

# Queen's Scout Award

The Queen's Scout Award is the top achievement for Explorer Scouts and Scout Network members and comprises of a variety of activities to complete.

The Queen's Scout Award (QSA) is linked closely to the Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award and it is worth working on the two awards together.

To gain the award you must complete all of the following requirements before your 25th birthday.

## How to earn your badge:

### 1. Award participants must:

- Be aged 16 or older to start the award and complete the award before your 25th birthday
- Be a member of either Explorer Scouts or Scout Network (or a combination of both) for at least 18 months to complete the award
- Be a member of Explorer Scouts or Scout Network at the time you complete the award

This means members can only start working towards and count activities undertaken in achieving the QSA from their 16th Birthday. Activities and nights away completed in achievement of the Chief Scout Platinum and Diamond Awards can be counted towards the QSA.

### 2. Nights away

Complete 18 nights away as an Explorer Scout or Scout Network member, of which at least 12 must be camping.

Nights away used for this requirement must be different from nights away undertaken for one of the five challenge activities (such as expedition and residential) or those used for the ICV list, but can include those nights away used for the nights away requirement of the Chief Scout's Platinum or Chief Scout's Diamond Awards.

Nights away undertaken as an Explorer Scout Young Leader or by Scout Network members who are also an adult leader in Scouting may count towards this requirement, ie a night away with a Cub Pack where you volunteer.

### 3. International, community & values (ICV) list

Complete six activities in total, two from each topic area of the ICV activities list. [View the ICV list for the Queen's Scout Award.](#) A minimum of two must be from the QSA ICV list and the others from any of the QSA, or [Chief Scout Platinum](#) or [Diamond ICV lists](#).

If you have completed your Chief Scout's Platinum Award, you will have already done two activities and will only need to do a further four activities.

If you have completed your Chief Scout's Diamond Award, you will have already done four activities and will only need to do a further two activities.

#### **4. Presentation**

Make a presentation covering all elements of your award to a suitable audience, with the aim of inspiring and motivating others to achieve the award. The presentation should be the final activity you complete.

#### **5. Sign-off**

Each requirement needs to be signed off by an assessor, this is someone who can vouch for the activities you have undertaken and provide some basic evidence (a short statement) about your participation. This is often your Explorer Leader or your District Scout Network Commissioner. However, assessors can be anyone who has witnessed the activities you have undertaken for the specific requirement.

Once you have completed all of the above requirements, a Commissioner (appropriate to the section you are a member of) must approve your award as complete using the Logbook and Completion Form.

**Choose 1 of the following options:**

##### **1. Hold the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.**

Find out more about the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

##### **2. Complete the Queen's Scout Award Challenges:**

###### **a. Skill**

Take up a skill for six or 12 months\*, and show progress and lasting interest. The skill can be an existing interest or something entirely new.

###### **b. Physical activity**

Take up a physical activity for six or 12 months\*, completing an agreed programme by taking part and achieving your objectives.

###### **c. Service**

Provide service to an individual or the community for 12 months. Briefing and training should be given in order to gain the necessary skills. This may include helping with another section of the Movement as an Explorer Scout Young Leader or adult volunteer.

###### **d. Expedition**

Undertake training, a practice expedition and a four-day, three-night self-led final expedition (including a project).

You should undertake training (to show you are ready to do your expedition, a practice expedition and then the final expedition).

- Training

Before you undertake any expedition you should demonstrate that you are competent in the following areas:

1. First aid (covering First Response as a minimum) and emergency procedures
2. Risk assessment/health and safety
3. Navigation and route planning
4. Camp craft, equipment and hygiene
5. Food and cooking
6. Country, highway and water sports codes
7. Observation, recording and presentation
8. Team building
9. Proficiency in mode of travel

- Practice

Undertake a minimum three-day, two-night (consecutive) self-led expedition in wild country by foot, cycle, horse, canoe, boat or dinghy.

- Final

Undertake a four-day, three-night (consecutive) self-led expedition with an aim. The expedition should be completed in wild country by the same method used in your practice. Expeditions should have a minimum of eight hours of activity per day, of which at least half must be journeying. The final expedition must be undertaken in a different area to the practice with similar conditions, and ideally with the same team of people.

e. Residential

Undertake a five-day, four-night residential project in an unfamiliar environment with people that are unknown to you. This project could be environmental work, project-based, service to others or personal training.

In exceptional circumstances this can be done over two consecutive weekends as long as the activity is the same and the majority of people are unknown to you.

## Queens Scout's Award ICV list

You'll need to do six activities from the list, two from each section. You can include activities that you completed as part of the ICV list for the Chief Scout's Platinum or Chief Scout's Diamond Award. This means that if you have the Chief Scout's Platinum Award, you only need to complete four more activities; if you have the Chief Scout's Diamond Award, you only need to complete two more activities.

An activity can't count for this requirement if you're using it for any other requirement of the award (for example, taking part in an international camp can't be used for both a residential and an international requirement).

We're all about flexibility when it comes to the ICV list – you should be able to shape your own award and push yourself to develop in areas that you enjoy while developing skills and achieving things that make you proud. If you're a Scout Network member, you can use the [UK Scout Network website](#) to search for local and national projects to get involved in that cover elements of the ICV list.

### International

This section is all about exploring global issues and taking part in international opportunities.

- Complete your [Explorer Belt](#) or be a mentor to an Explorer Belt team.
- Take an active part in a project with an international development organisation. Present your experience to your Unit, Scout Network, or another relevant audience, such as another section.
- Take an active part in a camp in another country (for example, a jamboree or moot) and present your experience to your Unit, Scout Network, or another relevant audience, such as another section.
- Take an active part in an international camp in the UK in a role other than being a participant.
- Take part in a project at a campsite abroad, such as Kandersteg.
- Organise a series of six evening programmes for your Unit on an international theme agreed with your mentor.
- Organise a series of six evening programmes for another section on an international theme agreed with your mentor.
- Complete the [Scouts of the World Award](#).
- Complete any activity of a similar nature agreed beforehand and registered with your mentor.

### Community

This section is all about developing your knowledge and skills and putting them into practice to make a real difference in your local community.

- Research and participate in a local environmental or community based project to make an improvement in the environment or on the community. This could be within Scouts or another organisation. Present your experience to your Unit or Scout Network.
- Complete the requirements to achieve stage four of the [Community Impact Staged Activity Badge](#).
- Take an active role in growing and developing Scouts in your local community.
- Complete the [Scouts of the World Award](#).
- Complete any activity of a similar nature agreed beforehand and registered with your mentor.

## Values

This section is all about reflecting upon your own and others' beliefs and exploring what the Scout values mean to you.

- Take a regular part in leading time for spiritual reflection for others. This could be within or outside of Scouts (for example, at a place of worship).
- Take an active part in a project examining your own faith or beliefs and understanding how they affect you. Discuss your experience with your mentor or present your experience to a relevant audience.
- Run a series of activities with another section that explore Scout values and what they mean to you and others. Reflect on how you live by the Scout values, and discuss with your mentor.
- Organise a series of six activities for your Unit or another section to explore different faiths and beliefs.
- Complete the Scouts of the World Award.
- Complete any activity of a similar nature agreed beforehand and registered with your mentor.