



# **OVERSEAS GUIDE FOR THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD**

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# The Girl Scout Silver Award

The Girl Scout Silver Award, the highest award a Girl Scout 11-14 can earn, is symbolic of accomplishments in Girl Scouting and community activities, as a girl becomes her best self and builds the world around her. The Girl Scout Silver Award project should benefit a girl's community, which can include her school, Girl Scout Overseas Committee, city or town, or a more global community, and can be earned as an individual or as part of a group.

The Girl Scout Silver Award was introduced in *You Make the Difference* in 1980. This new award helped girls focus on four areas: skill development, leadership, service, and career exploration. Its roots are found in a tradition of leadership awards for Girl Scouts: The Golden Eaglet of Merit (1916-1919), The Golden Eagle (1919-1938), First Class (1938-1940), The Curved Bar (1940-1963) and First Class (1963-1980).

## Overseas Committee Role in the Girl Scout Silver Award Process

### Orientation/Training Overview

- **Girls** — get the word out to girls and provide orientation in a number of ways — take ten minutes after activities or special events to talk about the Girl Scout Silver Award. Remember to inform girls who are individually registered about the award and the benefits of going for it. Circulate the job description of project advisor to girls to share with adults they might want to recruit.
- **Troop advisors and project advisors** — arrange for dissemination of written materials and forms and orientation/training of troop advisors through roundtables, mentoring, and formal training venues. Circulate the job description to advisors and prospective project advisors.
- **Recruit volunteers to provide support** —
  - To troop advisors. When possible, work towards the recruitment of project advisors at the overseas committee or community level.
- **Overseas Committee** — determines who coordinates Girl Scout Silver Award process. Make sure that everyone knows who the “go-to” person is and a back-up person to assist. Build communication for the support structures to assist girls. When possible, encourage Overseas Committee members to recruit project advisors when doing community networking.

## Ways to Market the Girl Scout Silver Award

- Present the “Go for It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert (the girls’ resource) at advisor round tables and orientation/training for advisors. (Available end of June, 2004.)
- Publish articles in your advisor newsletter and girl newsletters (print and online).
- Make access a goal in promoting the Girl Scout Silver Awards to girls and project advisors. Do **all** girls registered as Girl Scouts know about the Girl Scout Silver Awards? Do Overseas Committee member(s) charged with community outreach recruit Girl Scout Silver Award advisors?
- Have girls link to [girlscouts.org](http://girlscouts.org) and [studio2b.org](http://studio2b.org). Information will appear under “Girl Scout Central” on the GSUSA Web site and on the [studio2b.org](http://studio2b.org) Web site for girls 11-17.
- Include information for girls at events for ages 11-14 (as well as ten-year-olds).
- Focus on what makes a great project by highlighting elements of great projects from the past. (See page 26 for “**From Good to Great Projects: Successful Girl Scout Silver Award Projects.**”)
- Use pages from this guide for appropriate audiences. For example, comparison charts might be very helpful for long-time leaders and girl members.
- Inform your community about the Girl Scout Silver Award through media outlets, speaking engagements and community fairs. Actively recruit project advisors in the community. Publicize the best projects, especially with the organizations that benefited.
- Engage parents in a girl’s leadership project. (See resource provided on page 35.)
- Create a display with new Girl Scout Silver Award materials.

## Interpreting Money Earning Guidelines

**Safety-Wise** and the **Blue Book of Basic Documents** are very clear about the role of the girl and the role of the adult in money earning in Girl Scouting. Although troops cannot raise money for specific organizations or causes, they can decide to donate or use their money for specific actions, including a Girl Scout Silver Award project. For a discussion on how Overseas Committees might help individual girl members, see the discussion on “*Interpreting Money Earning Guidelines*” in the **Overseas Guide for Gold Award Projects**. The important thing is to make sure girls and adult advisors understand that any money earning or gifts-in-kind must be approved through the Overseas Committee.

## **Tracking the Girl Scout Silver Award Girls**

- Review any money earning activities associated with the award.
- Interpret questions having to do with safety, money earning, or appropriateness of the activity or impact upon the community.
- Assess Overseas Committee need for keeping information on past projects and database of Girl Scout Silver Award recipients.

## **Celebration and Recognition**

- Create your own certificate, pins, and charms.
- Let volunteers and girls know the options for recognition. (Celebration can happen at the group, or overseas committee level.) Set and publicize the ceremony date.
- Provide community recognition of Girl Scout Silver Awardees. While some overseas committees publish pictures and project descriptions in local papers or on their Web site; others hold an overseas committee-wide recognition ceremony, often combined with Gold Awardees.

## **Forms**

- Girl Scout Silver Award Project Report — this is in Girl Scout Central on [girlscouts.org](http://girlscouts.org).
- Girl Scout Silver Award proposed/actual budget from “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert.
- Girl Scout Silver Award individual log from “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert.

## **Tools and Resources**

- The “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert for *STUDIO 2B Basics* binder.
- *STUDIO 2B Basics* binder
- *Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17*
- STUDIO 2B Focus Books
- *Leader* magazine insert on the Girl Scout Silver and Gold Awards, Summer 2004
- *The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors*
- Resources ► STUDIO2B for the latest updates

- Your community and its many resources. Here's a list to start from:
  - ASPIRA, Inc.
  - Campus Girl Scouts
  - City Government offices
  - Chamber of Commerce
  - Elks Club
  - Employee groups
  - General Federation of Women's Clubs International
  - Girls' religious affiliations
  - Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
  - Kiwanis International
  - Lions Club International
  - Libraries
  - LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens)
  - MANA—A National Latina Organization
  - National Coalition of 100 Black Women
  - National Council of La Raza
  - National government agencies with local offices e.g., US Forest Service, National Park Service
  - National Peace Corps Association
  - Non-profit organizations focusing on community issues (e.g., United Way)
  - PTA
  - Rotary International
  - School principals
  - Soroptimist International
  - Special interest groups related to a girl's project, e.g., Society of Women Engineers
  - State government offices
  - Tribal councils
  - Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
  - Zonta International



## **Benefits of Earning the Girl Scout Silver Award**

- 1.** The Girl Scout Silver Award is recognized as the second highest award in Girl Scouting. It is a national award with national standards, awarded by your council on behalf of Girl Scouts of the USA.
- 2.** You are recognized as a future community leader if you have earned the Girl Scout Silver Award as an individual or as part of a group.
- 3.** Although you don't have to do the Girl Scout Silver Award before going for the Girl Scout Gold Award, going for the Girl Scout Silver Award develops skills that will allow you to stretch in going for the Girl Scout Gold Award.
- 4.** You'll find yourself supported by the community while on your quest for leadership in many ways. Being a Girl Scout will open many doors.
- 5.** Having your family members pitch in to help with your project can be fun! It can be a positive time spent working together.
- 6.** Believe it or not, younger girls will look up to you when you earn that award. Are you prepared to help mentor someone?
- 7.** Learning to work closely with a group to accomplish your goal for the community can be a lesson in cooperation, leadership, and compromise. Teamwork is a skill that goes beyond the sports field.
- 8.** Working on a Girl Scout Silver Award is a safe way to build your leadership skills while acting on a community issue you really care about.
- 9.** You will build skills and expand your knowledge. Who knows what you can accomplish before you set the goal and go for it!
- 10.** You will create change in the world around you.
- 11.** Working on the project with friends can be a lot of fun!



