

Frequently Asked Questions about the Girl Scout Bronze Award

Q: Who can earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award?

A: A girl must be a registered Girl Scout Junior to earn her Bronze Award. Remember, as always, the project must be completed by **September 30th** following a girl's 5th grade year.

Q: Do girls need to complete the Girl Scout Bronze Award before they are in 6th grade or register as a Girl Scout Cadette?

A: Yes! The Bronze Award can only be earned by Girl Scout Juniors (grades 4-5).

Q: Can girls earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award if they are individually registered Girl Scouts?

A: Yes! Earning the Bronze Award is a team experience for a troop or group of Girl Scout Juniors. If a girl is an individually registered Girl Scout, she will need to partner with other individually registered Girl Scouts in her area. She can also connect with other girls her age, including non-Girl Scouts who may want to join Girl Scouts. Working as part of a team is essential to leadership and earning the Bronze Award.

Q: Does a girl have to earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award in order to earn the Girl Scout Silver Award?

A: No, not at all! However, it's a great foundation for the process.

Q: Is the Girl Scout Bronze Award a prerequisite for the Girl Scout Silver Award or Girl Scout Gold Award?

A: A girl doesn't need to earn the Bronze Award to earn either the Silver Award or 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 Bronze Award are a foundation for working on the Silver Award and Gold Award.

Q: Why are Journeys required to earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award?

A: The Journeys give girls a full experience of what they will do as they work to earn the Bronze Award. The skills girls gain while working on the Journeys will help them develop, plan and implement their Bronze Award Take Action project.

Q: How do girls know when a Journey is "completed?"

A: A Journey is completed when a girl has earned the Journey awards, which include creating and carrying out a Take Action project.

Q: What makes the Girl Scout Bronze Award guidelines different from the Journeys?

A: In contrast to Journey Take Action projects, which give girls themes on which to base their Journey Take Action project, the Bronze Award Take Action projects have no pre-designed theme. Girls select their own theme, design, and execute their Bronze Award Take Action project.

Q: What are the suggested hours for earning the Girl Scout Bronze Award?

A: After the Journey requirement is fulfilled, the required minimum number of hours for a Junior to earn her Bronze Award is **20 hours**.

Q: Do the hours put into planning and researching a potential Girl Scout Bronze Award project count towards the hours needed for the Girl Scout Bronze Award project?

A: Yes. Girls begin tracking all time spent working on their project at Step Two: Build your Girl Scout Junior Team. Even if a group decides not to do the project they come up with during their initial research, they have not wasted the time in learning the process required to begin planning a project, and can count these hours even if they end up completing a different project to earn their award.

Q: What does it mean to have a sustainable project?

A: A sustainable project is one that lasts after the girl's involvement ends. A focus on education and raising awareness is one way to make sure a project is carried on. Workshops and hands-on learning sessions can inspire others to keep the project going. Another way to create a sustainable project is by collaborating with community groups, civic associations, non-profit agencies, local government, and/or religious organizations.

Q: What should be the scope or reach of a Bronze Award Take Action project?

A: Girl Scout Juniors complete a group Take Action project that focuses on something the girls care about that they would like to improve within the Girl Scout or their local community.

Q: What if a girl has already done some similar activities while earning other Girl Scout awards? Can these activities count toward her Girl Scout Bronze Award?

A: Activities done prior to working on the Bronze Award may not count toward the number of hours for this award.

Q: Can a girl who is developmentally disabled/delayed earn the Girl Scout Bronze Award? Don't we need a different set of requirements?

A: The Bronze Award is something done to the best of a girl's ability. It is totally possible to work with someone who needs to adapt the program with the existing requirements. There is not a need to have special requirements for girls who are developmentally disabled or delayed - encourage flexibility and the recruitment of advisors that can work with the girl individually.

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

A: Bronze Awards are approved at the troop/group level by the girl's troop/group volunteer. Girls should submit a final project report at the end of their work to our council if they would like certificates to honor their girls. The paperwork is available on our website and upon completion can be submitted at the link below.

<https://tinyurl.com/Bronze-Award-Submissions>