop.



# Discover.

Begin counting hours now!

**What topics interest your girls?**

**What business, programs, or public spaces can your troop visit that relates to the topics of interest?**

## **Go explore your community!**

As you visit the different places or programs, ask your contact at the place or program the questions below. This will model to the girls how to begin identifying "needs" in their community.

1. Why does the community need this place or program? What does it do for the community?
2. What is the big problem you are trying to help in the community?
3. What would the place or program need to be able to help more people, animals, etc.?
4. Do you have a wish list? Projects or things you need?

After the visit, have the girls reflect and answer back the questions. Make notes below.

## **Brainstorm with the girls.**

Review the notes from the different places and programs and create a mind map! Tell the girls to mention any idea no matter how crazy and this will help them come up with ideas. Take a large piece of paper or board and write the need in the middle. Then have girls come up with ideas to add to the map.

Ask:

- What place/program does your troop want to help? What is the need?
- Can you find a "root cause" of this need?
- How can your troop address the "root cause" in our community?

Keep asking, "why?"



# Connect.

## **Choose the project.**

Step back and take a look at the list of things the girls wrote and have them decide which ideas they think they can accomplish. Write the top three below and vote on which project to do:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Final topic:**

**Goal:**

After your troop votes and selects the final project, then begin organizing the next steps.

**What are the steps to reach your goal?**

**Whom do we ask for help? Who else needs to be involved?**

**What supplies do we need?**

**When would we like to complete the project?**

**How will the project be sustainable?**

Educating others about the topic is a great option to make the project sustainable. Try to associate with an organization that will continue your project.

# Take action.

It's time to implement the plans your troop has made!

## Tips for troop leaders:

After your troop votes and select the final project, then begin organizing the next steps.

- Do not be afraid to change plans.
- When difficulties come up, have the girls in your troop problem-solve them.
- If a Girl Scout does not get her task accomplished on time, extend the deadline. However, use this moment to show how this will impact the steps that need to happen to accomplish the award.
- If your troop is collecting donations, have the Girl Scouts present why they are collecting donations but adult volunteers have to ask for funds.
- If it looks as if your troop must spend a lot of money on the project, brainstorm with the girls if the funds are necessary or if there are other options.
- According to IRS tax rules, a direct monetary donation to a non-profit from a troop is not allowed. Use funds to buy supplies or make an improvement.
- Have the girls track their hours but keep a backup log.
- Have members of the troop give a presentation to parents to educate them about the project and why they want to tackle the issue.
- Take photos and videos while achieving the award and submit them with your final application. Our council loves to showcase awards on social media!
- Email [Info@GirlScoutsToday.org](mailto:Info@GirlScoutsToday.org) with any questions.

## Finally, reflect on your troop's accomplishments.

- Each girl will submit their Silver Award application at [GirlScoutsToday.org](http://GirlScoutsToday.org).
- Fill out the form with your project team. The questions will help them reflect. The questions are on the next page.

Please remember that projects are not denied. If the application is missing a vital component to meet the Silver Award requirements, a staff member will reach out and help your troop.

You've got this! Thank you for helping Girl Scouts change the World!



Scan the QR code to  
learn more about the  
Silver Award.



# Application questions.

**Review the Silver Award application questions as a team.**

The total monetary amount used for Take Action project:

Income:

Expenses:

If any income was left after your project, what was the money used for?

Describe what was done for the Silver Award Take Action project:

Describe the “need” you discovered in your community:

Explain your specific leadership role(s) during the project.

How did the Take Action project help the community?

Please describe what you did to make your project sustainable:

What challenges did you face when working on your Take Action project?

If working with a team, how did you work together to complete the Take Action project?

Why was completing your Girl Scout Silver Award important to you?