## What's Old, What's New and What's the Same?

2002-2003 Version

2004 Version

### GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD GUIDELINES:

- Guidelines outlined in handbook. Girls asked to journal.
- Girls may work as a group on a Girl Scout Silver Award; each girl must have a distinct part and put in the hours required.
- The project can be done in or outside of Girl Scouting and must reflect some aspect of community service. If the project is done within Girl Scouting, a girl must reach out to the community in some way.
- A girl should select a project advisor/consultant. Her troop advisor can assist her with this process if she needs help. If this role is filled by the troop/group advisor or a parent/guardian, the girl must seek guidance from a content expert for at least a part of the project.

### GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD GUIDELINES:

- **“Go For It”** Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert guides girl through progressive leadership process. Girls keep records and journal in the **STUDIO 2B Basics binder**.
- Girls may work as a group on a Girl Scout Silver Award; each girl must have a distinct part and put in the hours required.
- The project can be done in or outside of Girl Scouting and must reflect some aspect of community service. If the project is done within Girl Scouting, a girl must reach out to the community in some way.
- It would be great if overseas committees can help expand girls' world by building a team of Girl Scout Silver Award project advisors.
- **Girls must contract with their advisor and/or project advisor. Contract is in the “Go for It” insert.**

## Girl Scout Silver Award: What's Old, What's New and What's the Same?

### 2002-2003 Version

#### PROCESS:

- There are five parts to the Girl Scout Silver Award.
- The first four parts must be completed before the Girl Scout Silver Award project is undertaken.
- A girl can begin work on her Girl Scout Silver Award when she is in the sixth grade (and not a Junior Girl Scout) or 11 years old.
- Accomplishments prior to registration as a Girl Scout 11-14 can not be used toward completion of the Girl Scout Silver Award.
- Overseas committee approval must be given for any money earning and gift in kind solicitation activities associated with the Girl Scout Silver Award project.
- A girl must work with the overseas committee on any project that will impact Girl Scouting or Girl Scout overseas committee property.
- The Girl Scout Silver Award project must meet **Safety-Wise and Overseas committee guidelines**.

### 2004 Version

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#### PROCESS:

- There are **six STEPS** to completing the Girl Scout Silver Award.
- The first four steps must be completed before STEPS 5 and 6 of the Girl Scout Silver Award project are undertaken.
- A girl **must be 11 or going into the sixth grade to begin work on steps 1-4** of her Girl Scout Silver Award. **She must be 12 or going into the 7th grade to start work on STEPS 5 and 6**, the Girl Scout Silver Award project. She must complete STEPS 5 and 6 **by age 14 or before the start of grade 9**.
- Accomplishments prior to age 11 or going into sixth grade can not be used toward the Girl Scout Silver Award.
- Overseas committee approval must be given for any money earning and gift in kind solicitation activities associated with the Girl Scout Silver Award project.
- A girl and her advisor must work with the Overseas Committee on any project that might impact Girl Scouting or Girl Scout overseas committee.
- The Girl Scout Silver Award project must meet **Safety-Wise and Overseas committee guidelines**.

#### STEP 1: GET READY

- Read **"Go For It" Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert**
- Meet with advisor and develop a timeline for steps 2-4
- Make an agreement with adult advisor



## Girl Scout Silver Award: What's Old, What's New and What's the Same?

**2002-2003 Version**

**2004 Version**

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**PART 1: Earn three Interest project awards or STUDIO 2B charms** (or a combination of both) on topics related to your Girl Scout Silver Award project (found in *Cadette and Senior Girl Scout Interest Projects* and **STUDIO 2B Focus books**). A girl must work with her Girl Scout Silver Award advisor to determine which interest projects correspond with her project. (This requirement has been open to interpretation, as any interest project might relate to a girl's project.)

**PART 3: Earn the Cadette Girl Scout Leadership Award**

- Read chapter on “Leadership” in **handbook**
- Complete one activity in the “**Leadership**” **Interest Project Award**
- Spend **15 hours** or more on leadership activities inside or outside Girl Scouting
- Keep a log of experience
- Evaluate your experience with your advisor

**Part 2: EARN THE DREAMS TO REALITY PATCH**

Do five activities from below:

- Select and complete two career activities from *Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17*
- Find out at least five careers
- Spend a day at work with someone
- Research two fields in which women are not in the majority
- Interview three mothers with salaried positions
- Collect and compare job advertisements

**STEP 2: GIRL SCOUT SILVER LEADERSHIP AWARD (charm)**

Leadership Award now focuses on learning to live specific aspects of the Girl Scout Promise and Law through earning interest project awards and the *uniquely Me! The Real Deal Focus Book* charm, and then putting leadership into action.

- Earn **three** Interest Project Awards found in *Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17* related to parts of the Girl Scout Promise and Law
- STUDIO 2B Focus book and charm: *uniquely me! The Real Deal*
- Put leadership into action: **15 hours** in a leadership role
- Use “**Go For It**” **Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert** to keep records and journal for discussion and evaluation with advisor.

**STEP 3: THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER CAREER AWARD (charm)**

- What's Out There?
- Who's Out There?
- Be Your Own Boss— Earn **Your Own Business** Interest Project Award from *Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17*
- Use “**Go For It**” **Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert** to “journal it” for discussion and evaluation with advisor.

## Girl Scout Silver Award: What's Old, What's New and What's the Same?

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### **PART 4: EARN THE GIRL SCOUT CHALLENGE PIN**

1. Knowing myself better challenge activity
2. Relating to others better challenge activity
3. Developing values for living challenge activity
4. Contributing to my community challenge activity
5. Knowing about Girl Scouting challenge activity

Wrap Up questions.

### **STEP 4: THE GIRL SCOUT Silver 4 B's CHALLENGE (charm)**

This Challenge focuses on “become, belong, believe and build,” the Girl Scout Program Goals in teen-friendly language, and how activities relate to these concepts and the Girl Scout Promise and Law. The challenge is meant to lead a girl to a relevant Girl Scout Silver Award Project. **Use Girl Scout Silver advisor contract** if contracting at this step.

- **Become:** Set goals for self-improvement.
- **Belong:** Earn the charm from **STUDIO 2B Focus: Looking in, Reaching Out.**
- **Believe:** Identify an issue in school or community that you feel strongly about. Find out more about it. Use your voice to address it.
- **Build:** Focus on coming up with a solution to address a problem.
- Use “**Go For It**” **Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert** to keep records and journal for discussion and evaluation with advisor.

**Note:** Planning hours for Silver 4B's Challenge **may** be applied to the Girl Scout Silver Award hours in STEP 5.

## Girl Scout Silver Award: What's Old, What's New and What's the Same?

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### **PART 5: DESIGN AND CARRY OUT A GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD PROJECT**

Planning and action should take at least 30 hours of work. Keep a log.

1. Decide which values, experience and skills to put into action through the Girl Scout Silver Award project.
2. Decide on a project that will use personal strengths to help others. Work with your school, the community, a religious group or Girl Scouting.
3. Identify the people to work with: those who will help and guide, those who will be helped. Be sure to include a Girl Scout advisor or another adult from the council.
4. Create a timeline and a budget, if necessary. If working with a group, divide jobs and set up a way to ensure everyone is on track.
5. Carry out the plan. This final step of the project should total at least seven hours. This may be done all on one day or be divided into segments. When the project is completed, write a brief evaluation. Share the evaluation with the advisor and council representative.

