



How to build your Professional Profile as a Girl Scout



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A big part of preparing for your future, whether that's college, internships, or career goals, includes scrutinizing your resumé to evaluate which activity stands out so that you can get an edge over the competition. If you've got your eye on a prestigious college or employment position and are wondering how your participation can be taken one step further, it's time to highlight your Gold Award project achievement. You worked hard to build a project plan that not only strengthened your profile, but is something that is driving genuine change.

Taking advantage of your Girl Scout membership can help you showcase what makes you a unique and inspired applicant who would contribute meaningfully to a campus community, organization, or place of employment.

How the Gold Award can help you stand out

So, how do you take advantage of your Gold Award achievements to build yourself up as a memorable college candidate? While working toward the Gold Award, you gain the skills and abilities colleges and employers want most in their applicants, such as:

- **Leadership** - College admissions are more competitive than ever, and students need to prove their abilities. For example, anyone can say they're a leader, but colleges and employers want you to prove you're a leader. Gold Award Girl Scouts have already proven they have leadership skills.
- **Problem Solving** - When you become a Gold Award Girl Scout, you dive deep into your passions, flex your problem-solving muscle, stand up for what you believe in, inspire others, and make a difference. Girls who take the lead in solving the world's problems, are just the type of citizens colleges and employers are looking for.
- **Time Management** - Gold Award Girl Scouts are time management experts. This skill allows you to structure your work in a way that allows you to accomplish goals, which is something all college admissions and prospective employers are looking for in successful applicants.
- **Perseverance** - Gold Award Girl Scouts are driven to succeed. Earning the Gold Award requires grit, perseverance, and the willingness to work hard in order to achieve goals. Your dedication, not only in hours but also in design-thinking and relationship-building, develops the ability for you to see how your project will be sustainable and live beyond your immediate work.
- **Project Management** - Your collaborative efforts, working with multiple community partners and team members, on the Gold Award can help hone your skills in leadership, collaboration, communication, and community engagement, which are all highly valued traits for admission into college and for employers.
- **Change-Makers** - Gold Award Girl Scouts want to make the world a better place. They show remarkable dedication to improving their communities and the world. Universities and employers want to see students and employees make an impact in their field, and the Gold Award is a standout way of doing so. What better candidate could any university or employer hope for?



How to frame your Girl Scout experience in your college application and resume

Something else on your mind may be exactly how your participation in Girl Scouts appears on your college applications or resume. Your time as a Girl Scout plays an essential role in shaping who you are and developing important skills, many of which overlap with the same ones that college admissions officers and employers look for in their ideal candidates.

There are a few sections within college applications and resumes where your Girl Scout participation can play a part:

- **Activities, Certifications, and Membership List** - The most common place where students and young professionals write about Girl Scouting is the activities list on college applications or the certifications and membership section of their resume. Volunteering is a big part of what many students and young pros include in this section, and Girl Scouts are actively involved in community service and outreach. On college applications, since there is already space for the number of hours a week and which grades you've been involved in, take advantage of the description box to write about projects you've done through Girl Scouts. If you made it all the way to high school with Girl Scouts, that really shows commitment on your part. Even if you don't earn your Gold Award, there are still many other experiences you can speak to in this section.
- **Honors, Achievements & Awards Section** - This is where your Gold Award goes. This is a big deal and colleges as well as potential employers should know you achieved this. Use the space to succinctly outline your project including:
 - How many people worked with you on your team
 - The tangible outcome
 - How many members of your community you helped.
- **Personal Statement** - If your time as a Girl Scout had a particularly meaningful impact on you, elaborate on how so in your personal statement on both your college applications and professional resume. Find a specific aspect of your work and experience that's unique to you and write a story that no one else can tell.
- **Supplemental Essays** - Sometimes, colleges ask about your most meaningful activity. If your sustained participation in Girl Scouts played a big role in shaping your personality and developing your interests and character, it could make for a good essay topic.
- **Soft Skills** - Defined as personal attributes that enable someone to interact effectively and harmoniously with other people, soft skills are an essential part of a professional resume. Examples include Communication, Leadership, Teamwork, Problem Solving, and Time Management - all skills that you've developed through your Gold Award.

Scholarship opportunities for Girl Scouts

As you look at different colleges and build your school list, many universities have separate awards and scholarships set aside for Girl Scouts, particularly for Gold Award recipients. To see the full list of colleges and universities offering scholarships to Girl Scouts, you can visit the [scholarships page](#) on the Girl Scouts website, which also features a number of outside and third-party scholarships that Girl Scouts can apply for if they meet various criteria. As a graduating Ambassador Girl Scout you're also eligible to apply for [Girl Scouts of Maine's Joanne Crepeau Future Leaders Scholarship](#).

As you embark on your adulthood journey, we hope that your Girl Scout experience has instilled the values of courage, confidence and character that will underpin your adult life.