



GSSN Adult Recognition Chart




Every year in April, organizations across the nation celebrate the outstanding contributions of volunteers. In Girl Scouting we even designate a special day to honor our incredible adults who work in partnership with girls - April 22 is Girl Scout Leader's Day!



Do you know a volunteer who has gone above and beyond this year? Consider showing your appreciation by [nominating them for a special recognition](#).


All nomination materials are due Friday, February 1, 2021. Awards will be presented at our Volunteer Recognition Reception on April 17, 2021.



GSSN also recognizes volunteers for the special milestones they've reached in their Girl Scouting journey. If you're eligible to receive your Years of Service Pin or Numeral Guard Pin (awarded at 5-year intervals) you can use the [online form to self-report your years](#).




Council Recognition	Explanation	Criteria	How to Nominate
Years of Membership Numeral Guard 	These numeral guards are awarded to volunteers based on their combined years as a registered girl and adult member of Girl Scouts. They are available in five-year increments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate has been a registered active member of Girl Scouts (either as a girl or adult) for a combined total of 5, 10, 15, 20+ years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any Girl Scout adult meeting the criteria may submit an online self-report form by Feb 1, 2021 to be recognized at the council's Volunteer Recognition Reception on April 17, 2020. 5- and 10-year pins will be mailed to the recipient.
Years of Service Pin 	These pins are awarded to any Girl Scout volunteer who has served a minimum of five years as a volunteer. The five years do not have to be in a single role or position. These pins are available in five-year increments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate has served as a registered Girl Scout volunteer for 5, 10, 15, 20+ years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any Girl Scout adult meeting the criteria may submit an online self-report form by Feb 1, 2021 to be recognized at the council's Volunteer Recognition Reception on April 17, 2020. 5- and 10-year pins will be mailed to the recipient.

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<p data-bbox="107 266 266 331">New-Found Treasure</p> 	<p data-bbox="317 241 722 526">The New-Found Treasure Award recognizes the efforts of a volunteer who is new to Girl Scouting and has hit the ground running. This volunteer has made a positive impact during their short time with Girl Scouts and their performance is so outstanding that it merits recognition.</p>	<ul data-bbox="751 241 1247 558" style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nominee was a registered as a Girl Scout volunteer in MY17 and has reregistered for MY18. ○ Has completed all required orientation and/or training for their position. ○ Has provided outstanding service to Girl Scouting at the troop, service unit, or governance level. 	<ul data-bbox="1276 241 1990 586" style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate an adult volunteer by submitting <u>one nomination form and one endorsement form</u> indicating how the nominee meets the criteria. ○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. ○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.
<p data-bbox="113 659 260 724">Innovation Award</p> 	<p data-bbox="317 631 716 883">The Innovation Award recognizes an individual who, through creativity and resourcefulness, has been instrumental in planning or assisting with recruitment and substantially increasing Girl Scout Membership in an under-served area.</p>	<ul data-bbox="751 631 1247 883" style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nominee is a registered Girl Scout volunteer. ○ Has been instrumental in supporting membership recruitment efforts in one or more geographic areas and their work has directly led to a membership increase in an underserved area. 	<ul data-bbox="1276 631 1990 976" style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate an adult volunteer by submitting <u>one nomination form and one endorsement form</u> indicating how the nominee meets the criteria. ○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. ○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.
<p data-bbox="113 1060 260 1157">Outdoor Trailblazer Award</p> 	<p data-bbox="317 1016 716 1268">The Outdoor Trailblazer Award recognizes an individual who has developed and/or facilitated outstanding outdoor experiences for girls in one or more geographic areas. This volunteer is continuing the Girl Scout legacy of getting girls outdoors.</p>	<ul data-bbox="751 1016 1247 1422" style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nominee is a registered, active Girl Scout volunteer. ○ Has provided for outstanding outdoor recreation and educational experiences that inspire creativity and self-discovery in the outdoors. ○ Has made outdoor adventures possible for a large number of girls through adult mentorship or facilitation of volunteer efforts beyond the troop experience. 	<ul data-bbox="1276 1016 1990 1360" style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate an adult volunteer by submitting <u>one nomination form and one endorsement form</u> indicating how the nominee meets the criteria. ○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. ○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.

