

GSCWM Council Specific

Information on Gold Award

- Although it is not mandatory, we strongly suggest that you attend a Gold Award Orientation for the most current information, requirements, forms and deadlines. You can also visit our website at <http://www.gscwm.org/en/about-girl-scouts/our-program/highest-awards/gold-award.html> for copies of all current forms, requirements and other helpful information.
- Gold Award Orientations, and other helpful programs, are offered throughout the year to assist you on your quest for the Gold and can also be found on our website. New programs are added as needed and will be posted on our website, as well as announced in our bi-weekly e-newsletter (if you do not receive this, please [register](#) on our website).
- Gold Award Project Proposals must be submitted via the Go for Gold Online application tool> The link can be found on GSCWM Gold Award webpage or directly by going to <https://www.girlscouts.org/gogoldonline/>. Please make note of your log in information, as you will need to log into the online application throughout the process. The online proposal must be submitted for review and an initial interview will be set up with the Gold Award Committee. You need to attend the interview and have your project proposal approved **BEFORE** you begin working on your project.
- As part of the interview process, all Gold Award candidates are assigned a Gold Award Mentor. Communication with your Mentor is solely your responsibility. We ask that you maintain contact on a monthly basis, or more as needed. Your Mentor is there to offer you guidance and help where she can and assist you in succeeding. She is one of your greatest resources, so be sure to take advantage of her expertise.
- You will be required to meet with the Gold Award Committee for a final presentation once you have completed your project. Arrangements for your final presentation will be made with your Mentor and the GSCWM Gold Award staff member.
- When deciding on your project, you need to create your project based on your assessment of a community need and your effort to find a way to address that need. There is a big difference between this and simply doing service. An example of service is collections of any kind; a project might include a collection as an aspect of the project, but definitely is not the bulk or purpose of the project.

- Deadlines must be adhered to.
 - All Final Reports and final presentations need to be completed no later than April 1st to be included in that year's ceremony.
 - If the Final Report is received after the deadline, you will be invited to attend next year's ceremony.
 - You have until September 30th **after** your high school graduation to complete the requirements of the Gold Award.

- You will be asked to present a display at the ceremony. You will want to keep this in mind throughout your project as you will want to have pictures of your project as you work on it, as well as samples, letters, thank you's, etc. available when it comes time to create your display. In the past, girls have done scrapbooks, poster boards, tri-boards, and computer presentations. It is up to you what you want to do for your presentation, and it's your best opportunity to share with everyone what you have accomplished.

- You will be asked to prepare a two-minute speech that will be presented at the ceremony. You will receive instructions and guidelines at your final presentation.

- You will be asked to submit 8-10 photographs for the slideshow of you as a Girl Scout (if possible) from younger to present day. If you do not have Girl Scout photos, you will be asked to submit pictures of yourself growing up. Photos can be emailed to goldaward@gscwm.org.

- You will be asked to submit one formal picture (such as a school picture, senior portrait or other nice photo) for the Program Book. Digital pictures are best. Photo can be emailed to goldaward@gscwm.org

- You will be required to write a brief summary of your project, as well as a paragraph about yourself for the Program Book. You will need to submit the online form by May 1st.

- You should remember to involve the press throughout the project. Contact the local newspaper, cable station, etc. and tell them what you are doing. Get exposure for yourself, your project and Girl Scouts. You will also be asked to provide us with the names of the local newspapers so that we can notify them when you have completed your project. Clip any articles that appear in the paper for your display and share them with council.

- Questions? Contact: Katie Chappell, Program Project Coordinator 301 Kelly Way, Holyoke, MA 01040 508-749-3604 or goldaward@gscwm.org.