### **STEP 5: THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD PROJECT**

- **Plan it.** Work with your advisor — your troop/group advisor or a Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor recruited to help you with the project because of her expertise. Planning and action steps should take a minimum of 40 hours. Use “**Go For It**” **Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert** to keep records and journal for discussion and evaluation with advisor.
- **Know more about it** — research information on it.
- **Choose it** — brainstorm ways to solve a problem, create a budget.
- **Map It** — create a timeline of project steps and list of resources needed. Get feedback from council, if necessary — like approval of any money earning or gift in kind plans related to the project or work that might affect the Girl Scout organization or property.
- Adjust plans if necessary
- **Do it!** Put plans into action.

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<p><b>Evaluate</b> with Girl Scout Silver Award advisor or troop/group advisor</p> <p>Use <b>Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report</b> available from USAGSO or log to help evaluate project.</p>	<p><b>STEP 6: THINK ABOUT IT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate with Girl Scout Silver Award Advisor using “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B</li> <li>• Submit Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report to your overseas committee and USAGSO. Use it as an evaluation guideline.</li> </ul>
<p><b>GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD RESOURCES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cadette Girl Scout Handbook</i></li> <li>• <i>Interest Projects for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts/ Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i> (2003)</li> <li>• <i>STUDIO 2 B Focus Books</i> (added 2002)</li> <li>• <i>The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors</i></li> </ul> <p><b>BEING PHASED OUT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Council Guide: Cadette and Senior Girl Scout Program Resources</i></li> <li>• Girl Scout Cadette Leadership Award pin</li> <li>• From Dreams to Reality Award</li> <li>• Cadette Girl Scout Challenge Pin</li> <li>• <i>Just 4 Girls Web pages</i></li> <li>• Sample Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report</li> </ul>	<p><b>GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD RESOURCES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• <i>Interest Projects for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts/ Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i> (2004)</li> <li>• <i>STUDIO 2 B Focus Books, especially uniquely Me! The Real Deal and Looking in, Reaching Out</i></li> <li>• <i>The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors</i></li> </ul> <p><b>NEW:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</b></li> <li>• <b>Council Guide to Girl Scout Silver Awards</b> (May 2004)</li> <li>• <b>Council Guide to Girl Scout Gold Awards</b> (May 2004)</li> <li>• Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award charm</li> <li>• Girl Scout Silver Career Award charm</li> <li>• Girl Scout Silver 4 B’s charm</li> <li>• Revised <a href="http://girlscouts.org">girlscouts.org</a> Web pages: Girl Scout Central: Girl Scout Silver Award; Girl Scout Gold Award; Where to Place Insignia on the Uniform; How to Wear the New Stuff (summer 2004)</li> <li>• <a href="http://studio2B.org">studio2B.org</a> Web pages</li> <li>• Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report</li> </ul>

## Girl Scout Silver Award: What's Old, What's New and What's the Same?

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#### GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD ADMINISTRATION

- Letters, phone calls
- System in place for honoring Girl Scout Silver Award recipients: council, service unit, troop/group
- System in place for maintaining records in overseas committee.

#### GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD ADMINISTRATION

- Letters, phone calls, e-mail, list serves, council Web site
- System in place for honoring Girl Scout Silver Award recipients
- System in place for maintaining records in overseas committee

#### **New and/or Improved:**

- Detailed information in **Go For It™ Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert** for girls
- More emphasis on planning process for girl
- Emphasis on council recruitment and integration of Girl Scout Silver Award project advisors into volunteer management system
- Emphasis on increasing diverse approach to dissemination of information and recruitment of girls and volunteers for the Girl Scout Silver Award
- Girl Scout Central on [girlscouts.org](http://girlscouts.org) (Summer 2004)
- STUDIO 2B ► Girl Scout Silver Award for information and downloads
- **Girl Scout Silver Award Overseas Committee Guide** providing more useful information for dissemination



## Roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award Process at a Glance

Girl Role	Overseas Committee Role	Troop/Group Advisor Role	Project Advisor Role
<p><b>STEP 1: GET READY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• Meet with advisor and develop a timeline for steps 2-4 or 2-6</li> <li>• Make an agreement with your adult advisor*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an overview of the Girl Scout Silver Award to girls, group advisors and project advisors</li> <li>• Help interpret options for girls, advisors, and project advisors</li> <li>• Coordinate Girl Scout Silver Award process</li> <li>• Market the Girl Scout Silver Award to advisors, girls, parents and the community</li> <li>• Provide information and training to advisors of girls 11-14</li> <li>• Keep Girl Scout Silver Award inserts and related materials in stock for girls and advisors</li> <li>• Get materials in the hands of advisors</li> <li>• Screen, develop a pool, and train Girl Scout Silver Award project advisors through established volunteer management processes</li> <li>• Provide Girl Scout Silver Award advisors for girls who are individually registered</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn the process</li> <li>• Provide clarification, support and encouragement</li> <li>• Pass on information to girls</li> <li>• Help girls create timeline</li> <li>• Advise on safety and budget matters</li> <li>• Help girls identify options</li> <li>• Contract with girls for STEPS 1-3 if project advisor not on board.</li> </ul>	<p><b>*Note:</b> The project advisor may be the troop/group advisor at this point; however, it is strongly recommended that this person NOT be a parent or guardian of the girl earning the award. An advisor should be contracted through STEPS 1-3 or 4. The project advisor, if a different person, may start at STEP 4 or 5.</p> <p>See advisor role — start by reviewing “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert and helping to create a timeline.</p>

## Roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award Process at a Glance, page 2 of 5

Girl Role	Overseas Committee Role	Troop/Group Advisor Role	Project Advisor Role
<p><b>STEP 2: Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three Interest Project Awards</li> <li>• <b>STUDIO 2B Focus book: <i>uniquely me! The Real Deal</i></b></li> <li>• <b>15 hours</b> in a leadership role</li> <li>• Put it together using “<b>Go For It</b>” <b>Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry <i>Interest Projects for Girls 11-17</i> and <i>STUDIO 2B Focus books</i> in shop.</li> <li>• Network leadership opportunities for girls (e.g., actively recruit new adults.</li> <li>• Create collaborations with community organizations in providing leadership opportunities for girls.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise on setting goals for each Interest Project Award and Focus Book charm.</li> <li>• Help girls find experts in the community to enhance subject area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide subject matter expertise</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Optional subject area advisors or mentors for interest projects and Focus Books can be recruited.</p>
<p><b>STEP 3: Girl Scout Silver Career Award</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What’s Out There?</li> <li>• Who’s Out There?</li> <li>• Be Your Own Boss— Earn “<b>Your Own Business</b>” Interest Project Award from <i>Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i></li> <li>• Use “<b>Go For It</b>” <b>Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</b> to “journal it” for discussion and evaluation with advisor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Network career related opportunities in the community</li> <li>• Possibly make contact with women’s business groups or chambers of commerce members for business advisors for “<b>Your Own Business</b>” and career steps</li> <li>• Establish contacts with local community and four-year colleges and universities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise on related careers</li> <li>• Encourage girls to use role models in the community to enhance career exploration.</li> </ul> <p>(See troop/group advisor role)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise on related careers</li> </ul>

## Roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award Process at a Glance, page 3 of 5

Girl Role	Overseas Committee Role	Troop/Group Advisor Role	Project Advisor Role
<p><b>STEP 4: Girl Scout Silver 4 B's Challenge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Become:</b> Set goals for self-improvement</li> <li>• <b>Belong:</b> Earn the charm from <i>STUDIO 2B Focus: Looking in, Reaching Out</i></li> <li>• <b>Believe:</b> Identify an issue. Use your voice to address it. Reflection.</li> <li>• <b>Build:</b> Focus on coming up with a solution to address problem.</li> <li>• Use “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert to keep records and journal for discussion and evaluation with advisor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help advisors give guidance on these steps</li> <li>• Help identify community networks</li> <li>• Recruit Girl Scout Silver Award project advisors, especially for individually registered girls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support where needed</li> <li>• Let go when needed</li> <li>• See project advisor role notes</li> <li>• If using project advisor, make sure project advisor understands role when she comes on board</li> <li>• Serve as a liaison with Girl Scout overseas committee</li> </ul> <p>(See project advisor column)</p>	<p><b>Note:</b> This role may be assumed by troop/group advisor <b>or</b> project advisor recruited for expertise. If it looks like this exploration is going to grow into the Girl Scout Silver Award project itself, try to bring in the project advisor at this point.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advise on project timeline</li> <li>• Assist in shaping vision statement</li> <li>• Advise on budget, safety matters</li> </ul>



## Roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award Process at a Glance, page 4 of 5

Girl Roles	Overseas Committee Role	Troop/Group Advisor Role	Project Advisor Role
<p><b>STEP 5: THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD PROJECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Plan it.</b> Work with Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor. Use “Go For It” <b>Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</b> to keep records and journal for discussion and evaluation with advisor.</li> <li>• <b>Know more about it</b> — research information on it</li> <li>• <b>Choose it</b> — brainstorm ways to solve problem, create a budget</li> <li>• <b>Map It</b> — create a timeline of project steps and list of resources needed. Get feedback from council if necessary e.g., approval of any money earning or gift in kind plans related to the project or work that might affect the Girl Scout organization or property.</li> <li>• <b>Do it!</b> Put plans into action.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define projects that need approval — e.g. camp or Girl Scout facility projects, large overseas committee events, partnerships with “questionable” (within the context of your community) groups</li> <li>• Review any money earning or gifts-in-kind plans</li> <li>• Provide guidance for projects that are done by more than one girl</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Give support where needed</li> <li>• Ensure that <b>Safety-Wise</b> standards are being met</li> <li>• Review proposed projects</li> <li>• Let go when needed</li> <li>• See project advisor role if assuming this role as well</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coach girl in project planning</li> <li>• Coach in safety and areas of expertise</li> <li>• Ensure that <b>Safety-Wise</b> standards are being met</li> <li>• Review proposed projects</li> <li>• Coach girl in record keeping</li> <li>• Coach girl in project implementation</li> <li>• Approve hours</li> <li>• Track work and hours of projects done by more than one girl</li> </ul> <p>Note: this role may be assumed by the troop/group advisor, however, if that is the case, consult with individuals from the community who have expertise in the project area.</p>

## Roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award Process at a Glance, page 5 of 5

Girl Role	Overseas Committee Role	Troop/Group Advisor Role	Project Advisor Role
<p><b>STEP 6: THINK ABOUT IT</b> Evaluate with Girl Scout Silver Award advisor(s) using “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submit Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report to overseas committee and USAGSO. Use it as an evaluation guideline</li> <li>• Thank those who have helped</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accept Girl Scout Silver Award Final Reports</li> <li>• Keep master list of girls who have earned their Girl Scout Silver Awards yearly</li> <li>• Determine who purchases Girl Scout Silver Awards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support</li> <li>• See project advisor role if assuming this role as well</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help girl with self evaluation and final report for USAGSO</li> <li>• Coach girl for presentation if needed</li> <li>• Sign off on Girl Scout Silver Award project</li> <li>• Submit name to Girl Scout overseas committee</li> </ul>
<p><b>Celebration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibly work with troop/group advisor or service unit to plan ceremony</li> <li>• Create an invitation list for your ceremony</li> <li>• Attend the ceremony — possibly describe ceremony</li> <li>• Be a role model for younger girls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publicize girls’ work</li> <li>• Honor girls’ achievements</li> <li>• Recognize advisors</li> <li>• Keep data on awards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy</li> <li>• Possibly do introductions at the ceremony</li> <li>• Oversee group invitations</li> <li>• Possibly work with girls or service unit in planning the ceremony</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enjoy</li> <li>• Possibly do introduction at the ceremony</li> </ul>



## USAGSO RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide Girl Scout Silver Award procedure packet to all USA Girl Scout Overseas Committees.	2. Receive and review Silver Award Project Plan Application and Final Report for completion and quality. USAGSO review process may take up to 2 weeks for each following receipt.
3. Notify the Silver Award Applicant and Advisor of <b>Final approval</b> .	4. Give approval for the purchase of the award.
5. Send a congratulation letter to each Girl Scout Gold Award Recipient upon receipt of the Girl Scout Silver Award Final Project Report.	6. To provide the necessary support and guidance throughout the Silver Award process as needed.



## ADVISOR TIPS FOR THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD

Steps	Resources	Tips
<p><b>STEP 1: GET READY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• Meet with advisor and develop a timeline for STEPS 2-4 or 2-6</li> <li>• Make an agreement with your adult advisor*</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOURCES FOR GIRLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council publications for girls</li> <li>• The “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• <i>Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i></li> <li>• <b>STUDIO 2B Focus Books</b></li> <li>• <a href="http://studio2b.org">studio2b.org</a> Web site</li> <li>• “Girl Scout Central” on the new <a href="http://girlscouts.org">girlscouts.org</a> Web site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors</i></li> <li>• Council training for advisors</li> <li>• Council publications for advisors</li> <li>• <b>Leader magazine insert</b> on the Girl Scout Silver and Gold Awards, Summer 2004</li> <li>• <a href="http://girlscouts.org">girlscouts.org</a> Web site</li> <li>• Your community and its many resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get up to date on latest techniques for working with tweens, as well as Girl Scout Silver Award requirements.</li> <li>• Encourage each girl to have her own copy of “Go For It.”</li> <li>• Encourage girls to find out all they can about “going for the Silver.” If the overseas committee provides training, help girls attend or arrange for someone to come to one of your meetings.</li> <li>• The Girl Scout Silver Award is something that has to come from self motivation—you can’t do it for a girl. Your role is coach and advocate.</li> <li>• If you are a parent of a girl going for the Girl Scout Silver Award, arrange for her to work with another advisor or your assistant.</li> <li>• “Going for the Silver” is a process. Learning is part of that process.</li> <li>• If girls want to work as a group, help girls see the different kinds of roles they can take — even in the first steps.</li> <li>• If you have a girl(s) who wants to go for the Girl Scout Silver Award, as an advisor you can help her through STEP 3. After STEP 3, or the point in STEP 3 or 4 where the girl is able to identify her project, consider bringing in a project advisor. If not, help her utilize adults who can assist with content advice. Part of the process is learning to use community networks and expertise, as well as educating community members about the Girl Scout leadership projects.</li> <li>• A girl’s project advisor can come from the community (including the Girl Scout community if the project is specific to Girl Scouting) — someone who is willing to mentor and oversee the nitty gritty of the actual project planning and implementation.</li> </ul>

