

General Guidelines for Merit Awards International Order of the Rainbow for Girls State of Mississippi

Merit Awards for Rainbow Girls in the state of Mississippi may only be earned and presented in accordance with the following requirements:

- The presentation of Merit Awards should be made at each Installation of Officers (January and July) immediately prior to the “Good of the Order.”
- All Special Merit Awards must be approved by the Mother Advisor after ensuring all necessary requirements have been met.
- Mother Advisors will maintain a permanent record of each girl’s activities, work turned in, badges earned, and date presented.
- Adults eligible to attend a closed meeting of Rainbow include: Masons, Eastern Stars, Amaranth, Majority Members, and the Parents, Grandparents, or Legal Guardians of Active Rainbow Girls.
- Perfect attendance shall be computed from the date of initiation for each girl. Excused absences shall be authorized by the Mother Advisor only. Mother Advisors and Advisory Board Members will not make any exceptions to these requirements. No more than two unexcused absences per year constitutes “perfect attendance.”
- All required memory work must be turned in to the Mother Advisor, an Advisory Board Member, or in an open Assembly. A Rainbow Girl cannot turn in work to her parents or other members of her immediate family if they are members of the Advisory Board, unless another member of the Advisory Board is also present.
- Appropriate documentation must be provided to the Mother Advisor for all projects outside of those organized by a Rainbow Assembly.
- Service bars do not have to be earned in any special order.
- Special Merit Bars may be obtained through the Grand Assembly of Mississippi. All others should be obtained through Supreme Assembly.
- Love is Rainbow pins, earrings, tie tacs, etc., are authorized for wear by any Rainbow Girl in good standing or any adults who supports Rainbow.

Special Merit Bars International Order of the Rainbow for Girls State of Mississippi

SPECIAL MERIT BAR (TOP BAR: ONLY PRESENTED ONCE)

Any one of the following requirements must be met:

- Must have earned the Regular Merit Badge and three regular service bars
- Have perfect attendance for one year
- Be the top sales person on any Assembly money making project

RITUAL MERIT BAR (RED)

Any one of the following requirements must be met:

- Turn in the work for Ritualistic Opening and Closing, to include prayers
- Turn in all work of Initiation
- Serve as Installing Officer without using the ritual
- Make a grade of 90% or better on the written exam dealing with the Instruction or Addendum in the Ritual
- Serve as either Installing Marshal or Installing Chaplain twice during a term without the use of the Ritual

PETITION MERIT BAR (ORANGE)

- Must obtain petitions on three girls for membership. The merit bar is authorized after initiation of the third new member.

SERVICE MERIT BAR (YELLOW)

Any two of the following requirements must be met:

- Serve a station in another Assembly three times during a term. This includes regular meetings, Installation of Officers, Institutions, Constitutions, Schools of Instruction, or any special meeting.
- Work on ALL of your Assembly's projects during a term.
- Work on three Community Service projects, not Assembly projects, during a term, such as helping the Masons, Eastern Stars, Amaranth, Shriners or other community organization's projects

LOYALTY MERIT BAR (GREEN: ONLY ONE BAR PER GIRL PER YEAR)

Both of the following requirements must be met:

- Must have perfect attendance for one year
- Must have attended Grand Assembly, Scheduled Church Service, and Founder's Day function during the perfect attendance year.

FRIENDLINESS MERIT BAR (BLUE: ONLY ONE BAR PER GIRL PER YEAR)

Any one of the following requirements must be met:

- Must have been elected and served as Miss Rainbow
- Must have been elected and served as 1st Alternate or 2nd Alternate to Miss Rainbow
- Make three visits to a hospital or nursing home
- Invite and bring three eligible adults to a Rainbow meeting during a term. Advisory Board Members do not count.

LEADERSHIP MERIT BAR (INDIGO)

Any one of the following requirements must be met:

- Serve full term as Worthy Advisor
- Serve as Jr. Deputy to the Supreme Inspector, State Deputy or Grand Deputy
- Attend all Schools of Instruction for one year
- Serve a full term as Chairman of an Assembly committee
- Serve as a member of an Installation team three times in one year

BENEVOLENCE MERIT BAR (VIOLET)

A combination of the first two requirements OR the third requirement fulfills this obligation:

- Give Invocation or Benediction twice
- Give prayer twice in a special program, Friendship Circle, School of Instruction, Institution, Constitution, or Grand Assembly
- Turn in all work for the ritualistic Funeral Service

ATTENDANCE MERIT BAR (WHITE)

Only two excused absences for a year

- Each year of perfect attendance authorizes one white merit bar

POT OF GOLD FOR SPECIAL MERIT BARS

- Must have earned one of each of the above listed merit bars before the Pot of Gold is awarded

ATTENDANCE PIN & DROPS

- First year of perfect attendance authorizes on white Special Merit Bar.
- Two years perfect attendance authorizes attendance badge and two numerical drops.
- Third year, and all following years, of perfect attendance authorizes the appropriate numerical drop corresponding to the year concerned.