



About the Girl Scout Gold Award

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award in Girl Scouting; it recognizes girls in grades 9 through 12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through remarkable projects that have sustainable impact in the community and beyond. Since 1916, girls have successfully answered the call to go Gold, an act that indelibly marks them as accomplished members of their communities and the world.

The following seven steps are required to become a Gold Award Girl Scout:

- 1. Choose an issue.** Use your values and skills to identify a community issue you care about.
- 2. Investigate.** Research everything you can about the issue.
- 3. Get help.** Invite others to support and take action with you.
- 4. Create a plan.** Create a project plan that can deliver sustainable and measurable impact.
- 5. Present the plan.** Sum up your project plan for your Girl Scout council.
- 6. Take action.** Take the lead to carry out your plan.
- 7. Educate and inspire.** Share with others what you've experienced and learned.

Did you know . . .

Our more than 50 million Girl Scout alums are more successful in school, develop a stronger sense of self, and report greater life satisfaction than women who weren't Girl Scouts in their youth? It's true!

Also compared to non-alums, Gold Award Girl Scouts rate their general success in life significantly higher and report greater success in reaching their goals in education, career, and volunteer work. Impressive!

With regard to education, Gold Award Girl Scouts . . .

- Distinguish themselves among competition in the college admissions process
- Have unique scholarship opportunities
- Enter the military one rank higher than their peers

And speaking of leading, Gold Award Girl Scouts . . .

- See the value in being a leader
- Serve as role models for other girls
- Have time management down
- Have developed confidence and self-worth
- Know firsthand how to make the world a better place
- Know their way around goal-setting—which can set them up for life!

Gold Award Girl Scouts also know a thing or two about community involvement. After all, they've successfully . . .

- Tackled an issue with local and global implications
- Worked with others to take action with sustainable impact
- Benefited from collaborating with, and learning from, an adult mentor and project advisor

Girl Scout Research Institute (2012). *Girl Scouting Works: The Alumnae Impact Study*.