## Advisor Tips for the Girl Scout Silver Award, page 2 of 6

Steps	Resources	Tips
<p><b>STEP 2: Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three Interest Project Awards (All related to parts of the Girl Scout Law in some way)</li> <li>• <b>STUDIO 2B Focus Book: <i>uniquely me! The Real Deal</i></b></li> <li>• <b>15 hours</b> in a leadership role</li> <li>• Put it together using “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOURCES FOR GIRLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• <i>Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i></li> <li>• STUDIO 2B Focus Book: <i>uniquely me! The Real Deal</i></li> <li>• Advisor and/or specialty interest project advisors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors</i></li> <li>• <i>Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i></li> <li>• Orientation/training for advisors</li> <li>• Council publications for advisors</li> <li>• <a href="http://girlscouts.org">girlscouts.org</a> Web site — see “Girl Scout Central”</li> <li>• Your community and its many resources</li> <li>• Your overseas committee</li> <li>• Parents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help girls purchase or borrow <i>Interest Projects for Girls 11-17</i> and <b>STUDIO 2B Focus books</b>.</li> <li>• Network leadership opportunities for girls through your council and the community.</li> <li>• Help girls match their interests to their leadership opportunities, to stretch themselves, and to use activities they are already involved in.</li> <li>• Brainstorm with girls (no value judgments) when they are having difficulties seeing relationships between interest project topics and the Girl Scout Laws.</li> <li>• Provide a forum for discussion.</li> <li>• Create an atmosphere of support and acceptance.</li> <li>• Encourage girls to do their own planning and make their own choices.</li> <li>• If girls are working together on interest projects or focus books, help them individualize their experience, as well as learn to work as a group.</li> </ul>

## Advisor Tips for the Girl Scout Silver Award, page 3 of 6

Steps	Resources	Tips
<p><b>STEP 3: Girl Scout Silver Career Award</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What's Out There?</li> <li>• Who's Out There?</li> <li>• Be Your Own Boss— Earn “<b>Your Own Business</b>” Interest Project Award from <i>Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i></li> <li>• Use “<b>Go For It</b>” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert to “journal it” for discussion and evaluation with advisor</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOURCES FOR GIRLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The “<b>Go For It</b>” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• <a href="http://studio2b.org">studio2b.org</a> Web pages</li> <li>• Advisor and/or career advisors</li> <li>• High school guidance counselors</li> <li>• <i>Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors</i></li> <li>• <i>Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17</i></li> <li>• Orientation/training for advisors</li> <li>• Council publications for advisors</li> <li>• <a href="http://girlscouts.org">girlscouts.org</a> Web site</li> <li>• Your community and its many resources</li> <li>• Your overseas committee</li> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• Colleges or community colleges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If doing this as a group, make sure that each girl has an opportunity to explore her own career interest.</li> <li>• Check with your overseas committee and parents for community networking opportunities.</li> <li>• Provide a forum for discussion.</li> <li>• Create an atmosphere of support and acceptance.</li> <li>• Encourage girls to do their own planning and make their own choices.</li> <li>• If girls are working together on the “Your Own Business” Interest Project Award, help them individualize their experience, as well as learn to work as a group.</li> </ul>

## Advisor Tips for the Girl Scout Silver Award, page 4 of 6

Steps	Resources	Tips
<p><b>Step 4: Girl Scout Silver 4 B's Challenge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Become:</b> Set goals</li> <li>• <b>Belong:</b> Earn the charm from <i>STUDIO 2B Focus: Looking in, Reaching Out</i></li> <li>• <b>Believe:</b> Identify an issue. Use your voice to address it. Reflect.</li> <li>• <b>Build:</b> Focus on coming up with a solution.</li> <li>• Use “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert to keep records and journal for discussion and evaluation with advisor.</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOURCES FOR GIRLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• <i>STUDIO 2B Focus: Looking in, Reaching Out</i></li> <li>• Community networks</li> <li>• Advisor and/or project advisors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors</i></li> <li>• Orientation/training for advisors</li> <li>• Orientation/training for project advisors</li> <li>• Council publications for advisors</li> <li>• Women’s professional or service groups</li> <li>• <a href="http://girlscouts.org">girlscouts.org</a> Web site</li> <li>• Your community and its many resources</li> <li>• Overseas Committee data</li> <li>• City government</li> <li>• Local library, Internet</li> <li>• Chamber of commerce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be positive in helping a girl with self-assessment, but help her identify areas she can work on.</li> <li>• Check with the overseas committee for resources in the community.</li> <li>• Under <b>Believe:</b> reflect upon putting voice to issues before there is a knowledge base. Are there times when beliefs change because of knowledge? Are there times when beliefs filter knowledge? What is the role personal values play in putting one’s voice to an issue?</li> <li>• Under <b>Build:</b> This focus and solution does NOT have to be the final focus for the Girl Scout Silver Award project. The process of identifying community networks and doing research is important to lay groundwork for the full project to come. A girl might discover her project advisor at this point.</li> <li>• In most cases, girls can be working with a Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor as she reflects on project planning. Use the girl resources in the “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert for this.</li> <li>• Girl Scout Silver Award project may take place in the Girl Scout community; however a portion of the project should benefit others in the community. For example, if doing a Girl Scout event, invite girls who are not Girl Scouts as well, or reach out to an underserved community. The experienced troop/group leader may be the person to act as the project advisor in this case, unless another adult is better qualified to help in the planning process.</li> <li>• If the project is to be global in impact, identify non governmental organizations that are addressing the issue on a global scale and look for local contacts</li> </ul>

## Advisor Tips for the Girl Scout Silver Award, page 5 of 6

Steps	Resources	Tips
<p><b>STEP 5: THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD PROJECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Plan it.</b> Work with Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor. Use “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert to keep records and journal for discussion and evaluation.</li> <li>• <b>Know more about it</b> — research information on it.</li> <li>• <b>Choose it</b> — brainstorm ways to solve problem, create a budget</li> <li>• <b>Map It</b> — create a timeline of project steps and list of resources.</li> <li>• <b>Do it!</b> Put plans into action.</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOURCES FOR GIRLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• Advisor leader/Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor</li> <li>• Overseas Committee</li> <li>• Community</li> <li>• Volunteers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors</i></li> <li>• Orientation/training for advisors and project advisors</li> <li>• Council publications for advisors</li> <li>• Women’s professional or service groups</li> <li>• <a href="http://girlscouts.org">girlscouts.org</a> Web site</li> <li>• Your community and its many resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When considering a project that impacts the Girl Scout council or properties, the <b>council should be notified</b> and act in an advisory capacity.</li> <li>• Use budget sheet in “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert.</li> <li>• Any money earning or gifts-in-kind aspects of the project must have council approval.</li> <li>• The person acting as the Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor is the person who signs off on hours.</li> <li>• Ongoing evaluation should be part of the advisor/girl relationship so that a girl is on focus and major glitches can be anticipated.</li> <li>• Arrange for meetings to touch base with girl(s) to check progress.</li> <li>• Each girl in the group should log her own hours working as the group and as an individual and have a part of the project that is “her own.”</li> <li>• Encourage girls to take pictures to document the steps in their project. Photo releases are available at Girl Scouts Central/Forms on <a href="http://girlscouts.org">girlscouts.org</a> or at your council.</li> <li>• If a girl is unable to complete her Girl Scout Silver Award project because of illness or an unplanned emergency (weather, family illness, etc.) be flexible and work with her to help her attain her goals.</li> <li>• A Girl Scout Silver Award does not “fail” if the girl has put in the hours in good faith. It is critically important to have ongoing evaluation at each step to avoid major issues at project completion.</li> </ul>



