

# Money-Earning Project Guidelines

After reviewing these guidelines, complete the [Money Earning Project Application](#) online.

## Application:

- Money-earning projects must be approved prior to participation.
- Submit the [Money-Earning Project Application](#) at least four weeks prior to the project date.
- The adult volunteer/parent/guardian submitting this application must not have any financial restrictions.

## Funding for Girl Scout Expenses

- Girl Scout troops are funded through product programs (Fall Product Program and the Girl Scout Cookie Program), approved money-earning projects, and any dues the troop may choose to charge.
- Money-earning projects may be held by troops, service units, or individual girls/Juliettes. *Juliette money earning projects must be for Highest Awards projects or Girl Scout travel opportunities.*
- Troops/Juliettes may participate in additional money-earning projects as long as they have participated (or will participate) in the annual Cookie Program.
- Girls at all program grade levels may participate in money-earning projects.
- Girl Scouts may not raise money for other organizations. However, girls may choose to contribute a portion of their troop funds to organizations or projects they feel are worthwhile.

## What makes a good money-earning project?

- A money-earning project should be a valuable program activity for girls. The experience should give girls the opportunity to learn multiple skills, such as budgeting, goal setting, customer relations, good business practices, and public relations.
- Money-earning projects should be decided upon with girl input and planning.

## Money Earning Project Ideas:

1. Collect cans & bottles to return.
2. Hold a car wash – be sure to promote it ahead of time.
3. Host a community garage sale.
4. Offer holiday gift wrapping services.
5. Selling handmade or hand assembled items:
  - Put together themed gift baskets.
  - Create program kits for other Girl Scout troops to do a fun activity.
  - Compile your own troop cookbook.
  - Make and sell specialty craft items or holiday cards.
  - Host a baked goods – or take pre-orders for baked goods, such as pies around the holidays!
  - Cookie or cocoa mix in a jar.
6. Host an event for other Girl Scouts or in your community:
  - Girl Scout dance (like a Father/Daughter Sock Hop!)
  - Holiday events like a Haunted House or Gingerbread House Building.
  - Badge or activity workshops for younger troops.
  - Host a community meal or a refreshment stand at a community event.

## Prohibited Activities (for girls)

- Fundraising for other organizations (such as bell-ringing for Salvation Army, or advance ticket sales for athletics).
- Direct solicitation of cash gifts (except for Highest Awards projects).
- Raffles, drawings, games of chance.
- Sale or endorsement of commercial products (such as candy bars, coupon books, etc.).
- Product demonstration parties (such as Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, etc.).

7. Offer face painting services for children’s birthday parties or community events.
8. Rake leaves or shovel snow.
9. Dog walking service.
10. **NEW:** “Tip Nights” at local restaurants:
  - Be sure to identify the troop or service unit involved in the event, so customers understand what they are supporting – ie. “Girl Scouts of Greater Iowa Troop 12345” or “Indianola Community Girl Scouts (Service Unit 562).”
  - The girls should have an active role in the event, such as serving, greeting, cleaning-up, or passing out information about Girl Scouts.

### For Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award Projects

Troops or girls may use their earnings from product programs (Fall Product Program and the Girl Scout Cookie Program), and approved money-earning projects to support their Highest Awards projects. Additional fundraising for highest awards may include any of the following:

**Grants:** Notify GSGI (at [info@gsiowa.org](mailto:info@gsiowa.org)) *before* submitting an application for a grant to support a Highest Award project. Include the funder/grantor and application deadline, as well as specifics on how the funds will be used. The GSGI Philanthropy team will review the information, and may either approve for you to submit or submit the application on your behalf.

**NEW! Online Fundraising:** With adult guidance, girls may utilize online fundraising sites to raise money for Highest Award projects. We encourage girls to look for other fundraising options, as online sites may deduct 5% or more of the donations received. Use of a fundraising site must be submitted on a [Money Earning Project Application](#), which should clearly list the project and how funds will be used. The fundraising site page must be deactivated once the project is completed.

**Soliciting Donations:** With adult guidance, girls may ask family, friends, or businesses to support their Highest Award project. Any donations received should be recorded and submitted using the [Donation Record](#). *Note that soliciting donations for Highest Awards projects is the only time girl members may directly ask for donations; girl members should not directly solicit cash gifts for any other troop activities.*