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<p data-bbox="121 289 252 386">Virtual Ingenuity Award</p> 	<p data-bbox="315 246 714 435">The Virtual Ingenuity Award recognizes an individual who has shown ingenuity in transitioning their troop to meet virtually and to keep girls engaged in their Girl Scout experience</p>	<ul data-bbox="751 214 1255 649" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="751 214 1255 272">○ The nominee is a registered, active Girl Scout volunteer. <li data-bbox="751 311 1255 467">○ Has used inventive ways to engage girls virtually and to transition the troop to meet virtually while continuing to provide a quality Girl Scout Leadership Experience. <li data-bbox="751 506 1255 649">○ The nominee has made virtual Girl Scout experiences possible and has used virtual resources to keep girl members engaged in the Girl Scouts Leadership Experience. 	<ul data-bbox="1276 214 1995 552" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1276 214 1995 337">○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate an adult volunteer by submitting <u>one nomination form and one endorsement form</u> indicating how the nominee meets the criteria. <li data-bbox="1276 376 1995 435">○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. <li data-bbox="1276 474 1995 552">○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.
<p data-bbox="121 847 252 912">Heritage Award</p> 	<p data-bbox="315 695 714 941">The Heritage Award recognizes an outstanding individual who has worked to preserve and promote Girl Scout history and traditions while positively impacting community cultivation, volunteer support, and/or girl program delivery.</p>	<ul data-bbox="751 695 1255 1263" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="751 695 1255 753">○ The nominee is an active, registered adult member of Girl Scouts. <li data-bbox="751 792 1255 850">○ Has been a Girl Scout member for 10 or more years. <li data-bbox="751 889 1255 1071">○ Promotes the history of Girl Scouts through artifact preservation, restoration, and sharing AND/OR by planning events that introduce girls to Girl Scout history, traditions, or heritage. <li data-bbox="751 1110 1255 1263">○ The nominee is knowledgeable of the history of Girl Scouting and uses that knowledge to positively impact community cultivation, volunteer support, and/or girl program delivery. 	<ul data-bbox="1276 695 1995 1036" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1276 695 1995 818">○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate an adult volunteer by submitting <u>one nomination form and one endorsement form</u> indicating how the nominee meets the criteria. <li data-bbox="1276 857 1995 915">○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. <li data-bbox="1276 954 1995 1036">○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.


GSUSA Formal Adult Recognition	Explanation	Criteria	How to Nominate
<p>Volunteer of Excellence</p> 	<p>The Volunteer of Excellence award recognizes those volunteers who have contributed outstanding service while partnering directly with girls in any pathway to implement the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) through use of the National Program Portfolio or who have contributed outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery to girl and adult members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nominee is an active, registered adult Girl Scout. ○ Has successfully completed a term of service and all requirements for the position. ○ Has performed beyond expectations for the position to deliver the GSLE to girls using the National Program Portfolio, OR has supported the council's mission-delivery goals in one or more of the following functional areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Membership Development - Community Cultivation - Volunteer Support - Program Delivery - Leadership & Governance - Fund Development - Council Support Services <p>Actively recognizes, understands, and practices the values of inclusive behavior.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate an adult volunteer by submitting <u>one nomination form and one endorsement form</u> indicating how the nominee meets the criteria. ○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. ○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.

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<p>Appreciation Pin</p> 	<p>The Appreciation Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE). This service, which has had measurable impact on one geographic area of service, helps the council reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals for that area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nominee is an active, registered adult Girl Scout. ○ The service performed by the nominee is above and beyond the expectations for the position held, and made an impact on one or more geographic area within the council's jurisdiction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate an adult volunteer by submitting <u>one nomination form and one endorsement form</u> indicating how the nominee meets the criteria. ○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. ○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.

