



Adult Awards and Recognitions in Girl Scouts

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National Awards

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Nominations for national awards are reviewed by the GSOSW Adult Awards and Recognition Committee and are approved by the GSOSW board of directors.

Nomination process for National Awards

Complete the [National Adult Recognitions Nomination Form 502](#) and attach required letters of endorsement (see award description for details).

Submit nominations to your service unit manager by the date determined by your service unit. Service units must submit to adultawards@girlscoutsosw.org by June 15.

Letters of endorsement should include 150-200 words explaining the reason for endorsing this person for the award, information/list on the impact and results of the nominee's actions, and how the endorser is familiar with the nominee's performance and contribution to GSOSW.

Volunteer of Excellence

This award recognizes those volunteers who have contributed outstanding service while partnering directly with girls in any pathway to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience through the use of the national portfolio or who have contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery to girl and adult members. Submit two (2) letters of endorsement.

Criteria

1. The candidate is an active, registered adult Girl Scout.
2. The candidate has successfully completed a term of service and all requirements for the position.
3. The candidate has performed beyond expectations for the position to deliver the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to girls using the nation program portfolio, or
4. The candidate's performance has been beyond the expectations of the position and has supported council's mission delivery goals in one or more of the following functional areas: Membership Development/Community Cultivation, Volunteer Relations and Support, Program, Leadership and Governance, Fund Development, and Council Support Service (such as IT, Customer Service, Merchandising, MarComm).
5. The candidate actively recognizes, understands, and practices the values of inclusive behavior.

Appreciation Pin

This award recognizes an adult who had delivered outstanding service to at least one geographic area, service unit or program delivery audience. Submit two (2) letters of endorsement.

Criteria:

1. The candidate is a registered Girl Scout adult volunteer or staff member.
2. The candidate has provided outstanding service to a geographic area or program delivery audience in a way that furthers the council's goals.
3. The service goes beyond the expectations for the position.

Honor Pin

This award recognizes an adult member who has delivered outstanding service to two or more geographic areas or program delivery audiences. Submit three (3) letters of endorsement.

Criteria:

1. The candidate is a registered Girl Scout adult volunteer or staff member.
2. The candidate has provided outstanding service to two or more geographic areas or program delivery audiences in a way that furthers the council's goals.
3. The service goes beyond the expectations for the position.

Thanks Badge

This award recognizes an adult member whose performance is truly outstanding and benefits the total Girl Scout council or the entire Girl Scout Movement. Submit four (4) letters of endorsement.

Criteria:

1. The candidate is a registered Girl Scout adult volunteer or staff member.
2. The candidate has provided outstanding service that benefits the total council or entire Girl Scout organization.
3. The service is so significantly beyond expectations that no other award is appropriate.

Thanks Badge II

This award recognizes an adult member who has already received the Thanks Badge and who has continued to contribute in extraordinary ways that benefit the total council or the entire Girl Scout organization. Submit four (4) letters of endorsement.

Criteria:

1. The candidate is a registered Girl Scout adult volunteer or staff member.
2. The candidate has received the Thanks Badge.
3. Since receipt of the Thanks Badge, the candidate has provided distinguished service by:
 - continuing to perform at the same high level for an extended period of time, or
 - increasing her/his sphere of influence, or
 - using her/his skills and talents to move into other fields of endeavor.
4. The service benefits the total council or entire Girl Scout organization.
5. The service is outstanding and is so significantly beyond expectations that no other award is appropriate.

President's Award

Award for a service unit or committee. This award recognizes the efforts of a service unit team or program delivery team in moving the service unit or audience toward achievement of the council's goals during a fiscal or membership year with their focus on the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. No letters of endorsement required.

Criteria:

This award is currently under review

Nominations for these awards are reviewed by the GSOSW Adult Awards and Recognition Committee and are presented at the GSOSW annual meeting.

Owl Award

This award recognizes individuals who provide training opportunities for adults in Girl Scouts. In the learning environment the candidate must promote the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) principles while displaying exceptional attentiveness to creativity, enthusiasm, leadership, and communication. The nominee must be a current Girl Scout member and in good standing with GSOSW council policies and procedures.

Nomination process for Owl Award

Complete the [Owl Award Nomination/Endorsement Form 504](#) and attach two (2) **letters of endorsement.**

Submit nominations to your service unit manager by the date determined by your service unit. Service units submit to adultawards@girlscoutsosw.org by June 15.

