

GSCWM Girl Scout Silver Award Proposal Form

Please complete this form **one month prior to beginning your project**. Each Girl Scout Silver Award Candidate, regardless of whether or not you are planning on doing the project as part of a team of girls or using the solo model, must submit this form in her own words. You can download this form at gscwm.org and save the document to your computer. You can then type in your complete responses before saving it again and attaching it to an email. You can also print the form and mail it in to Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts. Make a copy for your Girl Scout Silver Award Project Advisor, one for yourself, and one to submit by email to silveraward@gscwm.org **at least four weeks prior** to your anticipated start date. This will give the program staff an opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions based upon the award guidelines to ensure your project will meet the national requirements. Do not begin working on your Silver Award until you receive feedback and the go ahead from council. All girls working on the Silver Award must be a registered Girl Scout, in grades 6-8. If you are in the 8th grade, your project proposal should be submitted by April 1 in order to allow yourself plenty of time for the approval process and to complete an impactful project. And remember, we cannot help you if we don't know there is a problem. Reach out to silveraward@gscwm.org with any questions or challenges we can help you with.

GIRL'S INFORMATION

Name (do not use nicknames): _____
Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Girl Email*: _____
Age: _____ Grade as of 9/30: _____
Year of Graduation: _____ Did you earn your Bronze Award? _____
Parent/Guardian Email*: _____

*Email is our primary means of communication with the girls directly, please provide an email address you check regularly.

TROOP INFORMATION

Troop Number: _____ Troop Leader's Name: _____
Troop Leader/ Email*: _____

*Email is our primary means of communication with the girls directly. We ask for your email in case we need to reach out to you directly.

PROJECT ADVISOR'S INFORMATION

Your Project Advisor is someone from the community who can help you with your project topic, who has knowledge in the field you are working on. Your Project Advisor **is not** your troop leader or a family member. If you are working in a small team, your team only needs one Project Advisor.

Project Advisor's Name: _____
Project Advisor's Title and Organization: _____
Project Advisor's Email: _____
Project Advisor's Phone Number: _____
Why have you chosen this person to be your Project Advisor? _____

SILVER AWARD PREREQUISITE AND PREPARATION

Title of the Cadette level Journey you completed: _____

Date Journey was completed: _____

Provide a brief description of your Journey Take Action project and the skills that you learned from it:

Did you attend a council Strive for Silver Workshop? _____

Date: _____ Location: _____

PROJECT BENEFICIARY

Name of Project Beneficiary: _____

Full Address of Project Beneficiary: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

If you plan to provide the program/project to more than one site, please list additional beneficiary names and addresses.

GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD TAKE ACTION PROJECT

Project Title: _____

Anticipated Start Date: _____ Target Completion Date*: _____

*Silver Award Project and Final Report must be completed by September 30th of the year you begin 9th grade.

Project Category: (check the box of the one category most related to your project)

- Animals
- Civic Engagement/Social Justice
- Education
- Environmental/Education
- Life Skills
- Public Safety
- Youth Development
- Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Disability
- Elderly Issues
- Health/Nutrition
- Outdoors
- Sports
- Other (please specific): _____
- Children’s Issues
- Disaster/Emergency
- Entrepreneurship
- Healthy Relationships
- Poverty/Homelessness
- STEM

The Silver Award may be earned by an individual Cadette or as part of a small group of no more than 2-4 girls in total working toward earning their Silver Awards.

- I will earn my Silver Award as an **individual**.
- I will earn my Silver Award as part of a **small team** of Cadettes, each of us filling out our own Silver Award Proposal Forms. The members of my team are:

- 1: _____
- 2: _____
- 3: _____

The Silver Award requires you to work with a team of community members to complete your project, even if you are using the solo model. Please list the community members/groups/organizations you intend to lead in your project. This is a preliminary list that may grow through the course of your project.

Team Member’s Name	Affiliation	Role/Tasks they will help you with

*Use additional space as needed.

#1: SILVER AWARD TAKE ACTION PROJECT

In as much detail as possible describe exactly what your Silver Award Take Action Project is, and what you actually plan to do. The more we understand about what you will DO, the less follow-up we will need.

