

Girl Scout Silver Award: A Guide for Project Advisors

What is the Silver Award?

The Silver Award is the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout can earn. It's a leadership award for projects that address a root cause of a community issue with sustainable and measurable solutions. To become a Silver Award Girl Scout, girls focus on an issue they care about, learn the facts, and take action to make a difference. They gain the confidence and skills that will catapult them to lifelong success. Work can be done individually or within a small group of up to four Cadette Girl Scouts.

What types of projects are Silver Award-eligible?

A Silver Award project must reflect the following: The Girl Scout has identified the root cause of a community issue she's passionate about, and the action she takes must address a real need and have a long-term benefit. She must show leadership by guiding a team of volunteers, and the project must be sustainable and measurable.

How long does a Silver Award project take to complete?

Silver Award projects require a commitment of at least 50 hours per girl. The timeline is designed by the Girl Scout(s) and enhanced with your input.

Who can be a project advisor?

A project advisor is an adult who chooses to be part of a Silver Award team and is an expert on the issue the project addresses. Parents, caregivers, or troop leaders of girls pursuing the Silver Award cannot be advisors. We encourage Girl Scouts to branch outside of their comfort zone to expand their network and make a true impact on their community.

How can I support a Girl Scout Silver Award project?

Although the project advisor role is flexible, here are some ways you can show your support:

- Recognize that a Silver Award project is as unique as the Girl Scouts involved.
- Let her interview you to help her better understand the issue she's addressing.
- Refer girls to colleagues or acquaintances of yours for interviews or advice.
- As research and plans form for the project, refer her to relevant books, web resources, and/or organizations.
- Offer to act as a sounding board for any questions that may come up throughout the project.
- Help brainstorm the metrics most useful in ensuring the project has a measurable, long-lasting impact.
- Offer to review her final report before it's submitted.

