



Congratulations on your decision to compete the Silver Award! Completing the Silver Award is a great way to learn how to find a problem in your community, build a team and work on solutions. And if you decide to go solo, it's a great way to know that it only takes one person to make a change! Below is the information you will need to help you complete your Silver Award.

Before You Get Started:

- ❑ Must be a 6th, 7th or 8th grade Cadette Girl Scout.
- ❑ Complete a Cadette Journey.
 - This includes all of the sessions and awards for the journey and a completion of a Take Action Project. Suggested timeline- 90 days (*this number is only suggested. It is highly dependent on how often your troop meets.*)
- ❑ Attend a GSWESTOK Silver Award Workshop. (*this is a requirement*)

Checklist:

- ❑ **Build your Girl Scout Silver Award team.**
 - What is a Girl Scout Cadette team? It consists of you and other Girl Scout Cadettes who are on this adventure together, plus your troop volunteer/group advisor. If there are no other Girl Scout Cadettes in your troop, seek out other Girl Scouts friends in your Service Unit—they can earn the award with you! Or you can fly solo.
 - This is also a good time to think about what you each enjoy doing most. Soon, your team will explore and choose an idea for a Silver Award Project (a Take Action Project).
- ❑ **Explore you Community.**
 - To solve any problem, you must first identify it. Start by asking yourself what matters most to you. What connections can you make between the issues that you care about and the issues in your own community?
- ❑ **Choose your Take Action Project base on your interests and community needs.**
 - Before you pick your project:
 - Your Girl Scout Silver Award should be a **new** project. (*In other words, you may not take over a previous Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award. It also cannot be the same as your Journey Take Action Project.*) Your project should also address a community need/issue in a sustainable way. Take a look in your neighborhood/city and think about ways you can find a solution to a problem you see.
- ❑ **Develop your project.**
 - Now that you've chosen a project, explore its root cause. Address the root cause in a way that displays active leadership.

□ **Community Partners**

You will be reaching out to community groups and organizations to research the issue or problem you are concerned about. This research may lead to partnerships.

- By applying **Active Leadership** will lead to Community engagement; example - educating and involving others.
- Make sure your project is **sustainable**.
 - How will your project remain active even when you and your troop are done? Will another person or group be able to pick up the project and carry it out when you are done?

□ **Make a Plan and Put in into Motion.**

- Time to get started! Create a list of the steps you and/or your team needs to do. A team works together and each girl can be responsible for a task. Set deadlines and keep to them! Consider using the chart in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting to track your progress.
- Ask yourself how much time you need to finish your project and if that timeline is realistic. We suggest a timeline of 50 hours minimum, over a 3-6 month period.
- Your time and talents are often more important than money. So, be creative! You may realize your project may not need that much money.

□ **Reflect, Share your Story, and Celebrate!**

- Complete your Silver Award Final Report by March 1st to be recognized at the Spring Girl Awards Ceremony.
- When submitting your Final Report include any additional items (photos, flyers, budget sheets, etc.) and send electronically to info@gswestok.org. If you choose to hand deliver the final report please keep a copy of these items for your records. **(Paperwork must be filled out by each girl individually).**

Financing Silver Award Projects:

Donations may or may not be need for a Silver Award Project.

There are four types of donations:

- In-Kind – products, goods or supplies: submit ***In-Kind Donation Form*** – available on our website.
- Sponsorships – unsolicited cash or cash-like donations: submit ***Monetary Donation Form*** – available per email request – info@gswestok.org
- Solicited Sponsorships – cash or cash-like donations: the ***Fund Development Department*** at GSWESTOK must issue pre-approval, contact them via email – info@gswestok.org
- Money earning event or activities: a ***Money Earning Request Form*** must be submitted 30 days prior to event – request form via email – info@gswestok.org

Only the GSWESTOK office can issue tax-related acknowledgement documents.

If you have any questions along the way please contact us at info@gswestok.org. We are here to help by answering any questions or giving you advice and guidance. Good luck and we can't wait to see how you change your world!

All Final reports must be received by March 1, 2019, to be recognized at the 2019 Girl Awards Ceremony held May 2019