#2: IDENTIFYING THE ISSUE

Why will your project matter to your community? Who will your project help and what is your target audience?

What is the issue you will be addressing with your project?

Silver Award Projects should target the root cause of a community issue. What is the root cause of this issue?

How does your project address the root cause?

#3: WHY IT MATTERS TO YOU

Why have you chosen this project? Discuss your reasons and personal drive for selecting this project.

#4: SUSTAINABILITY

All Silver Award projects need to include a plan for sustainability beyond your involvement-a way to keep it going even after you're done. How do you plan to ensure your project is sustainable and makes a lasting impact in the community?

#5: MEASURING YOUR PROGRESS AND IMPACT

Silver Award projects should have at least one goal to help you truly make an impact. What is your goal and how will you measure your progress toward your goal?

#6: COMMUNITY SERVICE VERSUS A TAKE ACTION PROJECT

Community Service is doing something **FOR** the community, a short-term or one-time fix; while a Take Action Project is doing something **WITH** the community, picking up from where that short-term fix leaves off or addressing the root cause in a new and different way. How is your project different than a community service project?

#7: LEADERSHIP

What strengths, talents, and skills do you have that you plan to put into action while working on your project? How will you show your leadership during your project? If you are working as part of a small team, each of you must have different leadership responsibilities.

What skills do you hope to develop while working on your project?

#8: GLOBAL CONNECTION

How have other groups or organizations around the country addressed your community issue and what can you learn from them? How can you extend the reach of your project into other communities?

#9: SHARING YOUR STORY

How will you let others know about your project and the community issue it addresses? How will you advocate for the issue by teaching, inspiring, or educating others?

#10: PROJECT EXPENSES

Estimate your overall project expenses. How do you plan to meet these costs?*

*Follow the guidelines found in your Silver Award materials or the online resources at gscwm.org for Money-Earning Activities and Gifts-in-Kind and be sure to receive approval from the council prior to doing any money-earning activities or donation asks. Money-earning activities absolutely should not be the bulk of your time or the main focus of your Silver Award project. Be creative-you do not need a lot of money to make a big impact on your community.

A SILVER AWARD PROJECT:

- Cannot be just a collection or a donation drive
- Cannot be a fundraiser or money-earner for any other organization
- Is not simply volunteering time for another organization
- Is not simply volunteering time in an already existing project or doing the work of someone else
- Is not a one-time, short-term fix
- Cannot have more than four girls working on it
- Must address the root cause of the issue found in the community
- Must make a measurable impact on the community
- Must include a plan for sustainability

CHANGES TO YOUR APPROVED SILVER AWARD PROPOSAL:

We know that changes sometimes need to be made and that's okay. If you are making changes to your project that affects the scope of your project or your project is taking on a totally new direction, you need to update your Silver Award Proposal Form and send it to the council for review before moving forward.

SILVER AWARD TIMELINE:

- Begin working on your Silver Award Project once you have received the feedback and approval from council. Be sure to submit your Proposal four weeks prior to your expected start date.
- Submit your Final Report at least **one month prior** to the deadline to make sure we have time for the approval process and to make any adjustments that may be needed for approval.
- To participate in our council's June ceremony your project, including the Final Report and approval, must be complete **by April 1**. Final Reports and approvals received after April 1 means you will attend the following year's ceremony. **April 1 is ONLY** for girls wanting to attend the current year's ceremony.
- The final deadline for completion of Silver Award Projects and submission of all paperwork is **September 30** of the year you **enter** 9th grade. This means you have the full summer to finalize a truly impactful and meaningful project.

SILVER AWARD CADIDATE:

By signing this document or typing my full name below, I verify that all the information on this document is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have fully read and understand the Silver Award Girl Guidelines and the information of this Silver Award Proposal Form.

Your Signature: _____ Date: _____

TROOP LEADER/VOLUNTEER:

By signing this document or typing my full name below, I verify that all of the information in this document is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have reviewed the requirements and guidelines of the Girl Scout Silver Award set forth by GSUSA and Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts, and I believe that this project aligns with the requirements.

Troop Leader/Volunteer Signature: _____ Date: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Use this space to share any other information you would like us to consider when reviewing your Silver Award Proposal Form.