

The Resilience Fund

GUIDANCE



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)
Resilience Fund: **Support for Young People
and Licensed Organisations**



**YOUTH
WITHOUT
LIMITS**

DofE.org

Fund **OVERVIEW**



As young people face up to today's challenges, we know the DofE has never been more needed.

In line with our strategy, **Youth Without Limits**, we are committed to ensuring that the DofE is open to all young people and that our participants reflect the most diverse generation of young people ever.

To break down barriers to participation, we're re-launching the Resilience Fund and combining this with our Support for Current Licensed Organisation funding.

Who does this fund support?

This fund supports marginalised young people for whom one or more of the below applies to do their DofE:

- Those who have additional needs
- Those who are deemed 'at risk'¹
- Those who receive Free School Meals (FSM)
- Those who are eligible for Pupil Premium (PP), Pupil Equity Funding or the 16-19 Bursary
- Young people at risk of exclusion from education
- Those who are looked after or in care
- Young people who are responsible for caring for someone else
- Parents under the age of 18
- Young people whose first language is not English, Welsh or Gaelic
- Asylum seekers
- Refugees
- Young people in custody
- Other – the Licensed Organisation must specify.





What does this fund support?



Bronze, Silver, and Gold DofE Participation Places:

Each Licensed Organisation can apply for Participation Places to be used to support marginalised young people within their Organisation access the DofE award at no cost.



Participant bursaries:

Each Licensed Organisation can apply for Participant Bursaries which can be used to directly support an identified young person with external costs associated with the Expedition or Residential section of their Award.

Up to a maximum of £125 per young person

- Can be used to cover one-off **Approved Activity Provider (AAP)** costs relating to the Expedition and/or Residential sections.
- Can be used to cover food up to a maximum of £15 per 24 hour period when undertaking their Expedition section.
- Can be used to cover campsite, bunkhouse, or similar fees up to a maximum of £15 per night for the duration of their Expedition.

- Can **ONLY** be used to cover the following personal expedition equipment:²



- Can be used to cover participants **personal travel** to/from their expedition and/or residential sections. Eligible costs would include a) train, bus, or taxi fares; b) mileage rates (own vehicle) at 45p/mile.

Personal expedition equipment should be kept by participants beyond their DofE programme, enabling access to similar activities in the future. This section is not designed to fund equipment for LO's equipment stores. This can be covered through the sectional equipment section. If any young person does not anticipate using the equipment beyond their DofE, we encourage the LO to collect unwanted items so that participants in future years can benefit.



² All costs should exclude VAT unless the Licensed Organisation self-declares on the grant application form that they are unable to reclaim VAT. Then they should only include VAT for items which are eligible for VAT reclaim.



Sectional equipment²

Licensed Organisations can apply for up to £2,000 in total to purchase sectional equipment to help support the participants undertaking their DofE activities:

- **Up to £1,250 can be used for Expedition sectional equipment**, where the LO is required to replace equipment or purchase additional equipment to meet the growing needs of their DofE delivery.
- **Up to £250 can be used for each of the following sections:** Volunteering, Physical and Skills.

All requested items **MUST:**

- Be reusable for DofE activity.
- Be owned and retained by the Licensed Organisation, who must have the ability to store and maintain them so they can be used again.
- Demonstrate value for money.
- Clearly help facilitate the activity and support participants to do their DofE.



Expedition equipment

Up to a maximum of £1,250 per LO

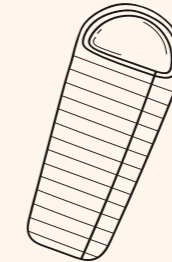
Funding can only be used to cover the following expedition equipment:



Tents



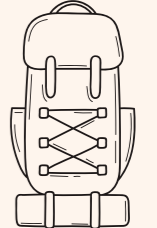
Cooking equipment (excluding fuel)



Sleeping bags and sleeping bag liners



Roll mats



Rucksacks and rucksack liners



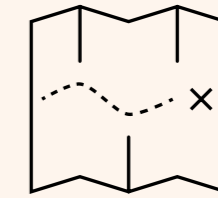
Waterproof jackets



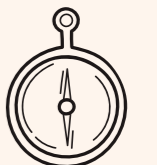
Waterproof trousers



Walking boots



Maps and map cases



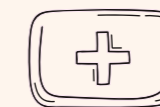
Compasses



GPS Trackers (excluding subscriptions)



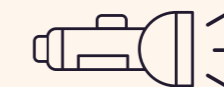
Plates and cutlery



First aid kits



Survival shelters/bags



Torches



Safety equipment for participants completing their expedition via modes of travel other than walking (e.g. buoyancy aids for water-based travel, helmets for cycling).

