Getting Started with your Award

Step 1 Decide which level of DofE programme you would like to do (this will depend on your age, time commitments, etc).

Step 2 Contact your Detachment DofE representative and arrange to register to do your DofE programme. Pay your fee and receive your Welcome Pack and eDofE account.

Step 3 Decide with your Leader what activities you are going to do for each section of your DofE programme.

Step 4 Get started! Don't forget to record the activities you are doing on eDofE and ask your Assessors to sign off each section as you complete them.

Step 5 Once your DofE programme is complete, submit it through eDofE to your DofE representative, who will arrange for you to receive your certificate and badge.

Step 6 Make sure you get your badge onto your patch, next to your ACS star. Attend a presentation ceremony to receive your certificate. Progress on to the next level of DofE programme.

How long will it take?

The time it will take to complete your programme and achieve an Award is in many ways down to you. The shortest amount of time in which you could complete your Bronze programme is six months; your Silver, six months; and your Gold, 12 months (direct entrants will take longer).

During your programme you'll need to do each activity for an average of an hour a week over this time. Don't forget – you have until your 25th birthday to complete any programme and achieve an Award!



The DofE Leadership Programme (16+years)

Members of the Cadet Forces aged 16 and over can follow the modular training programme in DofE Leadership. There are four separate modules – Introduction to the DofE, Teamwork and Leadership Skills, Managing a Group and Practical Leadership.

Speak with your County DofE Officer if you are interested in becoming a DofE Leader and helping cadets to complete their DofE.

November 2021



IN ACTION TOGETHER

MAKING THE MOST OF THE LINKS BETWEEN ARMY CADETS AND THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

ARMY CADETS
ARMYCADETS.COM

Crown Copyright 2021 - Army Cadets UK

What is the Duke of Edinburgh's Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is an internationally recognised Award which is highly respected by employers and higher education institutions, and will give you the opportunity to develop skills, interests and talents. Any person can do their DofE, regardless of ability, gender or background.



How does DofE fit into the Army Cadets?

As a member of the Cadet Forces, you can use your cadet activity towards achieving a Duke of Edinburgh's Award. There is a lot of overlap between DofE programmes and the activities you might take part in as an Army Cadet. Every Cadet is encouraged to register for DofE and complete their Award with the Army Cadets.

A personal interest, hobby, participation in a sport, or voluntary involvement in a school or outside club can also be used in your DofE programme.

BRONZE

You can start Bronze once you are in the school year in which you will turn 14.

To achieve your Bronze Award, you need to complete the following sections:

Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
3 months	3 months	3 months	Plan, train for and complete a 2 day, 1 night expedition
You must also undertake a further three months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.			

There are many activities which could count towards your DofE sections at Bronze, and some examples are shown below:

- Community Engagement activities can be used for the Volunteering section.
- Keeping Active can be used for the Physical section.
- First Aid and Skill at Arms plus Shooting can be used for the Skills section.
- A 2-Star Expedition counts as a Bronze DofE Expedition, and vice versa.

SILVER

You can start Silver once you are in the school year in which you will turn 15.

To achieve your Silver Award, you need to complete the following sections:

Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
6 months	One section for 6 months and the other section for 3 months		Plan, train for and complete a 3 day, 2 night expedition
If you have not achieved your Silver Award you must undertake a further six months in either your Volunteering or the longer of your Physical or Skills sections.			

There is a huge range of ACF activities which can count towards your DofE sections at Silver.
Check with your DofE Leader before beginning your sections. A 4-Star Expedition counts as a Silver DofE Expedition, and vice versa.

GOLD

You need to be 16 years of age or older.

To achieve your Gold Award, you need to complete the following sections:

Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One section for 12 months and the other section for 6 months		Plan, train for and complete a 4 day, 3 night expedition	Undertake a shared activity in a residential setting away from home for 5 days and 4 nights
If you have not achieved your Silver Award you must undertake a further six months in either your Volunteering or the longer of your Physical or Skills sections.				

- Your Gold DofE programme is the natural progression if you have completed the ACS programme.
- If you're a Cadet Force Adult Volunteer aged 18-24, then the Gold DofE programme is also available to you. Speak with your Detachment Commander for further information.