

Opportunities for Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors



Girl Scouts
Change
the World

National Leadership Awards

Torch Award

This award is earned when a Girl Scout acts as a leader in their community.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Complete a Girl Scout Journey at your current Girl Scout level.
2. Serve for one full term in a leadership position at school, place of worship, library, town council, community center, after school club, or similar organization. The length of service will depend on the term specified by the organization or the particular position you hold.
3. Service hours for this award need to be separate from those used toward other awards.

Available at the Cadette (Silver Torch), Senior (Silver and Gold Torch), and Ambassador (Gold Torch) levels.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Silver Torch Pin



Silver and Gold Torch Pin



Gold Torch Pin

Community Service Bar

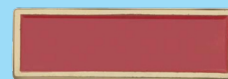
This award is earned when a Girl Scout makes a difference in their community.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Choose an organization to volunteer with. The organization needs to agree to give instructions about the work to be done.
2. Give at least 20 hours of volunteer service to the organization.
3. Service hours for this award need to be separate from those used toward other awards. Each bar represents a new project and can only be earned once.

Available at the Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador levels.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Cadette Community Service Bar



Senior Community Service Bar



Ambassador Community Service Bar

Service to Girl Scouting Bar

This award is earned when a Girl Scout provides service to the Girl Scout organization.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Give at least 20 hours of volunteer service to the Girl Scout organization.
2. Service hours for this award need to be separate from those used toward other awards. Each bar represents a new project and can only be earned once.

Available at the Cadette, Senior and Ambassador levels.

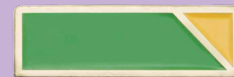
Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Cadette Service to Girl Scouting Bar



Senior Service to Girl Scouting Bar



Ambassador Service to Girl Scouting Bar



National Mentoring Awards

Leader in Action (LiA) Award

Cadettes earn the LiA award by assisting a Brownie troop on any of their Journeys.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Find a troop of Brownies on (or about to begin) a Journey. Cadettes can ask their Troop Leader or Service Unit volunteers for tips on how to locate a Brownie troop.
2. From the Brownie Troop Leader, Cadettes find out what the Brownies are doing. Talk with the Troop Leader about what they enjoy and what challenges there are. Read the Journey the Brownies are working on.
3. Arrange to be at four of the Brownie meetings. During the meeting, get ready to:
 - Demonstrate your organization skills by preparing all the materials and instructions for the meeting activities ahead of the sessions. Each session includes 2-3 activities, so there is plenty to do to keep each session moving smoothly.
 - Practice your leadership skills by planning and guiding the Brownies through one activity per session. Talk with the volunteer ahead of time so you know which activity you're leading, and which ones you're assisting with! Be sure to choose activities where you can use one of your special skills or talents.
4. After you've completed your activities with the Brownies...
 - Ask their volunteer: What's one thing you did great? What's one thing you might do a little differently next time?
 - Ask yourself: What did you discover about yourself as you guided the Brownies? In what ways did you connect with the younger Girl Scouts? How did your leadership encourage the Brownies to take action to create change in their communities?

Available at the Cadette level.

Who Approve Award: Cadette Troop Leader



MEdia LiA
Award



WOW! Wonders
Of Water Award



Leader in Action
(LiA) Award



Leader in Action
(LiA) Award

Program Aide Award

Cadettes earn the Program Aide award by completing a GSMISTS designed leadership training course.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Earn one LiA award.
2. Complete a GSMISTS designed leadership training course. Part of this training will involve learning to work with children.
3. Work directly with younger Girl Scouts over six activity sessions. This might be assisting with Journey activities (in addition to what you did for the LiA award) or badge activities. Activity sessions may occur at a troop meeting, day camp, service unit event, or GSMISTS event.

Available at the Cadette level.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader of younger Girl Scouts Troop and GSMISTS



Program Aide Award Pin

Counselor-in-Training (CIT) I

Earned by a Girl Scout through mentoring younger Girl Scouts in a camp setting as they build skills towards becoming a camp counselor.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Take a leadership course designed by a Girl Scout council on outdoor leadership.
2. Work with younger Girl Scouts over the course of a camp session. *GSMISTS currently does not offer a CIT I program. Girl Scouts may earn this award through other Girl Scout councils.

Available at the Senior or Ambassador levels.