Letters of endorsement (one of which must come from a service unit) should include 150-200 words explaining the reason for endorsing this person for the award, information/list on the impact and results of the nominee's actions, and how the endorser is familiar with the nominee's performance and contribution to GSOSW.

Criteria:

1. The nominee must be an active adult member registered with Girl Scouts of the USA. Candidates must have completed all required training for this position.
2. The nominee has served as a trainer for a minimum of three years, demonstrating long-term support of Girl Scouting.
3. The nominee's performance as a council trainer is so outstanding in nature that it merits recognition.
4. The nominee has trained the agreed upon number of training hours yearly for at least three years.
5. The nominee has attended two in person All-Trainers Conferences in the last three years.
6. The nominee must be affiliated with their service unit, including attending volunteer meetings and offering training on the SU level as needs dictate.

Outstanding Community Partner

This award recognizes continued outstanding support (contributions of time and/or services to local Girl Scout groups by an individual or business) of Girl Scouts for more than three years. This recognition can be earned in 3, 5, and 10+ year increments.

Nomination process for Outstanding Community Partner

Complete the [Outstanding Community Partner Nomination Form 506](#) and attach one **(1) letter of endorsement.**

Submit nominations to your service unit manager by the date determined by your service unit. Service units submit to adultawards@girlscoutsosw.org by June 15.

Candidates for these awards are nominated and approved by the service unit. Candidates have shown outstanding service to girls and/or adults in Girl Scouts, and actively understand and practice the values of inclusive behavior. These recognitions will be presented at local service unit events. GSOSW will print award certificates and return them to the service unit.

Nomination and ordering process for Service Unit Awards

To Nominate:

Complete the [Service Unit Adult Recognition Nomination Form 501](#), attach the required letters of endorsement (see award description for details), and **submit to your service unit manager** by the date determined by your service unit.

To Order Awards (service team members only):

After reviewing and approving all nominations, complete and submit the [Adult Recognition Order Form 505](#) and submit to adultawards@girlscoutsosw.org by **April 1** (one form per service unit). **Service unit teams determine eligibility for awards. Individual nominations and endorsements are not to be sent to council.** Awards listed on Form 505 will be delivered to service units by April 15.

Note special instructions for Years of Membership & Years of Service pins on page 9.

Criteria:

Nominees for service unit awards must be active adult members registered with Girl Scouts of the USA (exception on registration is allowed for Outstanding Community Supporter candidates). Nominees must have completed all required training for their position. Additional criteria may apply (see below).

Outdoor Enthusiast

This award recognizes adult volunteers whose outdoor skills are shared with a troop/group so much beyond expectations that it merits recognition. This recognition can be earned once per year. Submit one (1) letter of endorsement.

Outstanding Community Supporter

This award recognizes outstanding contributions of time and/or services to local Girl Scout groups by an individual or business. This recognition can be earned once per year. Submit one (1) letter of endorsement.

Rising Star Award

This award recognizes the service of an individual who is new to Girl Scouts and has hit the ground running. This new adult volunteer has been with Girl Scouts for a short time but has made a big impact on her/his troop or service unit, fully embraced the Girl Scout movement with energy and passion, and has performed outstanding work in their first year. Submit two (2) letters of endorsement. When possible, one of the letters of endorsement should be from a girl in the troop.

Criteria:

1. The nominee must be an active adult member registered with Girl Scouts of the USA. Nominees must have completed all required training for this position.
2. The nominee has volunteered for less than two (2) years with a troop or group.
3. The nominee has participated in at least one service unit or council event or program.
4. The nominee has attended or had a proxy attend local service unit meetings.
5. The nominee's troop/group has been kept open to new members.
6. The girls in the nominee's troop/group participated in the Girl Scout Cookie Program.
7. The nominee implements the Girl Scout Leadership Experience within troop/group programming.

Guiding Star Award

This award recognizes Troop/Group Leaders or Assistant Troop/Group Leaders whose performance working with girls is so outstanding that it merits recognition by the Service Unit. Under this volunteer's leadership, their troop/group receives the highest level of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. This leader inspires those around them and is a shining example of an ideal Girl Scout leader. Submit two (2) letters of endorsement. When possible, one of the letters of endorsement should be from a girl in the troop.