[For more information on recommended kit please visit our website](#)



Volunteering / Physical / Skill section equipment

Up to a maximum of £250 for each section

- The items should enable the LO to start or continue to offer sectional activities to multiple cohorts.
- The equipment purchased will help to facilitate the activity and support completion of the section for participants.





External training for DofE Adult Leaders

- An LO can apply for up to 50% of the total cost for DofE Adult Leaders to undertake appropriate expedition related training. An LO can apply for a maximum of £500.

Courses we will fund include:

- Lowland Leader
- Lowland Expedition Leader
- Hill and Moorland Leader
- Summer Mountain Leader
- Minibus Driver Training
- First Aid
- National Governing Body Qualifications in other modes of travel such as mountain biking or canoeing will also be considered if required to complete a DofE expedition.
- Pre-approved localised adult training courses required by the LO's risk assessment.



DofE Licence Fee support

- 25% of the 2025/26 DofE Licence Fee



LO Delivery support

To support with the delivery of the DofE an LO can apply for up to £250 of funding.

This funding can be used for, but not limited to:

- Travel to sectional activities, this can include the use of the LO transport, hire of minibus/bus/coach. Fuel costs at 15p/mile for hired vehicles and 45p/mile for personal vehicles.
- Can be used to cover food and drinks up to a maximum of £15 per 24-hour period per adult whilst supervising DofE Expeditions for the LO.
- Can be used to cover campsite, bunkhouse, or similar fees up to a maximum of £15 per night per adult whilst supervising DofE Expeditions for the LO.
- Leader expedition equipment; this equipment must be retained by the LO to ensure that adult leaders have access to the equipment should they require.
 - Waterproof jackets and trousers
 - Walking boots
 - Sleeping bags
- LO costs associated with delivery of the DofE, such as maintenance of equipment (replacing tent poles, re-waterproofing jackets and trousers) printing of certificates and maps.





“ Located in an area of Blackpool which has high levels of deprivation, there are many families on low incomes and therefore opportunities like the Duke of Edinburgh are fantastic for the students as it allows them to access activities and skills that they might not have the opportunity to do, due to The Resilience Funding that we receive off the Duke of Edinburgh. Having access to The Resilience Funding has been absolutely life changing for individuals at South Shore Academy. It has allowed nearly 300 students over the last three years to be able to access the DofE who without this funding would never have had the opportunity to do this.”

Amy Leach, DofE Manager,
South Shore Academy, Blackpool

Key dates

- The Resilience Fund will **open for applications from the W/C 6th January 2025.**
- The Fund will **close applications on 28th February 2025,** or sooner should the DofE decide to do so.
- The Fund will **reopen for applications in May 2025.**



Application Process



Please contact your DofE Operations Officer for further guidance or support.

Step 1

Contact your DofE Operations Officer to find out more.

Step 2

If eligible, complete the DofE's Grant Application Form with the support of your Operations Officer.

Step 3

Submit your application form, including reading and confirming you agree to the DofE's standard Terms and Conditions.

Step 4

Your application will be reviewed, and you will be informed whether you have been successful by email by your Operations Officer.

Step 5

If successful, use your grant in line with the agreement, making sure you keep copies of all receipts/invoices.

Step 6

Complete an interim and final report in line with the reporting dates on the grant application.

Reporting requirements

Successful Licensed Organisations will be required to submit an interim report six months after the grant approval date. A final report will then be due 12 months after the grant approval date. This will detail how the grant has supported more young people from marginalised backgrounds to do their DofE, and the positive impact this has had. Grantees must retain all invoices and receipts associated with the expenditure as these may be requested during the reporting process.