Who Approves Award: Council who developed program



CIT I Pin

Counselor-in-Training (CIT) II

Earned by a Girl Scout through their continued mentorship of younger Girl Scouts in a camp setting as you continue to build skills towards becoming a camp counselor.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Earn your CIT I award.
2. Work with younger Girl Scouts over the course of at least one camp session while focusing on increasing skills in one specific area – such as riding instruction, lifeguarding, or the arts. *GSMISTS currently does not offer a CIT II program. Girl Scouts may earn this award through other Girl Scout councils.

Available at the Ambassador level.

Who Approves Award: Council who developed program



CIT II Pin

Volunteer-In-Training (VIT)

Mentor a Girl Scout Daisy, Brownie, Junior, or Cadette troop outside of the camp experience.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Complete 9th grade (available for 10th-12th graders).
2. Complete the GSMISTS Volunteer-In-Training course.
3. Find a mentor who is currently the Troop Leader for a troop of Girl Scouts at the level you'd like to work with. You'll work with this Troop Leader and their troop for a three-to-six month period.
4. Create and implement a thoughtful program based on a Journey or badge that lasts over four or more sessions. Girl Scout working on VIT award is responsible for designing, planning, and evaluating the activities.

Available at the Ambassador level.

Who Approves Award: Mentor Troop Leader and GSMISTS.



VIT Pin

Other Awards

Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin

It's never been easier for a Girl Scout's family to support them as they develop business skills, make amazing memories, and earn a different pin every cookie season. The simple, age-specific guidelines meet Girl Scouts where they are developmentally, making success a snap.

How a Girl Scout Earns:



Scan the QR code to download the activity sheet for your Girl Scout's grade level.

Available at the Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador levels.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Journey Summit Award

Earned when three Girl Scout Journeys are completed at your current Girl Scout level.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

Journey requirements can be found in the Award and Badge Explorer. Volunteers and Girl Scout caregivers can also find the requirements in the Volunteer Toolkit.



Scan the QR code to explore Journey requirements in the Award and Badge Explorer.

Available at the Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador levels.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Bridging Awards

Bridging is an important transition in a Girl Scout's life. It's a defining moment when a Girl Scout becomes aware of their achievements and is ready for new adventures and responsibilities. Celebrating this change should be fun, personalized, and memorable for everyone involved. And most of all, it should be designed by the Girl Scouts in true partnership with adults.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

Earned by:

Bridging to Girl Scout Senior

Bridging to Girl Scout Ambassador

Bridging to Girl Scout Adult



Scan the QR code to download the Girl Scout Bridging Guide.



Bridge to Senior



Bridge to Ambassador



Bridge to Adult

Cadette Safety Award

This award helps Girl Scouts learn to stay safe.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Learn how to make a room safe for a young child.
2. Find out about water safety and learn to perform a reaching assist from a dock or side of a pool to help someone out of the water.
3. Teach a Daisy or Brownie what to do if they gets lost and why they should not talk to strangers.
4. Work with your family to make sure you have enough food, water, and medical supplies to last at least three days in case of a natural disaster. Remember to plan for pets too. It's important to have someone outside the area who everyone in your family can contact in case you are separated. Learn who your family contact is or help your family choose a contact.
5. Discuss bullying with your Girl Scout troop, friends, or family. Write and sign a personal-responsibility statement that covers how you'll behave at school, at home, and online.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Cadette Safety Award Pin

Senior Safety Award

This award helps Girl Scouts learn to stay safe.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Take a self-defense class or ask a police officer to talk to you or your troop about self-defense tips.
2. Teach younger Girl Scouts about fire and kitchen safety, water safety, or safety on the trail.
3. Learn about the dangers of distracted driving and make a poster or PSA about paying attention behind the wheel.
4. Help two people to resolve a disagreement peacefully and respectfully.
5. Discuss the dangers of alcohol and drug use with your Girl Scout group, friends, or family. Write a personal-responsibility statement that covers how you'll behave.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Senior Safety Award Pin

Ambassador Safety Award

This award helps Girl Scouts learn to stay safe.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Pick a safety issue important to you and organize a forum where other teens can discuss the issue.
2. Talk to younger Girl Scouts about Internet safety and the safe use of social media.
3. List your duties as a counselor-in training, volunteer-in-training, or in other leadership roles you hold. Carry the list with you and use it to make sure you've covered all your bases when making a safety plan for trips and events.
4. Talk to a counselor, social worker, or someone who works at a local women's shelter to find out more about how to stay safe while dating.
5. Pick a sport or outdoor activity you enjoy. Find out how rules, training, and safety equipment are designed to protect players.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Ambassador Safety
Award Pin

