

Guidelines for Participation in
The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
by
Scouts, Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts



SCOUTS AUSTRALIA

AND

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD
- AUSTRALIA



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1. INTRODUCTION

Scouts Australia, through the Scout, Venturer Scout and Rover Scout sections has well structured, rewarding and challenging personal progression framework. The peak award for each section, the Australian Scout Award for Scouts, the Queen's Scout Award for Venturer Scouts and the Baden Powell Scout Award for Rover Scouts, have varying levels of recognition and respect by the general community. The attainment of these awards though is limited to current, registered members of Scouts Australia.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (Duke of Ed), provides opportunities and encouragement for young people (aged 14 to 25) to make the best use of their leisure and recreation time by taking part in activities which are enjoyable, purposeful and challenging.

There are many similarities, and parallels, between the different levels of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and the Scout Association of Australia's Australian Scout, Queen's Scout and Baden Powell Scout Awards.

All awards have a high level of public acceptance and are recognised and acknowledged by industry and business as awards that are only achieved through hard work and diligence.

This document explains how a member of Scouts Australia (Scouts, Venturer Scouts or Rover Scouts) can work towards achieving any combination of these awards using activities and projects that they are using in their Scouting journey through the Achievement Pathways.

1.1 Background

In many respects the wide variety of activities which may be undertaken by Scouting youth members and The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award are similar and it is this point which might create confusion with the administration and participation in both schemes.

The parallels between the systems can potentially allow for a Scout to receive simultaneous credit for achievements from both organisations (see 4.3).

Young people who aim to achieve both The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and the respective peak award for their Scouting section, can propose the same activity for both programs, provided that they satisfy the requirements for each individual program. A member of Scouts Australia can achieve a combination of both awards with a little additional work.

Within the guidelines contained within this document, Scouts Australia supports involvement with The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and encourages achievement in both organisations where it meets the guidelines within this document.

2. GENERAL

Scouts wishing to qualify for any of the three levels of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (Bronze, Silver or Gold) may do so by following the requirements set down by the National Award Authority of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award - Australia.

Additionally, there is a minimum age for the commencement of each level of the Duke of Ed:

- Bronze: 14th Birthday (or 13yrs 9months if starting with 14-year-old peers)
- Silver: 15th birthday
- Gold: 16th birthday

Regardless of the level being attempted, all work must be completed, and paperwork signed off prior to the participant's 25th birthday. Rover Scouts must complete the award by the time they reach their 25th birthday.

Each Branch that has become a State licensed Award Centre may register Scouts, Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts to commence The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, commencing at any level, subject to the minimum age requirements.

Each Scout Branch will appoint, as necessary, a Branch Award Coordinator (Duke of Edinburgh) who is responsible for the operation of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award within the Branch.

Scouts Australia will appoint a National Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Coordinator who will be the point of contact for all matters between Scouts Australian and The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

3. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD

- 3.1 The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award has three levels - Bronze, Silver and Gold. Each level is divided into four sections: Service, Expeditions, Skills and Physical Recreation. In addition, there is a Residential Project required for Gold level.
- 3.2 Different levels of time participation and regular effort are required from the shortest duration, Bronze, to the longest duration, Gold. A Scout, Venturer Scout or Rover Scout can do one, two or all three of the Awards.
- 3.3 All Award participants are free to choose for themselves the activities they include in each section of their Award, provided that certain criteria are met. This flexibility means that Scouts, Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts are able to complete their Awards almost entirely through their involvement in their Achievement Pathways, by using a mixture of activities done both within the Scouting movement and outside, or by using activities done entirely outside Scouting. The Award Office provides an extensive (but not exhaustive) list of possible activities (as a guide) via its website www.dukeofed.com.au.



Award Levels & Requirements

	Service <small>To develop and encourage a sense of community spirit and responsibility to others</small>	Physical Recreation <small>To encourage participation in physical recreation and improvement in physical fitness and performance</small>	Skill <small>To encourage the development of personal interests and practical skills</small>	Adventurous Journey <small>To encourage a spirit of adventure and discovery</small>	Residential Project <small>To broaden experience through involvement with others in a residential setting</small>
Bronze 14yrs +	3 months	3 months	3 months	2 days / 1 night <small>(1 x Practice Journey and 1 x Qualifying Journey)</small>	N/A <small>(Gold level only)</small>
Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus an additional 3 months for either Service, Skill or Physical Recreation					
Silver 15yrs +	6 months	6 months	6 months	3 days / 2 nights <small>(1 x Practice Journey and 1 x Qualifying Journey)</small>	N/A <small>(Gold level only)</small>
Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus an additional 6 months for either Service, Skill or Physical Recreation					
Gold 16yrs +	12 months	12 months	12 months	4 days / 3 nights <small>(1 x Practice Journey and 1 x Qualifying Journey)</small>	5 days / 4 nights
Averaging at least 1 hour per week. Plus an additional 6 months for either Service, Skill or Physical Recreation					

- 3.4 A summary of the sections, levels and minimum requirements is shown in the table below.

