girl scouts of northern illinois

2027 Gold Award Girl Scout Scholarship Application

NOTE: As a member of Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois, you may only be awarded one Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois scholarship. If you meet the qualifications for the 2027 Girl Scout Ambassador Scholarship, you may apply for both scholarship opportunities using the appropriate application forms. Please save all forms to your computer before submitting. **Please answer the question being asked in full.**

Complete applications must include:

- **Appropriate** scholarship **application**.
- **Two** references using the 2027 Girl Scout Scholarship Recommendation form.

  This form can be found on the Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois website and can be forwarded to the persons from whom you are requesting recommendations.

  One reference must be from an **adult Girl Scout member**. The **second reference** must be from a **non-Girl Scout adult**, such as a teacher, coach, minister, employer, etc. NO family member references are accepted.

- A **photo** of the applicant.

Denotes required field.

First Name*

Last Name*

Address*

City, State, Zip Code*

E-mail Address*

Phone*

Name of High School*

Graduation Date*

How long have you been a Girl Scout? *

How are you registered? ☐ In a troop

☐ Individually registered

What is your troop leader's name?

When did you earn your Girl Scout Gold Award? *

If your Girl Scout Gold Award project has not yet been completed, your Gold Award Final Report MUST be submitted through Go Gold and approved by the GSNI Gold Award Committee by January 11, 2027, to be considered eligible.

Participation in Girl Scouts during your Senior & Ambassador years

On average, how many hours per month do you participate in Girl Scout activities (troop meetings, planning meetings, events, service, etc.)? * *Maximum 8 points*

☐ 1–3 hours per month ☐ 4–6 hours per month ☐ 7 or more hours per month

Girl Scout Experiences

Describe your experiences with **Girl Scouts** during your Senior & Ambassador years (first semester freshman year through first semester senior year) and what you gained from your experiences. *Clearly explain each one you list.

Girl Scout Awards earned during your Senior & Ambassador years. *Maximum 4 points*
Examples: My Promise, My Faith; Community Service Bar; Service to Girl Scouting Bar; Safety Award; Torch Award; Take Action Award; Global Action Award; True North Award; Religious Award. This excludes Girl Scout Bronze and Silver Awards.

Girl Scout Leadership during your Senior & Ambassador years. *Maximum 4 points*
Examples: Camp Aide for Service Unit Day Camp - Summers 2024, 2025, 2026; Leading activities for younger Girl Scouts at council event; Counselor-in-Training I or II (CIT-1, CIT-2) - GSNI camps summer 2023 through 2026; Volunteer-in-Training, Associate Board Member serving term 2023–2024, or 2024–2025, 2025-2026, Committee Chair, etc.

Other Girl Scout Activities during your Senior & Ambassador years. *Maximum 4 points*
Examples: trips, events, troop money earning projects, Destinations, summer camp, etc.

Experience	What you gained from the experience

In what way has being a Girl Scout impacted or changed your life?
**Maximum 7 points*

Non-Girl Scout Activities

During your high school years, describe your involvement in non-Girl Scout related experiences. Be sure to include how you have applied what you have learned in Girl Scouts to serve other communities through leadership activities, awards and recognitions, or jobs that you earned/had during your Senior and Ambassador years. *Maximum 5 points**

Examples: Class Officer, Club Officer, Music Leadership role, Team Captain, Sunday School leader, Honor Roll, State Scholar, Band/Music, athletics, National Honor Society, clubs, church groups, etc.

DO NOT include Girl Scout-related activities.

Experience	**How you applied what you learned in Girl Scouts to serve this community**

What three words can be used to describe you and why? *

Words	Why

Future Education Plans

Please indicate the name of the college, trade school, or apprenticeship you plan to attend and your planned field of study. *

Essay*

A **450–500**-word essay that details your Girl Scout Gold Award project. The essay must give the following details. Please be as specific as possible:

1) A brief description of your Girl Scout Gold Award Take Action project including the issue addressed (max. 5 points), its root cause (max. 5 points), and its national/global link (max. 5 points).
2) A discussion of what impact you made and who benefitted (max. 5 points).
3) A discussion of how working on your project strengthened your personal and leadership skills (max. 5 points).
4) How the project will be sustained beyond your involvement (max. 5 points).
5) What impact has this project made on you as you make plans for your future? (max 5 points).

Remaining 5 points will be based on essay structure. *Maximum essay points: 40*

Please review and check each box. I understand that:

☐ Scholarship funds are for use in the Fall of 2027. Funds not used will be forfeited. *

☐ Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois must receive documentation of enrollment in school or apprenticeship prior to funds being disbursed. *

☐ Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois has the right to award or deny a scholarship to an applicant. *

☐ A committee will review every application, along with essays and recommendations. *

☐ All finalists are required to have a personal interview with the Scholarship Committee tentatively scheduled for the second week of March. Please note, not all finalists will be awarded a scholarship. *

Signature (Type Full Name) *

By submitting this scholarship application and typing my name below, I approve all information contained in this application is accurate. I understand any false statements made herein may cause disqualification of this application. Furthermore, I authorize Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois to use my name/image for publication.

Signature (Type Full Name) *

Submit completed applications (scholarship application, references, photo) to: **Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois, 353 Randall Road, South Elgin IL 60177** or e-mail GSNI at **customercare@girlscoutsni.org no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2027.**

If e-mailing the application, save this document in the following format:

First name Last name 2027 Gold Award Scholarship _____ **Initial***

A Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois staff member will review application submissions and send an e-mail acknowledgement. If you do not receive an acknowledgement of your submission, **it is your responsibility** to contact Customer Care at customercare@girlscoutsni.org to check on the receipt of your application. *

_____ Initial*