My Promise, My Faith Award

Helps explore how Girl Scouting and faith offer similar ideas about how to act – and how Girl Scouting can tie into a Girl Scouts individual faith. This award can be earned once a year, every year by choosing a different line of the Girl Scout Law each year.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Pick a line from the Girl Scout Law. Find a hymn, psalm, prayer, reading, or ritual of your faith that relates to it. Think about how this shows a connection between your faith and what you've learned in Girl Scouting.
2. Interview a woman in your own or another faith community who can talk about how she tries to act in her life based on that line of the Girl Scout Law. Ask her to give you examples of what the line of the Girl Scout Law means to her and how she tries to follow it in her daily life.
3. Find three inspirational quotes by women that fit with the line of the Girl Scout Law. Put them somewhere you can see them every day to remind you to live that line of the Girl Scout Law.
4. Make something, like a drawing, painting, or poster, that reminds you of what you've learned. You could also write a story or develop and perform a skit.
5. Make a commitment to live what you've learned. You may want to talk to friends, family, or a group in your faith community about how you plan to live what you've learned in your daily life. You can also choose to make a private commitment to yourself to live what you've learned.

Available at the Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador level.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Highest Awards

Girl Scout Silver Award

The Girl Scout Silver Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Cadette can earn.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

Pre-requisite: Complete a Cadette Journey, including the Journey's Take Action project.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Identify issues that you're passionate about and how they affect your community.
2. Build your team. Work with a team of up to three other Cadettes or on your own. Either way, plan to partner with the community.
3. Explore your community to learn more about issues that interest you.
4. Choose your Silver Award project based on your passions and what you've learned by exploring your community and talking to others.
5. Make a plan and submit your Silver Award Project Proposal to your Troop Leader for approval.
6. Put your plan in motion. You and your team will each spend approximately 50 hours to earn the award.
7. Spread the word and submit your Silver Award Final Report to your Troop Leader for approval. Once your Troop Leader approves your Silver Award Final Report, then you are a Silver Award Girl Scout!

GSMISTS offers Silver Award Training to Girl Scouts and Troop Leaders.

Available at the Cadette level.

Who Approves Award: Troop Leader



Scan the QR code to learn more about the Girl Scout Gold Award.



Silver Award Pin



Girl Scout Gold Award

Girl Scout Gold Award

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador can earn.

Pre-requisites:

- Complete one Senior/Ambassador Journey and the Girl Scout Silver Award or complete two Senior/Ambassador Journeys.
- Participate in GSMISTS Gold Award Training.

How a Girl Scout Earns:

1. Complete Gold Award Training. Check out our Event Calendar for upcoming training dates.
2. Find an issue in your community or the world that you care about.
3. Learn everything you can about that issue through research and trusted sources.
4. Form a team by identifying experts and people in your community who could help you.
5. Think about the root cause of an issue, then make a plan of how you could tackle it.
6. Submit your Gold Award Project Proposal to GSMISTS for approval.
7. Present your Gold Award Project Proposal to the GSMISTS Gold Award Support Team.
8. Once your Gold Award Project Proposal is approved by GSMISTS Gold Award Support Team, you can begin working on your project.
9. When your Gold Award project is complete, submit your Gold Award Final Report.
10. Present your Gold Award Final Report to the GSMISTS Gold Award Support Team
11. When your Gold Award Final Report is approved by the GSMISTS Gold Award Support Team, you have officially earned the award and are a Gold Award Girl Scout!

Available at the Senior and Ambassador level.

Who Approves Award: GSMISTS Gold Award Support Team



Scan the QR code to learn more about the Girl Scout Gold Award.



Gold Award Pin



Girl Scout Destinations

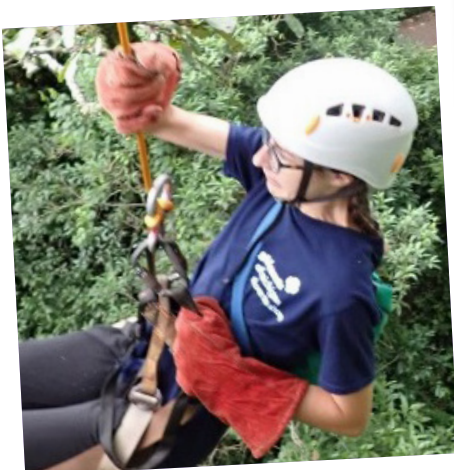
Girl Scout Destinations are the ultimate adventure for individual Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts. Push past your comfort zone by applying for a trip on your own, and make friends from all over the country as you travel with new Girl Scout friends. There's a unique, life-changing experience for everyone.

