

Tracking Sheet: Honor Troop/ Golden Honor Troop



This form is used for troops that achieve the Essential Elements of a Girl Scout Troop, and provide overall excellence in troop management and programming in a given year. To achieve this honor, leaders and girls must work in partnership with each other, other troops, Service Team and council staff.

Activities and steps must be completed by October 1.

This form is to track progress throughout the year; the final application is submitted online by March 1 to be recognized at the annual award event.

Golden Honor Troop applicants must complete all Honor Troop requirements PLUS the Golden Honor Add-ons.

Troop number _____ Level: D B J C S A Service Unit _____
 Contact name _____ Position: _____
 Phone numbers (h) _____ (m) _____ (w) _____
 Email address: _____
 Mailing address: _____
 Street City State Zip

1 st Year Honor/Golden Honor Troop Status for that program level girl and adults receive patches		2 nd and additional years of Honor or Golden Honor Troop Status for that program level girl and adults receive stars	
Number of Honor patches:	_____	Number of Honor Stars:	_____
Number of Golden Honor patches :	_____	Number of Golden Honor Stars:	_____

Essential Elements of a Troop

(Requirements must be met for the program year in which the application is being submitted.)

Family welcomed (at least 4)

As a troop leader:

- Hold a parent meeting in the fall and describe what Girl Scouts at that age level do (online resource available)
- Communicate regularly with families (Families are invited to activities, regular troop newsletter or emails, etc.).
- Encourage families to read the council eNewsletter, and visit the [GSUSA](http://GSUSA.org) and [GSSI](http://GSSI.org) Web sites frequently.
- Encourage troop adults to register as volunteers (At least 50% of girls have a parent registered as a Girl Scout volunteer – membership and background screening).
- With girls, plan and hold a troop year-end celebration for girls and their families.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on

- Achieve all 5 options under the Family Welcomed section.

Belonging to a Big Sisterhood (at least 4)

As a troop:

- Promote all pathways (series, events, camp, travel) by encouraging participation in national and council events.
- Attend a cluster, registration area/service unit, or council event. Description _____
- Plan and carry out an activity with another group in the council (any age level).
Description _____
- Promote the [Family Giving Partnership](#).
- Make a contribution to the "I Love Camp Koch" fund or to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund.

- View the Girl Scout World Map or Girl Scout Council Map (in *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*) so girls can see where Girl Scouts are located around the world or around the USA.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on

- Achieve all 6 options under the Belonging to a Big Sisterhood section.

Leadership Development (all required)

As a troop:

- Encourage girls to pick a Journey. After choosing a Journey, use it to help plan the year ahead.
- Explore the three keys to leadership (Discover, Connect, and Take Action) by completing the experiences associated with the leadership awards built into the National Leadership Journeys. (Troop MUST complete a Journey each year, unless they have already earned the Summit award for that grade-level.)

Which Journey? _____

Golden Honor Troop Add-on (choose at least 1)

- Explore the requirements for [Girl Scouts' Highest Awards](#) (Bronze, Silver, and Gold).
- Participate in a council or community/service unit Girl Awards night which recognizes the leadership achievements of girl members in their council or local area.
- Explore additional awards available for the troop's level (Safety, Religious, Leadership, etc.)

Community Engagement (all required)

As a troop:

- Explore opportunities for girls to change the community and the world via activities in the Journey. Briefly describe your Journey Take Action Project: _____

- Use GSUSA's online *Map It* tool to post group's Take Action project details and view other projects completed around the country.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on

- Complete 1 additional Community Service OR Take Action Project (can focus on any community need).

Briefly describe it here: _____

Skill Building (all required)

As a troop:

- Use the online "[badge explorer](#)" to see what topics are covered for the appropriate age level.
- Explore one of the GSUSA pillars: STEM, Entrepreneurship, Outdoors, and Life Skills.
- Complete one skill-building badge.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on

- Complete one of the Additional Awards found in the Girl Guide to Girl Scouting. (Example: Bridging, Safety, Religious, Global Action, World Thinking Day, etc.)