GSUSA Formal Adult Recognition	Explanation	Criteria	How to Nominate
<p>Honor Pin</p> 	<p>The Honor Pin recognizes an individual's exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE), which has had measurable impact on two or more geographic areas of service, allowing the council to reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nominee is an active, registered adult Girl Scout. ○ The service performed by the nominee is above and beyond the expectations for the position held and made an impact on two or more geographic areas within the council's jurisdiction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate an adult volunteer by submitting <u>one nomination form and one endorsement form</u> indicating how the nominee meets the criteria. ○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. ○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.
<p>Thanks Badge</p> 	<p>The Thanks Badge honors an individual whose ongoing commitment, leadership, and service have had an exceptional, measurable impact on meeting the mission-delivery goals and priorities of the entire council or the entire Girl Scout Movement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nominee is an active, registered adult Girl Scout. ○ The outstanding service performed by the nominee resulted in outcomes that benefitted the total council or the entire Girl Scout organization, and is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires <u>one nomination form and two Endorsement forms</u>. ○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. ○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.
<p>Thanks Badge II</p> 	<p>The Thanks Badge II honors a previous Thanks Badge recipient who has continued to provide exemplary service in a leadership role, resulting in a measurable impact that benefits the entire council or entire Girl Scout Movement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nominee is an active, registered adult Girl Scout. ○ The nominee has received the Thanks Badge. ○ The outstanding service performed by the nominee resulted in outcomes that benefitted the total council or the entire Girl Scout organization, and is so significantly above and beyond the call of duty that no other award would be appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Requires <u>one nomination form and two Endorsement forms</u>. ○ Nominations and endorsements must be submitted by February 1, 2021. ○ Board of Directors approves or denies nominations based on the recommendations of the Volunteer Recognitions Task Force.

Service Unit Recognitions

These are suggestions to help our Service Units promote a culture of appreciation at the local level. Be sure to check with your Service Unit team to see if they provide any of these recognitions to volunteers in your local area or to get contact information for your Service Unit Recognitions Chair.

Service Unit Recognition	Explanation	Criteria	How to Nominate
<p>First Year Leader</p> 	<p>Each SU may elect to purchase these pins from the GSSN Shop for volunteers completing their first year as a troop leader. It is recommended that they be awarded at a Service Unit meeting or event in the spring.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is an active, registered Girl Scout troop leader. ○ Has successfully completed their first year of service and all requirements for the position. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The SU Recognitions Chair or Manager may purchase a pin for each volunteer within their SU who meets the criteria.
<p>Outstanding New Leader</p> <p>“Green & Growing” Pin</p>	<p>Each SU may elect to purchase this pin to award to one or two exceptional new troop leader(s) each year. It is recommended that this pin be awarded at a SU meeting or event in the spring.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Has completed their first year as a troop leader/co-leader and has committed to serving a second year ○ Has completed required trainings (in-person or online) ○ Regularly attends service unit meetings or sends a troop representative ○ Engages the girls in a variety of fun, interesting activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate their troop leader for this recognition. ○ Nominations should be submitted directly to the SU Recognitions Chair, along with a letter from a troop girl or parent explaining why their leader is deserving.
<p>Mentoring Matters</p>	<p>Each SU may elect to purchase a special patch, pin, or other recognition for volunteers who have provided mentorship to new troop leaders, resulting in leader retention.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The volunteer is an active, registered volunteer serving in any capacity. ○ The volunteer has mentored one or more new troop leaders and those leaders are returning for a second year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any Girl Scout girl or adult may nominate a volunteer for this recognition. ○ Nominations should be submitted directly to the SU Recognitions Chair, along with a letter explaining why their mentorship made a difference.

Service Unit Recognition	Explanation	Criteria	How to Nominate
Troop Product Sales Hero GSSN Shop Certificate	Each SU may elect to gift a GSSN Shop certificate in denominations starting at \$5 to an exceptional Product Sales Volunteer within the SU, following each Fall Product and Cookie Sale season.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Has served for a minimum of three years as Troop Product Sales Coordinator (TPSC) ○ Has exhibited up-to-date knowledge about either the fall or cookie product sale and serves informally as a support for other area TPSCs and volunteers ○ Completes all duties correctly and on time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any troop leader or fellow SU volunteer may print or email a nomination to their SU Recognitions Chair, along with an explanation about this TPSC's helpfulness in their role.