Destinations are sponsored by Girl Scout councils, Girl Guide Associations and Girl Scouts of the USA to give Girl Scouts a chance to be part of the greater Girl Scout community. The events are planned around the interests and needs of young women today. They vary in size, theme, location, and cost.

GSMISTS offers a limited amount of financial assistance for Girl Scouts who participate on a Destination.



Scan the QR code to
learn more about being
Destinations.



Mackinac Island Honor Guard Troop 147

The Mackinac Island Honor Guard Girl Scout Troop 147 (MIHG) is a group of 7th through 12th grade Girl Scouts from GSMISTS selected for their commitment to service and the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

Since 1976, Girl Scouts have had the honor of serving in the MIHG program. It is an opportunity for girls to play a vital role on historic Mackinac Island. Selected applicants serve the State of Michigan for seven days by taking on tasks including flag ceremonies, guide duties and service projects.

Being a member of the Mackinac Island Honor Guard Girl Scout Troop 147 requires dedication, service work and a lot of fun; all resulting in a memorable and valuable experience for girls. Every fall GSMISTS Girl Scouts can interview to join MIHG.



Scan the QR code
to learn more
about Mackinac
Island Honor
Guard Troop 147.



Girl Scout Advisory Board

The Girl Scout Advisory Board to GSUSA works with the Girl Scout national office on key projects and initiatives aligned with the national strategy and provides critical customer insight and innovation ideas to serve girls in the 21st century.

Applicant Qualifications:

- Enrolled in 7th – 11th grade.
- Registered as a Girl Scout at the time of application (if accepted, girls must renew their membership by the start of the new membership year).
- Genuine interest in taking on a leadership role on the national level of Girl Scouts.
- Ability to communicate with your peers and with adults.
- Ability to work well independently and on a team.
- Committed to using technology as a platform for research and communication.
- Girl Scout Advisory Board to GSUSA members serve for up to two years or until their high school graduation, whichever is first.

In January/February GSMISTS shares information on the application process for the Girl Scout Advisory Board to GSUSA on our social media and in newsletters.



GSMISTS Council Delegate and Alternate Delegate

Voting Members of the Corporation (Council) are convened at GSMISTS Annual Meeting and special meetings of the corporation to elect the board of directors and board development committee, and National Council delegates/alternates as appropriate, in addition to approving council bylaws. Voting members of the corporation include the board of directors, the board development committee, and the delegate body.

Girl Scouts who are 14 years of age or older have the opportunity to be elected by their Service Unit to be a GSMISTS Council Delegate or Alternate Delegate. Delegates attend GSMISTS Annual Meeting and vote on the following items:

- Board Members
- Bylaw Changes
- Other Business

Alternate Delegates attend the Annual Meeting when Delegates cannot be in attendance. Delegate and Alternate Delegate elections happen on the Service Unit level in the fall.

Every three years National Council Delegates and Alternate Delegates are elected to represent GSMISTS at the National Council Session of Girl Scouts of the USA.



Scan the QR code to
learn more about being
a Council Delegate.



Girl Scout Cadette Vest



Place your first Journey awards at the bottom of your vest. As you earn additional Journey awards, work your way up.

If your awards and badges don't fit on the front of your vest or sash, you can wear them on the back.

Girl Scout Senior Vest



If your awards and badges don't fit on the front of your vest or sash, you can wear them on the back.

Girl Scout Ambassador Vest





Our three Service Centers are not only shops, but also places to connect with GSMISTS staff members, hold meetings, and participate in events. Call one of our Customer Care Specialists with any questions.

Grand Rapids

3275 Walker Avenue NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49544
Telephone: 616.784.3341

Muskegon

1201 E. River Road
Muskegon, MI 49445
Telephone: 231.744.4774

Traverse City

1820 Oak Hollow Drive
Traverse City, MI 49686
Telephone: 231.947.7354