The chart attached at Appendix 2 shows how activities for the Queen's Scout map into the 5 sections of the Gold and Silver Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

4. REQUIREMENT EXPLANATIONS

4.1 Using Scout activities for The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award recognition

Scout activities may be used for recognition in both Scout and The Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards. The stipulation though, is that there must be two separate records of the activity – one for Scouting (Scouts | Terrain) and one for The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (Online Record Book - ORB).

Scouts doing The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award can only do one activity for each section per Level and activities cannot be counted for more than one section or more than one Level.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award does make an allowance for an Award participant to make an activity change but Scouting members undertaking The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award are to undertake only one activity for each of their peak award components.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award requires regular activity and as a minimum this represents four (4) hours minimum over four (4) weeks, typically done and logged as an hour per week.

All Award participants are free to choose for themselves the activities they include in each section of their Award, provided that certain criteria are met. This flexibility means that Scouts, Venturer Scouts and/or Rover Scouts are able to complete their Awards almost entirely through their involvement in Scouting using a mixture of activities done both within the Scouting movement and outside, or by using activities done entirely outside. These may contribute towards the Australian Scout, Queen's Scout and/or Baden Powell Scout Awards. The Award Office provides an extensive (but not exhaustive) list of possible activities (as a guide) via its website <https://www.dukeofed.com.au>.

It is important to ensure that activities to be used towards Scouting Achievement Pathways and awards are approved by the Unit Council prior to commencement.

4.2 Special Interest Areas

Activities undertaken for a Special Interest Area can be counted towards The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award in some way. The section it is counted towards will depend on the type of activity chosen and which Duke of Edinburgh's International Award definition it fits (see table on previous page)

Multiple Scouting activities may be required to meet time requirements for the appropriate section and the level a Scouting member is working on for Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, as long as the original award activity chosen is related directly to the activity chosen for the Special Interest Area project

4.3 Outdoor Adventure Skills

Progressions in specific streams of Outdoor Adventure Skills may be utilised towards elements of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award (e.g. Physical Recreation or Skills). The participant would need to articulate their goals appropriately for the relevant Duke of Edinburgh's International Award section.

4.4 The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Adventurous Journeys vs Scouting Adventurous Journey

Specific arrangements have been negotiated regarding the supervision for journeys undertaken by Scout members. While The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award expeditions, known as an Adventurous Journey, generally require an accompanying supervisor (experienced adult) at the practice trip level, and the supervisor making less frequent contact for the qualifying Adventurous Journey, depending on the risk management policy of the Award Unit (e.g., a school, youth club) and the competence of the group at the test level, this is not always a requirement for Scouts.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award acknowledges that for a Scout peak award Adventurous Journey, Leaders or other adults are not likely to be exercising direct supervision in journeys that Venturer Scouts and Rover Scouts undertake to gain the relevant award.

It has been agreed however, that because of the high standards and close checking of Queen's Scout and Baden Powell Scout Award Adventurous Journeys, such Adventurous Journeys will satisfy The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award requirements, provided that all other requirements of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Adventurous Journey section are met, which would be the case regarding teamwork, duration, daily effort, preparation, log and reporting.

The qualifications of a Duke of Edinburgh's International Award supervisor are left to the Award Centre (Branch level Scouts Australia) to determine, noting that this may include The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Assessors needing to meet relevant industry standards.

5. REGISTRATION LICENSE TO DELIVER DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

5.1 Branches as Licensed State Award Centres

Branches wishing to enable their members to deliver The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award will apply for a license using the form available from the applicable State Office of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

The form is to be completed by the Scout Branch Duke of Edinburgh's International Award State Coordinator, and forwarded with the prescribed fee to the Scouts Australia National Office who will note, make recommendations and forward the forms to the relevant Duke of Edinburgh's International Award State Office.