## Advisor Tips for the Girl Scout Silver Award, page 6 of 6

Steps	Resources	Tips
<p><b>STEP 6: THINK ABOUT IT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate with Girl Scout Silver Award advisor using “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award insert</li> <li>• TBD by councils: Submit Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOURCES FOR GIRLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert</li> <li>• Advisor leader/Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor</li> <li>• Girl Scout Silver Award Project Evaluation (council option)</li> <li>• People affected by the project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors</i></li> <li>• Council training for advisors and project advisors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The person acting as the Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor determines if the girl has fulfilled her goals and works with the girl to evaluate the project.</li> <li>• Project approval comes after an evaluation of the project based upon questions in the “Go For It” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert and the Girl Scout Silver Award Final report as determined by the Girl Scout council.</li> <li>• Help the girl evaluate what steps might have been taken to make it a better project, while recognizing the things that worked well.</li> <li>• If a girl does not complete her Girl Scout Silver Award project, recognize her for the awards that she has completed</li> </ul>
<p><b>CELEBRATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend a Girl Scout Silver Award ceremony</li> <li>• Become a role model for younger girls</li> </ul> <p><b>RESOURCES FOR GIRLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Troop/group, overseas committee</li> <li>• Troop/group advisor/Girl Scout Silver Award advisor</li> <li>• Council and/or service unit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Ceremonies in Girl Scouting</i></li> <li>• Assigned council staff</li> <li>• Council calendar</li> <li>• Service unit director</li> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• GSUSA’s National Equipment Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the ceremony is on a council-wide yearly schedule, make provisions for girls who do not meet the council deadline. Give options for participating in another or next year’s ceremony.</li> <li>• The troop/group advisor or Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor submits the names of Girl Scout Silver awardees to the council.</li> <li>• Award ceremonies for insignia for STEPS 1-4 can happen within the Girl Scout troop/group prior to the awarding of the Girl Scout Silver Award, or can be given at the Girl Scout Silver Award ceremony.</li> <li>• Follow overseas commiyy procedures for requesting letters of congratulations.</li> </ul>



## From Good to Great: Successful Girl Scout Silver Award Projects

One of the roles of the troop/group advisor and Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor is to help a girl or group of girls move a project that may be a good idea to a great idea. It is important to differentiate between a community service project and a Girl Scout Silver Award project. The later should involve planning and individual opportunities for leadership and decision making. When working on a group project, each girl needs to play an individual role. Here are several activities that start as good service projects, but with some careful coaching, have moved into the caliber of Girl Scout Silver Award project.

<b>Good Service Project ►</b>	<b>GREAT Girl Scout Silver Award Project!</b>
Volunteering many hours at a park site picking up litter.	Working with the park to establish an ongoing “Junior Ranger” Program for neighborhood children during the summer and weekends.
Working at the local library doing children’s story hours.	Creating an after school reading program for a homeless shelter after meeting with the children and establishing needs — building bookshelves and selecting books from donations.
Sewing pillows for very ill children in a hospital.	Assessing needs for the children’s hospital with administration and children. Teaching younger girls to sew “keeper pillows” and special head covers for ill children in several hospitals.
Planting flowers with a group in a park during a community service day.	Organizing a community clean-up, beautification day and BBQ that becomes an annual event involving businesses and families. Planting window boxes, painting porches and cleaning up vacant lots are some of the completed tasks.



## FAQs about the Girl Scout Silver Award

**Q: What if a girl has already started on her Girl Scout Silver Award. Will she give up anything if she changes to the new requirements?**

A: All girls have the option to choose whether to stay with the old requirements if they have started or to switch over to the new ones. A girl should discuss her options with her advisor. Girls can also mix and match in the two years of transitioning. Girls can also decide to receive the 2001-2003 award pins and the From Dreams to Reality Patch if they have earned the 2004 requirements — while the supply of pins lasts. A girl contemplating working on her Girl Scout Silver Award this fall should begin with the new requirements.

**Q: Can girls earn the Girl Scout Silver Award if they are involved in STUDIO 2B?**

A: All girls, once they have left Junior Girl Scouts and are between the ages of 11-14, can work on their Girl Scout Silver Awards.

**Q: Do girls need to complete the Girl Scout Silver Award before they are in grade 10 or ages 14 to 18?**

A: Yes, it can only be earned by girls 11-14 or in grades 6-9.

**Q: If a group of girls is bridging from Junior Girl Scouts in the spring, can they then begin work on their Girl Scout Silver Award activities?**

A: If girls celebrate moving from Juniors to the next level at the end of their school year (whether fifth or sixth grade) to whatever they decide to call themselves at the next level, they can start work on activities leading up to the Girl Scout Silver Award, such as Interest Project Awards or STUDIO 2B charms over the summer before they are registered “officially” for the next level. They must, however, be age 12 or in the seventh grade to begin work on steps 5-6 of their Girl Scout Silver Award project (as stated in the new guidelines for the Girl Scout Silver Award.)

**Q: Can a group of girls work on their Girl Scout Silver Award together?**

A: Yes! It is important, however, that each girl have an individual leadership role and each girl logs her own hours. Each girl should fill out her own Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert and the GSUSA Girl Scout Silver Award (if required by her council), stating what she did and learned individually (and as part of a group.)

**Q: How can we assure that Girl Scout Silver Awards represent quality projects? In the past we have had some projects that resemble service projects signed off by advisors.**

A: Ensure that both the girl and her advisor receive orientation about the award and about the difference between a service project and a Girl Scout Silver Award Project, whether it is through training, Web site information, or a marketing piece. The last thing you want to do is tell a girl her project isn't the caliber of a Girl Scout Silver Award project when the report comes in. The project at that point reflects on the adults who are advising her

and it would be unacceptable to refuse her the award if she had put in the hours and gone through the process.

**Q: Do girls need to complete the steps that come before the Girl Scout Silver Award projects in any order?**

A: Girls can do the Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award, the Girl Scout Silver Career Award, in any order, but they should do the Girl Scout Silver 4B's Challenge as the last step before doing the project. They must complete STEPS 1-4, be the correct age and be working with an advisor before working on their project.

**Q: What is the Girl Scout Silver 4 B's Challenge?**

A: The Girl Scout Silver 4 B's Challenge will help girls be better prepared and informed before choosing a project to spend many hours on. It was initiated to end the frustration girls expressed about coming up with ideas for projects. It also makes the 4 Bs (the Girl Scout program goals) a more meaningful part of the project and the logical time for the project advisor to step in to help girls once they focus on what they want to do. Since the Girl Scout Silver 4 B's Challenge represents an important part of the project planning process, girls may count the hours working on the 4B's Challenge towards the hours on their project.

