The 12 Steps to Earning the Gold Award

1. Girls and their troop leaders or parents should view the Gold 101 Online Training to gain more knowledge about the award steps and read the Gold Award requirements on the GSUSA website or in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting.

2. Girls and troops begin working on their Journey pre-requisite. To earn the Gold Award girls must finish either two Senior/Ambassador Journeys OR their Silver Award and one Senior/Ambassador Journey. If you have questions about the Journeys please contact either the girl awards specialist at girlawards@gsbadgerland.org or the Program Specialist for Troops and Resources at feuquayc@gsbadgerland.org.

3. Girls and their troop leaders or parents must attend a Gold Award Workshop. This is mandatory in-person training for all girls who will be earning their Gold Award. This workshop walks girls through all of the steps of the Gold Award and gives them valuable tips and techniques for making their Gold Award Take Action project successful.

4. Girls work through steps 1 – 4 of the Gold Award Standards of Excellence with guidance from their Project Advisor.

5. Girls submit their Gold Award Project Proposal Form, Project Advisor Agreement Form and Budget Form to the Gold Award Committee (GAC). The GAC is a group of volunteers with a dedicated interest in helping girls through the Gold Award process. Mail completed forms to: ATTN: Gold Award | Girl Scouts, 2710 Ski Lane, Madison, WI 53713.

6. The GAC will meet with each girl to talk about her project and to get to know her better. When the girl leaves the meeting, she will be assigned a Gold Award Mentor from the committee. The mentor will be her contact as she moves through the project.

7. Once they have received full approval from the committee, girls work on their project. If they have to make changes or have troubles along the way, they should contact their Gold Award Mentor.

8. When the project is finished, the girl must submit the Gold Award Final Report along with their Hour Log and Recipient Information Form to their Gold Award Mentor or Badgerland Council.

9. Girls will meet with their Gold Award Mentor for a final interview. This meeting will review the girl's success and reflect on what she could have done better.

10. Each girl will receive a congratulatory letter from Badgerland Council in the mail shortly after her final interview.
11. All Gold Award honorees are invited to attend the Girl Awards Ceremony in March and will receive a
personal invitation via mail in the weeks leading up to that event. Gold Award pins are purchased by the
Badgerland Council and presented to the girls at this very special ceremony.

12. After receiving her Gold Award, all girls are then invited to join the Gold Award Committee and help
other girls achieve this prestigious award.

Frequently Asked Questions about the Gold Award

Is there a mandatory training requirement?
Yes. Each girl intending to earn the Gold Award must attend one in-person Gold Award Workshop prior to
turning in their Gold Award Project Proposal Form.

Who approves Girl Scout Gold Award Projects?
The Gold Award Committee approves all Gold Award Take Action projects. A girl may not proceed working on
her project until she receives full approval from the committee.

Who purchases the Gold Award Pins for the girls?
Badgerland Council purchases one Gold Award pin for each Gold Award recipient. These pins are presented
at the Girl Scout Awards Ceremony. If a girl wishes to have a second pin or needs to replace a lost pin, she will
be responsible for its purchase.

Who do I contact with questions?
Contact Eliza, Program Manager for Girl Leadership
800.236.2710 x3030 or girlawards@gsbadgerland.org.

Girl Scout Gold Award History

The Girl Scout Gold Award represents the highest achievement in Girl Scouts and, therefore, is a commitment
a girl makes and completes as an individual. By earning the Girl Scout Gold Award, a Girl Scout joins the ranks
of generations of young women who have made a difference both locally and globally. The Girl Scout Gold
Award recognizes the leadership, effort, and impact Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors have on their
communities.

Only about five percent of eligible girls earn this prestigious award!

Over the years, the Gold Award has gone by many names. In 1980, the name was changed to the Girl Scout
Gold Award and will remain so into perpetuity. The Gold Award has also been called:

Golden Eagle of Merit (1916 to 1919)
Golden Eaglet (1919 -1938)
First Class (1938-1940)
Curved Bar Award (1940 to 1963)
First Class Award (1963 to 1980)
Gold Award (1980 – today)