Criteria:

1. The nominee must be an active adult member registered with Girl Scouts of the USA. Nominees must have completed all required training for this position.
2. The nominee must have completed at least three (3) years as a leader or assistant leader.
3. The nominee's troop must have met or exceeded the minimum troop size (five girls) at all times, participated in the Girl Scout Cookie Program or Fall Product

Program, and be active in a variety of areas (e.g. journeys, badges, community, service, outdoors).

4. The nominee communicates effectively with girls' families and other adults in the service unit.
5. The nominee attends or arranges for representation at service unit meetings.
6. The nominee encourages participation and/or facilitates girl planning of service unit events.
7. The nominee supports and embodies the Girl Scout Promise & Law.

Years of Membership and Service Awards

Membership and service pins of 20 years or more are ordered by the service unit, but are presented at the GSOSW Annual Meeting in April. Service units are responsible for maintaining membership and service records for their volunteers. Orders for 20+ year pins are to be placed on form 505 by the service unit and submitted to GSOSW. Requests for pins are to be given to the service unit and are to be ordered by using the [Adult Recognition Order Form 505 »](#)

Years of Girl Scout Membership

The years of membership numeral guard is earned for the combination of both girl and adult years as member of the Girl Scouts. It is awarded in five-year increments. The pin is a number linked by a chain that can be attached to the Girl Scout pin. This optional pin can be purchased any time. Beginning with 20 years of membership, GSOSW will provide members a pin at no cost and it can be ordered once annually through the service unit using form 505.

Years of Girl Scout Service

Girl Scouts of the USA offers recognition to registered adult members for years they *have served as an adult volunteer in Girl Scouts*. It is awarded in five-year increments. This pin differs from the membership numeral guard in that it represents the number of years an adult volunteer has actively provided service, whereas the numeral guard recognizes years of membership only. Beginning with 20 years of service, GSOSW will provide members a Years of Service pin at no cost and it can be ordered once annually through the service unit using Form 505.

Nomination process for Alumni Awards

To nominate: Complete the [Golden Lifetime Nomination Form 517](#) or [Golden Rose Nomination Form 516](#) and attach two (2) letters of endorsement to adultawards@girlscoutsw.org by June 15

Letters of endorsement should include 150–200 words explaining the reason for endorsing this person for the award, and should include when the nominee received the Girl Scout Gold Award, how the nominee's actions since earning the Gold Award have exemplified the Girl Scout values of leadership, service, community and volunteerism, and how you are familiar with the nominee's leadership and service.

Criteria:

1. The candidate is a Girl Scout Gold Award, Curved Bar or First Class alumnae.
2. The Golden Rose candidate is between the ages of 21 and 35.
3. The Gold Lifetime candidate is over the age of 35.
4. The candidate has exhibited an exemplary example of the Girl Scout values of leadership, service, community and volunteerism from earning the Gold Award, Curved Bar or First Class Award and throughout her life.
5. The candidate should demonstrate leadership and exemplary service to her community.

Golden Rose Award

For Girl Scout Gold Award alumnae between the ages of 21 and 35 who have exhibited exemplary leadership and community service during their lifetime.

Girl Scouts helps create female leaders in our communities and our world. The values that we instill in our girls are life-long. The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award that Girl Scouts can bestow, and the young women who receive this award demonstrate leadership and exemplary service to their communities. However, those values do not end with high school. Do you know a Girl Scout Gold Award alumna between the ages of 21 and 35 who has made exceptional contributions to her community? Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington would like to honor one of these alumnae each year. You are invited to nominate an exceptional young alumna who has been a shining example of the Girl Scout values of leadership, service, community and volunteerism from earning the Gold Award and throughout her life.

Golden Lifetime Award

For Girl Scout Gold Award, Curved Bar or First Class alumnae over the age of 35 who have carried the values of the Girl Scout Gold Award throughout their lifetime, exhibiting exemplary leadership and community service.

Girl Scouts helps create female leaders in our communities and our world. The values that we instill in our girls are life-long. The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award that Girl Scouts can bestow, and the young women who receive this award demonstrate exemplary service to their communities and leadership. However, those values do not end with high school. Do you know a Girl Scout Gold Award, Curved Bar or First Class alumna over the age of 35 who has made exceptional contributions to her community? Girl Scouts of Oregon and Southwest Washington would like to honor one of these alumnae each year. You are invited to nominate an exceptional mature alumna who has been a shining example of the Girl Scout values of leadership, service, community and volunteerism by earning the Girl Scout Gold Award, Curved Bar or First Class, and throughout her life.