



# Girl Scout Adult Awards

**It wouldn't happen without them...**

**You know who they are.**

- ☆ **The parent who jumped in at the last minute to save the event**
- ☆ **The troop leader who inspired girls to share their love of camp with the entire county**
- ☆ **The visionary who brought volunteers and girls together in a Girl Scout program for at-risk girls**

**Tell them what a difference they've made.**

Use this guide to choose the right award, then use our online nomination form to let us know that something special is happening close to you. Something that everyone should know about. Something that a special person or family deserves to be known for.

Questions? Call or e-mail us at 1-800-771-1139 or at [helpline@gsgatl.org](mailto:helpline@gsgatl.org).



## Questions About Adult Awards

### Who can nominate?

Anyone can nominate! Girls, volunteers, staff, neighbors – anyone who recognizes a job well done can nominate an adult, business or organization for an adult award.

### Who can be nominated?

For most awards, nominees must:

- Be actively registered Girl Scout members
- Be an approved volunteer with a current background check on file
- Have completed at least one term of service in their volunteer position
- Understand and practice inclusive behavior as one of the key values of Girl Scouting
- Provide service above and beyond the requirements of their position

### What about parents or community members who are not Girl Scouts?

We offer two special recognitions for these ‘friends of Girl Scouts.’

- The Extra Mile Certificate recognizes any member of the community whose contribution goes above and beyond in support of Girl Scouts and our mission and goals.
- The Special Supporter Certificate recognizes a business or organization that provides a benefit or service in support of Girl Scouts and our mission and goals.

### How do I nominate someone?

Use the online form on our website, [www.gsgatl.org](http://www.gsgatl.org) (For Volunteers > Volunteer Recognitions). You’ll need to gather some contact information, for the person you are nominating and for other volunteers we can talk to about the nomination. Once you have this information together, the form should only take about 15-20 minutes.

### Is there a deadline?

Awards which require approval by the Board of Directors have spring and fall deadlines based on the Board meeting schedule. For other awards we request a six-week processing time to allow for pins and certificates to be prepared and shipped. Check out the chart on page 4 for details.

- For spring presentations, we recommend you submit your nominations by February 15.
- For fall/winter award ceremonies, we recommend you submit your nomination by August 15.
- For the President’s Award, please submit nominations by October 15. Awardees are usually announced in early January.

## How do I know if and when they will receive the award?

The Volunteer Experience team reviews each nomination carefully to make sure your nominee receives the right award. If we have any questions we will contact you directly for more information. Some awards need to be presented to our Board of Directors for approval, and this may take a few weeks, so please be patient! You can always reach out to us on the Volunteer Helpline if you have questions (1-800-771-1139).

When the award is approved, we will notify you, the nominator, by email – that way if the award is a surprise we won't spoil it! Certificates and pins will be mailed to you or to whomever you list on the nomination form.

## How does the council recognize award-winning volunteers?

Girl Scout volunteers who are awarded any of our adult recognitions are honored at special council events during the Girl Scout year, and will be listed on our website (with their permission, of course).

## How do I choose the right award?

Each award recognizes different achievements and the different impacts that a volunteer's service might have. All awards recognize a volunteer's contributions in supporting the mission and strategic goals of the council and the Girl Scout movement. The chart below may help you decide on the best award for your volunteer, but you can also feel free to call our Volunteer Helpline for further assistance.

National awards (listed in bold) may be worn on the official Girl Scout adult uniform. Awards marked with an asterisk (\*) require the approval of the Board of Directors. Council awards (listed in regular type) are approved by Volunteer Experience staff and may be worn informally for any occasion.

Award	Who may qualify	What does the award recognize	Deadline
Volunteer of Excellence	Any Girl Scout volunteer member	Outstanding service in delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience <b>in partnership with girls, or</b> outstanding service in support of the council's mission delivery <b>to adult members.</b>	6 weeks prior to presentation
Appreciation Pin*	Any Girl Scout volunteer member	Outstanding service to help a <b>single service unit or geographic area</b> reach and surpass its mission-delivery goals	Spring – Feb 15 Fall – Aug 15
Honor Pin*	Any Girl Scout volunteer member	Outstanding service to help <b>more than one service unit or geographic area</b> reach and surpass their mission-delivery goals	Spring – Feb 15 Fall – Aug 15
Thanks Badge*	Any Girl Scout volunteer member	Ongoing commitment, leadership and service which has an exceptional, measurable impact on the mission-delivery goals of the <b>entire council or the entire Girl Scout movement.</b>	Spring – Feb 15 Fall – Aug 15
Thanks Badge II*	Any Girl Scout volunteer member who has received the Thanks Badge	Ongoing commitment, leadership and service which has an exceptional, measurable impact on the mission-delivery goals of the <b>entire council or the entire Girl Scout movement.</b>	Spring – Feb 15 Fall – Aug 15
President's Award*	Any Girl Scout service team	Exemplary service in support of mission delivery, <b>surpassing team goals</b> and resulting in significant, measurable impact toward reaching overall council goals.	October 15
Extra Mile Certificate	Any non-member adult	Consistent support of the council's programs and policies; service that goes above and beyond, exemplifying Girl Scout values	6 weeks prior to presentation
Special Supporter Certificate	Any business or organization	Service that benefits a troop or service unit while increasing visibility of Girl Scouting in the local community	6 weeks prior to presentation
Fantastic Family	Any Girl Scout volunteer family	At least <b>three family members</b> have worked together to support one or more activities for a service unit. At least one family member holds a leadership role in the service unit	6 weeks prior to presentation
Pioneer Pin	Any Girl Scout volunteer member having seven or more years of service	Outstanding service in any capacity (or multiple capacities) for <b>at least seven years</b> , participating in training as necessary to update knowledge	6 weeks prior to presentation
Helen Foster Pin	Any Girl Scout volunteer member	Outstanding service to <b>two or more service units in multiple capacities</b> over time.	6 weeks prior to presentation

*\*Awards approved by the Board of Directors*