

# THE ADVENTURE BEGINS

EXPLORE AND  
ACHIEVE WITH  
THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION  
AND THE DUKE OF  
EDINBURGH'S AWARD



## Doing your Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)

### Are you:

- Aged 14 to 24?
- A member of The Scout Association? Or would like to be a member?
- Up for a challenge?

Then why not do your DofE through The Scout Association?

### What is the DofE?

#### There are three levels of DofE programme:

- Bronze (minimum age 14).
- Silver (minimum age 15).
- Gold (minimum age 16).

#### To achieve your Award you must set goals and work towards them in the following sections:

- Volunteering.
- Skill.
- Physical.
- Expedition.
- Residential (Gold level only).

### What do I need to do?

You will need to agree on an activity for each section and set some goals with your Leader. This might include Scouting activities such as hiking, taking part in staged performances or being a Young Leader. It may also include hobbies such as dancing, playing a sport or learning a musical instrument. You're probably already doing some activities that could count. It is up to you whether you decide to start something as a beginner or work on an existing interest – as long as you are developing and having fun!

### How long will it take?

The duration of each section can be seen on the following pages (it varies between levels). You must complete an hour a week (or equivalent; such as two hours every two weeks) of your Volunteering, Skill and Physical activity for its duration. All awards must be completed by your 25th birthday.

### But what about my Scouting awards?

There's more good news! Time spent on completing your DofE programme also counts towards your top awards in Scouting. The top awards in Scouting have been carefully aligned with the DofE programme meaning that if you are registered for one you may as well register for the other. The details of how each level and section align can be found on the following pages.

If you choose to do your Gold DofE programme you can register for your Queen's Scout Award (QSA) and cross-credit all of the relevant sections. There are just a few more requirements you'll need to complete for the QSA and then you'll have achieved both awards! Both award programmes are highly respected by potential employers, colleges and universities, so the awards are great additions to your CV! Find out more about your QSA at [scouts.org.uk/QSA](https://scouts.org.uk/QSA).

## DofE and Scout Awards Levels and Requirements

### Bronze (14+ years old)



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
3 months*	3 months*	3 months*	(plan, train for and complete) 2 days and 1 night

\*You also have to do three more months in one of the Volunteering, Physical or Skill sections as one section has to be for a minimum of 6 months.

### Chief Scout's Platinum Award (14-18 year olds)



In addition to the above you need to complete the following:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts for at least six months.
- Complete six nights away, four of which must be camping.
- Complete two activities from the International, Community and Values (ICV) list available online at [scouts.org.uk/icvplatinum](http://scouts.org.uk/icvplatinum) (each activity should be from a different area).

### Silver (15+ years old)



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
6 months	One section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months		(plan, train for and complete) 3 days and 2 nights

If you didn't complete your Bronze DofE Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 6 months. This will make one section a minimum of 12 months.

### Chief Scout's Diamond Award (14-25 year olds)



If you didn't complete your Bronze DofE Award or your Chief Scout's Platinum Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section for which you are already doing for 6 months. This will make one section a minimum of 12 months.

In addition to the above you need to complete the following:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least 12 months. Complete twelve nights away, eight of which must be camping. This may include the nights counted for the Chief Scout's Platinum Award.
- Also complete four activities from the ICV list available online at [scouts.org.uk/icvdiamond](http://scouts.org.uk/icvdiamond). These should be different activities from your Chief Scout's Platinum Award and should include at least one from each area.

## Gold (16+ years old)



Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months		(plan, train for and complete) 4 days and 3 nights	Take part in a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights

If you didn't complete your Silver DofE Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 12 months. This will make one section a minimum of 18 months.

## Queen's Scout Award (16-25 year olds)



If you haven't completed your Silver DofE Award or your Chief Scout's Diamond Award, you must undertake a further 6 months in a section you are already doing for 12 months. This will make one section a minimum of 18 months.

In addition to the above you need to complete the following:

- Be a member of Explorer Scouts/Scout Network for at least 18 months. Complete 18 nights away, 12 of which must be camping.
- Complete six activities from the ICV list available online at [scouts.org.uk/icvqsa](https://scouts.org.uk/icvqsa), two from each area. If you hold the Chief Scout's Platinum Award, you only need to do four activities. If you have the Chief Scout's Diamond Award, you only need to do two activities.
- As the final activity, give a presentation to a suitable audience, that covers all elements of your award.

## Ready to get started?

The first step is to talk to your Leader or County DofE Adviser who can register you for the DofE programme. You can also register for the QSA at [scouts.org.uk/QSA](https://scouts.org.uk/QSA), or via your County QSA Adviser.

If you are just turning 14 years old you will register at Bronze level to start with, but if you are 16 or older you can decide which level to register for.

Once registered for DofE, you will receive an eDofE account and a Welcome Pack. It's important that you log into eDofE and keep your account up-to-date, as this is where you will submit your evidence and your Award once it is completed.

From there you will decide on your activities, goals and who your Assessors will be. Then all that's left is to have fun developing new skills and making memories.

## Find out more

Ask your leader for more information and take a look at [scouts.org.uk/dofe](https://scouts.org.uk/dofe) and [DofE.org](https://DofE.org).