5.2 Duke of Edinburgh State Office

The Duke of Edinburgh State office will then:

- Notify the Branch Scout Duke of Edinburgh's International Award State Coordinator when approved
- Forward a copy of the letter of approval of registration to Scouts Australia

6. BADGES AND CERTIFICATES

6.1 On successful completion of each Award level the Scout, Venturer Scout or Rover Scout will be presented with an Award Lapel Badge and an Award Certificate supplied by the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award State Office.



6.2 In addition, a Duke of Edinburgh's International Award cloth badge (available from Scouts Australia) may be worn on the Scout uniform in the manner prescribed in the Youth Uniform Standards document.



Only one cloth badge may be worn on the Scout Uniform at any time. This will be for the highest award gained.

6.3 In collaboration with the awardee, the presentation of the Badges and Certificates for Bronze and Silver Awards is to be arranged by the Branch Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Coordinator. These presentations should include young people

6.4 In collaboration with the awardee, the Branch Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Coordinator should arrange presentation of the Gold level badge at an appropriate local function.

6.5 Gold Certificate presentations are normally at a special function organised by the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award State Committee

6.6 Where the participant has either Registered for Duke of Edinburgh's International Award participation through Scouts Australia or used Scouts Australia facilitators or resources to gain the award, they will be required to attend the Government House presentation and receive their Gold Certificate in full Scout uniform. This will assist in raising the Scouting profile and make the general public aware of the partnership between Duke of Edinburgh's International Award and Scouts Australia.

APPENDIX 1 - GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Duke of Ed	The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award
Branch Award Coordinator	The leader appointed by each Branch to oversee the operation and delivery of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award in their Branch. For purposes of the Award administration of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, including final approval of Awards, Unit Award Leaders are responsible to the Branch Award Coordinator
Award Leader	The Award Leader is the person responsible for the operation of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award within a group
Assessor	The Assessor is a person who, because of qualifications and/or experience, is invited by the Unit Leader to undertake to train and instruct Participants in subjects/activities in certain topics they have elected to do for their Award. The Assessor is invited and appointed by the Scout, Venturer Scout or Rover Scout Unit on behalf of the Branch and needs to meet all Scouting requirements including Working With Children Card. The Assessor undertakes assessment of a section of a Participant's work, ensuring that the Participant has met the challenge and conditions of the relevant section that they are assessing.
Participant(s)	A participant is a young person between the ages of 14 and 25 years who has registered in The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.
Award Centre	An organisation or group (Branch) that is licensed by the Award's State body to responsibility for operating The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award among their members (the Registered operator is not necessarily the person who runs The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award within the group).
State Award Committee	This Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Committee/Board is responsible for the administration of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award within each State/Territory. The Committee is licensed by the National Award Authority (Board) and each is composed of members of the community and interested parties, meets regularly and is the final judge in relation to questions concerning the conditions and requirements of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award within their own State. Any questions regarding these committees or Boards are to be directed to Scouts Australia's National Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Liaison Officer.
Supervisor	A supervisor is a person who accepts responsibility for the safety of an expedition group while they are out in the field. The supervisor may be the instructor, the assessor, or some other suitable person approved by the Award Unit (Scouts Australia)
Award Handbook	This refers to The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Handbook which is the policy document for all requirements and conditions pertaining to The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award This can be accessed from www.dukeofed.com.au

Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Sections	Equivalent to the following in the Achievement Pathways (NB: some may require a little more effort in order to fully achieve the Special Interest Award targeted by the participant)					Notes
Service – Bronze Award 3 months – Average 1 hour per week (minimum of 13 hours effort)	Special Interest Area - Growth and Development 2 x 8hr projects (Scout section) OR 1 x 12hr project (Venturer Scout section) OR 1 x 18hr project (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area – Environment 2 x 8hr projects (Scout section) OR 1 x 12hr project (Venturer Scout section) OR 1 x 18hr project (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area – Creating a Better World 2 x 8hr projects (Scout section) OR 1 x 12hr project (Venturer Scout section) OR 1 x 18hr project (Rover Scout section)	The Special Interest Area project must be defined around volunteering or service in the community
Skills – Bronze Award 3 months – Average 1 hour per week (minimum of 13 hours effort)	Special Interest Area – Arts & Literature 2 x 8hr projects (Scout section) OR 1 x 12hr project (Venturer Scout section) OR 1 x 18hr project (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area – STEM & Innovation 2 x 8hr projects (Scout section) OR 1 x 12hr project (Venturer Scout section) OR 1 x 18hr project (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area – Growth & Development 2 x 8hr projects (Scout section) OR 1 x 12hr project (Venturer Scout section) OR 1 x 18hr project (Rover Scout section)	
Physical Recreation – Bronze Award 3 months – Average 1 hour per week (minimum of 13 hours effort)	Special Interest Area – Adventure & Sport 2 x 8hr projects (Scout section) OR 1 x 12hr project (Venturer Scout section) OR 1 x 18hr project (Rover Scout section)					The Special Interest Area project must be defined around physical recreation.

Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Sections	Equivalent to the following in the Achievement Pathways (NB: some may require a little more effort in order to fully achieve the Special Interest Award targeted by the participant)					Notes
Adventurous Journey – Bronze Award Training, Practice and 2-day/1-night final Adventurous Journey	Adventurous Journey 3 days, 2 nights					Journey length is equivalent of Stage 4 Bushwalking Outdoor Adventure Skills
Note: an extra 3 months of effort must be undertaken in either Service, Skills or Physical Recreation at Bronze Award level						
Service - Silver Award 6 months – Average 1 hour per week (minimum of 26 hours effort)	Special Interest Area - Growth & Development 2 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 2x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area - Environment 2 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 2x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area - Creating a Better World 2 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 2x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	The Special Interest Area project must be defined around volunteering or service in the community.
Skills – Silver Award 6 months – Average 1 hour per week (minimum of 26 hours effort)	Special Interest Area - Arts & Literature 2 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 2x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area - STEM & Innovation 2 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 2x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area - Growth & Development 2 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 2x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	
Physical Recreation – Silver Award 6 months – Average 1 hour per week (minimum of 26 hours effort)	Special Interest Area - Adventure & Sport 2 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 2x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)					The Special Interest Area project must be defined around physical recreation.

Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Sections	Equivalent to the following in the Achievement Pathways (NB: some may require a little more effort in order to fully achieve the Special Interest Award targeted by the participant)					Notes
Adventurous Journey – Silver Award Training, Practice and 3-day/2-night Final Adventurous Journey	Adventurous Journey 4 days, 3 nights (Venturer Scout or Rover Scout section)					Equivalent of Queen's Scout or Baden-Powell Scout Award Adventurous Journey with additional components from the relevant Outdoor Adventure Skill to the Journey activity discipline.
Note: an extra 6 months of effort must be undertaken in either Service, Skills or Physical Recreation at Silver Award level if the participant has NOT completed their Bronze Award.						
Service – Gold Award 12 months – Average 1hr per week (minimum of 52 hours effort)	Special Interest Area - Growth and Development 4 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 3 x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area - Environment 4 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 3 x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	Or	Special Interest Area - Creating a Better World 4 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 3 x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	The Special Interest Area project must be defined around volunteering or service in the community
Skills – Gold Award 12 months – Average 1hr per week (minimum of 52 hours effort)	Special Interest Area - Arts & Literature 4 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 3 x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area - STEM & Innovation 4 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 3 x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	or	Special Interest Area - Growth & Development 4 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 3 x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)	

Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Sections	Equivalent to the following in the Achievement Pathways (NB: some may require a little more effort in order to fully achieve the Special Interest Award targeted by the participant)					Notes
Physical Recreation – Gold Award 12 months – Average 1hr per week (minimum of 52 hours effort)	Special Interest Area - Adventure & Sport 4 x 12hr projects (Venturer Scout section) OR 3 x 18hr projects (Rover Scout section)					The Special Interest Area project must be defined around physical recreation.
Adventurous Journey – Gold Award Training, Practice and 4-day/3-night final Adventurous Journey	Adventurous Journey 4 days, 3 nights (Venturer Scout or Rover Scout section)					Equivalent of Queen's Scout or Baden-Powell Scout Award Adventurous Journey, with additional components from the relevant Outdoor Adventure Skill to the Journey activity discipline
<i>Residential Project – Gold Only</i> 5 days (4 nights)	<i>Leadership Camp</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>Jamboree type activity</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>Non-Scouting Options (e.g. RYLA/RYPEN)</i>	Must be with people not normally mix with
Note: an extra 6 months of effort must be undertaken in either Service, Skills or Physical Recreation at Gold Award level if the participant has NOT completed their Silver Award.						