**Q: If a girl has done similar activities in pursuit of other Girl Scout awards, can these activities count toward the Girl Scout Silver Award?**

A: Activities done prior to working on the awards or as activities counting towards other leadership awards can not be counted toward the number of hours for this award. However, if a girl has earned, for example, the charm for a STUDIO 2B Focus Book, which is one of the requirements for one of the awards, **she can set new goals for herself in that book.** Note: Hours earned toward the Girl Scout Silver Award **can** count toward the President's Volunteer Service Awards if your council is participating as a "certifying organization."

**Q: Do the changes in 2004 make the awards harder or easier to earn?**

A: Some of the steps leading up to the award project have been streamlined so that each step is a progression toward the most important part of the award — the action project. The project has a greater number of hours to complete, but the hours in the Girl Scout Silver 4B's Challenge can be applied to the project.

**Q: What is the difference between a troop/group advisor and a Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor in the Girl Scout Silver Award process? Do girls need both?**

A: A troop/group advisor is the adult who is working with an ongoing troop or group. She works with girls in the first three steps of their Girl Scout Silver Award —helping them get initial information, working on the Silver Leadership Award, and the Girl Scout Silver Career Award. Some resource consultants may be brought in while girls are working on specific Interest project awards, but the advisor will help girls keep on track and lay out an overall timeline. The troop/group advisor may help girls with the initial activities in working on the 4B's. Once a girl (or girls) develops her vision statement, the advisor might help her identify a person in the community who might be a great project advisor. Girls are encouraged to go beyond the group when seeking specific knowledge for a project. However, the troop/group advisor may act as the project advisor if she can fulfill that role and it is a decision arrived at by the girl and herself.

The Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor is an adult who has received training or will receive training on how to work with girls on the project. She will have specific experience related to the project. For example, if a girl is doing a project to benefit a homeless shelter, her project advisor might be the person who runs the shelter, or if girls are doing a literacy project, the project advisor might be a librarian. If girls are doing a day camp for girls, their advisor might be someone who has run day camps in the council or the community. It is possible that the troop/group advisor can work in partnership with the project advisor.

**Q: How do girls get a Girl Scout Silver Award advisor if they are not in a troop or group? Can they do the first steps on their own?**

A: Individually registered girls (Juliettes) should check with their Girl Scout council or service unit. There should be an adult in place to help girls through the process. Once girls commit to working toward a Girl Scout Silver Award, they should have a Girl Scout Silver Award advisor assigned to them. That person will work with a girl through all of the steps or up to when a Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor is recruited or that person may act as the project advisor as well. This is because many of the steps involve discussion and analysis where feedback is needed.

**Q: Is it recommended that a girl's parent be her project advisor for the Girl Scout Silver Award?**

A: For a number of reasons it is best to find a project advisor who is not the girl's parent. It is not always possible to get the full benefit of the leadership experience if working with a parent. If the mother is the person working with a group project, she might bring in a project advisor to assist her in the planning or implementation process, or make sure her daughter is working directly with her co-advisor. Avoid situations where parents do a girl's work, even when it comes to calling and asking questions. If money earning is involved, the girl and her advisor can act as a team, with the girl doing the planning and the adult doing the "ask." Girls can ask family members to help with their projects.

**Q: Do girls need to submit a plan to the council for approval?**

A: For many Girl Scout councils girls will not have to, but others may require it. Girls may also need to submit a project report at the end of their work. This form is available through the council office or on [girlscouts.org](http://girlscouts.org). It needs to be signed by the advisor. However, if the project requires money earning or involves the council in any way (such as use of council property, a public event for the community or a partnership with another non-profit group) the council must give permission for the project to go ahead.

**Q: Do girls need to complete the Girl Scout Silver Award before they work on the Girl Scout Gold Award?**

A: A girl cannot work on her Girl Scout Gold Award before the age of 14. A girl doesn't need to earn the Girl Scout Silver Award to begin the Girl Scout Gold Award. However, it is helpful, as some of the processes are the same, and many of the skills that are learned in working on the Girl Scout Silver Award are a foundation for working on the Girl Scout Gold Award.

**Q: What if girls want to help raise money for their local hospital, because someone in the troop is sick. Can they do this?**

A: Girls need to follow national and council guidelines related to fundraising and money earning. Girl Scouts cannot raise money for another organization according to GSUSA

policy. However, girls can volunteer for that organization or decide to use money from their treasury to fund the work of their Girl Scout Silver Award (like buy paint to paint a homeless shelter). Instead of marching in a walkathon, girls can volunteer to help with registration or first aid, or make sure everyone has water and a snack along the route. Any money earning MUST be reviewed and approved by the council BEFORE it is done.

**Q: Are there projects besides fund raising that girls should not do for their Girl Scout Silver Awards?**

A: If there is a question about whether it can be a Girl Scout Silver Award project, girls and their advisors should check with the council. Avoid projects that are just simple service projects, projects that involve Web sites (usually a lot of legal issues involved), or like creating a "council's own" patch.

**Q: Where does a girl wear her Silver Award awards?**

A: If a girl wears the Girl Scout uniform for girls 11-14, she can choose to wear her earned charms on the STUDIO 2B Bracelet or on the STUDIO 2B Charm Holder pinned to the sash or vest with other earned insignia. The Girl Scout Silver Award goes to the left of the Girl Scouts of the USA Membership Pin. She can wear the STUDIO 2B Bracelet and Charm Holder and the Girl Scout Membership Pin and Girl Scout Silver Award with regular clothing as well.

**Note: See also Gold Award FAQs and section on "Money Earning for Leadership Projects" under Gold Awards.**



## **Orientation Topics for Girl Scout Girl Scout Silver Award Advisors**

### **1. Girl Scout Silver Award Background**

- Review characteristics of tween girls
- Discuss what the Girl Scout Silver Award is and how is it relevant for today's girls
- Review girl and advisor materials
- Review Girl Scout Silver Award guidelines and process (see charts provided)
- Review Safety-Wise and money earning issues around budgeting approvals (See the "Go for It!" Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert)

### **2. Roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award Process**

- Review different roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award process (see chart)
- Discuss the difference that might exist between troop/group advisor and Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor role and when and how the project advisor comes into the process
- Allow for questions and use FAQs About the Girl Scout Silver Award

### **3. Ways of Work**

- Review the advisor's role during the Girl Scout Silver Award process
- Define the difference between a service project and a Girl Scout Silver Award project — discussing ways to move girls from good to great
- Discuss strategies for group projects and girls working together
- Discuss how the adult does the "ask" for money and donations and how the girl(s) can help the adult
- Discuss the importance of communication
- Discuss when to let go, when to help out, when to ask questions
- Review ways to coach girls
- Identify the council contact person for questions
- Review ways to keep parents in the loop
- Discuss how and when to use girl resources
- Review ways to coach girls in goal setting for STUDIO 2B Focus Books
- It's the paperwork — where to find it and how to help the girl sort it out

### **Resources:**

- *The STUDIO 2B Guide for Advisors*
- The "Go For It" Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert
- *The Ten Emerging Truths: New Directions for Girls 11-17*, Girl Scout Research Institute (2002)
- *Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17*

