

Money Earning and Awards

Are you going towards your Take Action Journey Awards or your Girl Scout Bronze, Silver or Gold Award and need some money or supplies? Ensure that your award will be a success by following these guidelines to keep things running smoothly.

Girls can fund their projects in the following ways:

- Troop Cookies Sales
- Troop Fall Product Sales
- Troop Funds – girls in the troop will need to decide together to put troop funds toward project
- Service Unit contributions – will depend on Service Unit funding decisions
- Girl/Troop Supplemental Money Earning – these are money-earning activities in which girls plan and carry out events to earn money in addition to money earned through Girl Scout Product Sales
- Family/Friend contributions
- Business donations
- Youth Service Grants
- Girl Contributions – for example, converted Cookie Dough

Girls **CANNOT** fund their projects in the following ways:

- Games of chance (raffles, contests, bingo)
- Product demonstration parties or other types of money-earning for another business where the Girl Scout trademark would increase that business's revenue

SUPPLEMENTAL MONEY EARNING EVENTS – REQUIRES COUNCIL APPROVAL

Girl Scout programs help girls learn and practice goal-setting, budgeting, money management and more. Money-earning events should provide an experience that allows girls to develop self-confidence and to practice and develop skills in goal-setting, budgeting, marketing, and customer relations. Examples of money-earning activities include:

- Recycling aluminum cans
- Garage sales
- Wrapping gifts at the holidays
- Craft fairs
- Badge/Journey in a Day events
- Donation coffee stand at rest stops
- Homemade wreath sales

Money-earning activities require Council pre-approval and are reviewed to ensure the activities comply with GSEWNI Policies and Standards.

Submit applications for Council approval four (4) weeks before the requested activity date. Approval for applications received less than four (4) weeks before the requested activity date is not guaranteed. The Money-earning Activity Request form can be found here - https://www.gsewni.org/en/volunteers/troops & service units.html#money_earning_activity_application

REQUESTING BUSINESS DONATIONS – REQUIRES COUNCIL APPROVAL

- In general, girls who are Girl Scouts cannot ask for money or in-kind donations.
EXCEPTION: Senior & Ambassador Girl Scouts may solicit donations for Girl Scout Gold Award projects with prior approval from Council.
 - Senior & Ambassador Girl Scouts should submit a request to solicit donations to Council upon approval of their Gold Award Project.
 - Donations over \$250 must be sent to Council for distribution to the Senior or Ambassador Girl Scout who is working toward her Gold Award. Council will provide donor with proof of 501(c)(3) status for tax purposes and distribute donation to designated GS bank account.
 - Donations under \$250 need not be submitted to Council unless the donor requests proof of 501(c)(3) status.
- **Adult Girl Scouts** may solicit donations for Girl Scout activities with prior approval from Council.
 - Adult Girl Scouts who are soliciting in-kind donations or financial donations under \$250 need not send the donation to Council for processing unless the donor requests proof of 501(c)(3) status.
 - Donations over \$250 should be sent by the donor to Council for distribution to a troop or service unit.
 - Per GSEWNI Policy, if a single cash donations that exceeds \$250, the excess above \$250 shall be contributed to the GSEWNI Opportunity Scholarship Fund if no prior Council-approved plan exists for those funds.

Girl Scouts **CANNOT** donate money, raise money, ask for money, or do a money-earning activity for another organization or person. For example, Girls **CANNOT** have a bake sale and tell people that they are giving the proceeds to a homeless shelter for meals, ask for pledges for a walk-a-thon to benefit breast cancer research, or hold a benefit dance to raise money for Sally's kidney operation.

If you would like to request a store gift card donation of \$50 or less:

Please submit your request in writing (on your organization's official letterhead stationery) to your local Store Director and include a copy of your organization's IRS 501(c)3 tax determination letter.

You may try various local stores for donations such as Walmart and Lowes using the same requirements Safeway has set forth regarding the letterhead stationery and the organization's IRS 501(c) 3 tax determination letter.