



Award Unit Trip Pre-Approval

The Adventurous Journey and Gold/Residential Project components of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award are two key components in participants' Award experience. The goal of the Adventurous Journey is to develop self-reliance by undertaking an interesting journey of discovery in the natural environment. The goal of the Residential Project is to develop social adaptability through involvement with others in a group setting.

In an effort to maintain the integrity of the Award, the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award – Ontario Division is currently reviewing all trips offered by our Award Units as qualifying Adventurous Journeys or Gold/Residential Projects. In order to be licensed by The International Award, we must ensure that the requirements are the same for all participants.

Adventurous Journey Requirements

The Adventurous Journey section is comprised of three parts: preliminary training, practice journey and qualifying journey. Each part must be completed as a distinct activity for the Adventurous Journey to be considered "complete." For additional information about Adventurous Journey requirements, please visit: <https://www.dukeofed.org/award-section-adventurous-journey>

Preliminary Training:

This training should be undertaken before the practice trip (and MUST be done before the Qualifying Journey.) Skills learned in preliminary training are those required to prepare for and undertake a safe practice and qualifying journey. Elements of the training can be reinforced during the practice trip (map reading, compass skill) but as much as possible should be completed prior to the practice trip.

Practice Journey:

Practice Journeys MUST take place prior to, and be separate from, the Qualifying Journey. The goal is to prepare a participant for a qualifying journey so that they can use the knowledge and experience gained on the Practice Journey to adapt their packing and preparation for the "real thing." There MUST be a distinction between the two trips (Practice and Qualifying) that allows a participant to repack, refocus, change and/or adjust gear. Simply making a Qualifying Journey longer does not mean the Practice Journey has been completed.

Bronze	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One full day of activity (6 hours minimum) • must be appropriate to the type of expedition being undertaken. • Some overlap of campcraft skills is accepted (canoeing vs hiking) but prior to the qualifying expedition there MUST be training in the focussed activity of the qualifying journey
Silver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two days activity and one night out (7 hours per day minimum purposeful activity) of activity. • Activities during the practice trip MUST reinforce the skills required for the Qualifying Journey (eg a canoe Qualifying Expedition MUST have a canoe Practice Journey)
Gold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two days activity and one night out (8 hours per day minimum purposeful activity) of activity.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Again, Practice Journeys MUST be appropriate to the type of Qualifying Expedition being undertaken. |
|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Qualifying Journey

For Expeditions (A Trip with a Purpose), there must be an element of travelling and different campsites must be used except where this proves too difficult or impossible to manage. In that case, pre-approval for that type of trip is required from the divisional office. The primary focus of the trip is the journey.

For Explorations (A Purpose with a Trip), there must be an element of travelling, but base camps may be used. The primary focus of an Exploration is to observe and collect information relevant to the purpose of the trip.

The requirements for distance travelled are to be used as guidelines only. The more important requirement is the number of hours per day spent on expedition activities. These activities include the travelling from one campsite to another as well as the time spent breaking down and setting up the camps and time spent managing the campsite (meals, starting a fire, etc.) The average hours per day must meet the required minimum (Bronze: 6, Silver: 7, Gold: 8). For most expeditions, the requirement is that participants stay in tents or non-permanent shelters except where it might be unsafe or restricted to do so. If tents are not to be used, you should contact our office for confirmation that the planned accommodation will meet Award requirements.

Participants should be involved in the planning of the menu and they must be involved in the packing, preparation and clean-up of the meals.

Qualifying Journey Length is as follows:

- Bronze: 2 days, including 1 night away
- Silver: 3 days, including 2 nights away
- Gold: 4 days, including 3 nights away

Gold/Residential Project Requirements

The intention of the Gold Project is to involve participants in a planned project or training in the company of their peers who are not their usual, everyday companions with whom they live or work. The project should provide opportunities for participants to develop maturity and accept responsibility.

In order to embark on a Gold Project, participants must be at least 16 years of age, regardless of Award level. The Gold Project must be a minimum of 5 days and 4 nights in length. For additional information about Gold Project requirement, please visit: <https://www.dukeofed.org/award-section-residential-project>

Trip Pre-Approval Form

For each trip that your Award Unit is taking during this coming year, please fill out one of the Trip Pre-Approval forms. Your trip will be assessed by our Award Office Staff and we will contact you with approval or for more information if needed. If there are any changes to your itinerary for any reason, please make sure you let our office know so that we can ensure that the requirements are still being met. Trip pre-approvals will only be valid for the dates specified on the form. Regardless of any prior approvals of trips, we do need each trip for the 2017-2018 year to be pre-approved.

For trips in Summer and Fall of 2017, it is important that your pre-approval forms be submitted as soon as possible so that we can communicate their eligibility. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Ontario Division at ontario@dukeofed.org.



Award Unit Trip Pre-Approval Form

Name of Award Unit/Group	
Award Leader	
Award Leader Email and Phone Number	

What is the name of this trip?

Which level of the Award are you expecting this trip to count for? (Circle One or More)

Bronze Adventurous Journey	Silver Adventurous Journey	Gold Adventurous Journey	Gold Residential Project
----------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

N.B. If a trip is approved to count for a GOLD Adventurous Journey, it can count for the Bronze or Silver or Gold Adventurous Journeys.

For Adventurous Journeys Only:

This trip is:

EXPEDITION	EXPLORATION	OTHER (only available for participants over 18)
------------	-------------	-------------------------------------------------

For Explorations Only

What is your topic of study?	
What research will be completed before the trip?	
What research/study will be conducted during the trip?	
What findings are you expecting from the trip and how will they be reported?	

General Information (Please fill out for ALL Trips)

What dates does the Preliminary Training take place?	
------------------------------------------------------	--

What dates does the Practice Journey take place?	
What dates does the Qualifying Journey take place?	
For the Qualifying Journey:	
On the first day, what time do you start the Qualifying journey?	
On the last day, what time do you end the Qualifying journey?	
Are you using an external provider to help you organize this trip? (Circle one)	Yes
If yes, what is the name of that organization?	No
Who is your contact with the organization? What is their contact information (phone/email)?	

Specific Information

Who are the participants in this trip? (e.g. all grade nines, the Scout troop, selected students from the school – all grades)	
How many participants will be on the trip?	
Please describe the accommodations on this trip:	
Please describe how food will be prepared on this trip:	
Where does your trip take place? (Please be as precise as possible with this. A map with the route attached is very helpful.)	
What is the mode of transportation during this trip (i.e. cycle, paddle, foot):	
What is the distance that will be covered on this trip (you may want to include a route map and/or itinerary):	
Are you moving each night or staying in one place with day trips?	

What role do the participants play in planning/leadership during this trip?	
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------	--