Expanding World View (at least 3)

As a troop:

- Participate in a *World Thinking Day* activity.
- Meet an expert related to their journey theme.
- Plan and carry out a field trip during the year. What _____
- Plan and carry out at least one activity that deals with current social issues such as bullying, body self-image, or internet safety. Activity _____
- Explore national and council [travel](#) opportunities.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on

- Fulfill at least 4 requirements under the Expanding World View section.

Ceremony and Tradition (at least 4)

As a troop:

- Plan and carry out an Investiture/Rededication Ceremony.
- Participate in a flag ceremony.
- Plan and carry out an outdoor activity (hike, cookout, game, campout, etc.)

Description _____

- Incorporate the Girl Scout sign, handshake, or friendship circle into group gatherings.
- Celebrate the Girl Scout birthday together.
- Plan and carry out an Awards/Bridging Ceremony.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on (at least 1)

- Girls develop their own new group tradition and carry it out during gatherings.
- Girls study the history of Girl Scouts and its founder, Juliette Gordon Low. (For returning troops, study some new facet or resource about Girl Scouts and Juliette Gordon Low.)

Adult Support (all required)

As troop leader:

- Ensure that all co-leaders are current in their Job Briefing training.
- Encourage all adult volunteers be knowledgeable about the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and use the Three Processes: Girl-led, Learning By Doing, and Cooperative Learning. (Course can be from a previous year.)
- Verify that all adult troop volunteers regularly receive and read the council newsletter, and visit the council website.
- Connect with other adult volunteers in the area: Attend (or have another troop volunteer attend) at least 2 meetings of your registration area/service unit, cluster, and/or committee.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on (at least 2)

- Connect with other adult volunteers beyond your area: Represent (or have another adult affiliated with your group represent) the group at one or more council-wide meeting such as the GSSI Fall kick-off meeting or Annual Meeting, or participate in a regional meeting or planning committee with other adult volunteers outside your service unit
Specify: _____

- Explore the online [Volunteer Toolkit](#) and [Member Community](#).

- Participate (or have another troop adult participate) in additional GSSI learning opportunities this program year (any topic, in person or online). Specify which module, class or workshop: _____

Earning and Learning (all required)

- Girls “earn and learn” by participating in the council’s annual product sale (Girl Scout Cookie Program).
- Adults are appropriately trained and coach the girls in developing 5 important life skills (Goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics).
- A designated “Troop Cookie Volunteer” is trained and coordinates all aspects of the troop’s cookie sale.
- Parents are presented with the facts on how the 5 Skills help girls succeed (Possible online resource: What Grown Ups Need to Know video).

Golden Honor Troop Add-on (at least 2)

- Girls earn at least one of the financial literacy or product sales badges/leaves.
- Girls earn Cookie Activity Pin.
- Girls participate in a *Cookie Kick Off* event (council, service unit, cluster, or troop program)
- Teen girls with prior cookie selling experience assist or facilitate a session during a *Cookie Kick Off* event (council or local area).

Experience Progression (at least 3)

As a troop:

- Work on bridging activity with a sister troop.
- By the early registration deadline, at least one adult and at least 50% of troop girls should renew their membership for the following program year. For graduating Ambassador Troops, at least one girl should purchase a life-time membership.
- Plan and carry out at least one summer activity.
What _____
- Plan and carry out an activity to encourage non-Girl Scouts to join Girl Scouting.
What _____
- Find out what the next level will bring by viewing the next level's [Journey Maps](#), Leadership Ladder or the [What Age Level Do](#) resources, available on GSUSA's web site and in the *Girls Guide to Girl Scouting*.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on

- Fulfill at least 4 of the requirements for Experience Progression section.

Golden Honor Troop Add-on (optional)

As a troop:

- Create a scrapbook, video, or power point to present documentation of all of the above criteria to share at GSSI Fall Kick-off Meetings!