## **Orientation Topics for Girl Scout Girl Scout Silver Award Advisors — 2**

- Studio 2B Focus Books, *especially Uniquely Me, the Real Me!* and *Looking In, Reaching Out*
- List of community groups and resources developed by council
- Council staff
- **Safety-Wise**
- Service unit
- Possible handouts from Girl Scout Silver Award Council Guide:
  - “What’s Old, What’s New, What’s the Same with the New Girl Scout Silver Award Project” chart
  - “Advisor Tips for the Girl Scout Silver Award” chart
  - “Roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award at a Glance” chart
  - “From Good to Great: Successful Girl Scout Silver Award Projects”
  - “Benefits of Earning the Girl Scout Silver Award Project”
  - “Ways Parents/Guardians Can Support Girls Working On Their Girl Scout Silver Award”
  - “FAQs About the Girl Scout Silver Award”
  - “Orientation Topics on the Girl Scout Silver Award for Girls 11-14”
  - GSUSA “Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report Form”





## **Girl Scout Silver Award Orientation Topics for Girls 11-14**

### **1. Girl Scout Silver Award Background**

- What is the Girl Scout Silver Award? Brief history. Why earn it?
- What other girls have done, said about the award
- What are girl's personal goals for going for the Girl Scout Silver Award?

### **2. Roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award Process**

- Review different roles in the Girl Scout Silver Award process (see chart provided)
- Determine the difference between troop/group advisor and Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor role and when and how to bring the project advisor into the process
- Discuss options for recruiting a Girl Scout Silver Award advisor
- Review ways to do the advisor contract and ways to keep commitments

### **3. Ways of Work (possible topics for orientation or later discussion between a girl and her advisor)**

- Simulate creating a timeline for the whole Girl Scout Silver Award process
- Review STEP by STEP: 1-3 — look at girl materials
- Discuss the importance of STEP 4 for laying groundwork for a project and finding a vision
- Introduce “community networking 101”— how to connect with resources and people
- Discuss the importance of communication between the girl and advisor — and ways to do it
- Simulate creating a budget
- Find out about *Safety-Wise* and money earning issues — the girl's role in the “ask” working with adults
- Review Girl Scout Silver Award activities and process (see chart). Discuss flexibility in transition period
- Identify council contact person for questions
- Discuss how and why to keep parents in the loop
- Review the paperwork — how to use the “**Go For It**” **Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B insert** and what is required by the council
- Review questions and commitments

### **Resources:**

- “**Go For It**” Girl Scout Silver Award STUDIO 2B
- *Interest Projects for Girl Scouts 11-17*
- Studio 2B Focus Books, especially *Uniquely Me, the Real Me!* and *Looking In, Reaching Out*
- *Safety-Wise* (each troop/group advisor should have one)

## **Girl Scout Silver Award Orientation Topics for Girls 11-14 — 2**

- Troop/group advisor
- Service unit
- Names of Girl Scout Silver and Gold Award project advisors at overseas committee
- Council staff
- Adults who have been Girl Scout Silver Award project advisors
- Possible handouts from Girl Scout Silver Award Council Guide:
  - “What’s Old, What’s New, What’s the Same with the New Girl Scout Silver Award Project” chart
  - “From Good to Great: Successful Girl Scout Silver Award Projects”
  - “Benefits of Earning the Girl Scout Silver Award Project”
  - “Ways Parents/Guardians Can Support Girls Working On Their Girl Scout Silver Award”
  - GSUSA “Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report Form”



## **Ways Parent /Guardians Can Support Girls Working on Girl Scout Silver Awards**

The Girl Scout Silver Award is the highest award in Girl Scouting that girls 11-14 can earn. It represents a girl's commitment to herself and to her community, as she focuses on leadership, career exploration, personal challenges and completing a project that will benefit her community. It takes many hours of preparation, planning and work to accomplish the goals a girl has set for herself.

Parents/guardians play a significant role in supporting a girl's path to the Girl Scout Silver Award. As a parent you may be called upon to be coach, mentor, cheerleader, sounding board and chauffeur.

As a parent, you are not expected to be a taskmaster — this is the girl's project. However, you can assist a girl by:

- Reading through the materials provided to girls regarding these awards so that you feel comfortable offering support.
- Encouraging and supporting her, but not pressuring her. "Going for the Silver" is something that a girl has to want to do herself.
- Helping her choose a topic that will become the basis for her project if she asks for ideas. Remember, however, that the topic is based on her passions, not yours.
- Aiding her in accessing a network of adults who can lend insight, provide contacts, and point to resources. You may work with someone who has just the skill set your daughter needs in an advisor, or someone who belongs to a service club that your daughter and her advisor can approach for financial assistance.
- Supporting a girl in following any Girl Scout safety or money earning guidelines during her path to the Girl Scout Silver Award. This is important to assure the safety of your daughter and the integrity of the Girl Scout program.
- Allowing your daughter to stumble and learn the lessons that come with the Girl Scout Silver Award project. She will have a Girl Scout Silver Award project advisor, an adult who has been trained to assist her in partnership.
- Realizing that your daughter is capable, competent and worthy of respect as she assumes more responsibilities within her community. Provide her with positive and constructive support on this journey.
- Attending the event if it is appropriate, and joining in the celebration as your daughter is honored for her accomplishments.



## Girl Scout Silver Award Final Report

to \_\_\_\_\_ Overseas Committee

Please fill out using a word processing program, type, or print in black ink. Make copies for your Girl Scout Silver Award Project Advisor and for yourself to keep.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Your E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop/Group Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Troop/Group Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop/Group Advisor's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### STEP 1: GET READY

Girl Scout Silver Award Project Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Advisor's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Advisor's E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach copy of timeline developed by you and your Advisor.

### STEP 2: GIRL SCOUT SILVER LEADERSHIP AWARD

Activities	Date Completed	Advisor Signature
1. Earn It: IP:		
IP:		
IP		
2. Believe It: STUDIO 2B Focus Book: <i>uniquely Me! The Real Deal</i>		
3. Lead It: (15 hours) Describe:		

**STEP 3: GIRL SCOUT SILVER CAREER AWARD**

	<b>Date Completed</b>	<b>Advisor Signature</b>
What's out there?		
Who's out there?		
Your Own Business Interest Project Award		

**STEP 4: GIRL SCOUT SILVER 4 B'S AWARD**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>	<b>Advisor Signature</b>
1. Become:		
2. Belong: STUDIO 2B Focus Book: <i>Looking In, Reaching Out</i>		
3. Believe Issue: How did you use your voice?		
4. Build: Describe your solution:		

**STEP 5: GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD PROJECT**

Title of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Start date: \_\_\_\_\_ Completion date: \_\_\_\_\_

A. Describe the issue your project addressed, what you achieved, and who benefited.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

B. Discuss the reasons for selecting this project.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

C. Outline your strengths, talents, and skills that you put into action.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

D. Describe the steps involved for putting your plan into action, including facilities and/or equipment needed. (You can attach project plan.)

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E. Indicate methods and/or tools utilized to evaluate the effectiveness of your project?

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F. List the consultants and resources you used.

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G. Overall project expenses and how you met these costs (attach copy of budget sheet from your record book).

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**Your signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Girl Scout Silver Award Project Advisor:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>ACTIONS:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>
Approved by Girl Scout Project Advisor:	
Awarded Girl Scout Silver Award:	