



Universities & The International Award



*challenging
young people
everywhere*

The International Award: Benefits to Students

Balancing studies and, for many, a part-time job or voluntary work, can be hard enough without joining a club or society. But taking part in the Award Programme enables students to get recognised for their existing activities.

The Award is a life changing experience that enables individuals to:

- 🌱 Learn new skills, such as team work, communication and problem solving, which they can add to their CV; skills which employers find valuable
- 🌱 Complete the Award alongside their studies and other commitments
- 🌱 Make a difference to their community through volunteering, and impress employers with their commitment to helping others
- 🌱 Build their confidence by trying something new
- 🌱 Make lasting friendships



"I enrolled at the Perbanas School of Economics after I received my Silver Award. Because of the international standard of my Award certificate, I received a scholarship, which covered about 50% of my fees. I also gained confidence, communication and time management skills from completing the Award. With the abilities I gained, I got a job and I now work part time at STIE Perbanas in the Perbanas Career Center." Ferdian, Student, Indonesia

The International Award: Benefits to Institutions

The Award provides direct benefits to institutions themselves, not least as a way to ensure students have a positive learning experience. The Award can:

- 🌱 Add value to learning by integrating a programme that offers practical experience and builds confidence
- 🌱 Help an institution build positive relationships with local businesses and the wider community
- 🌱 Build a reputation as an institution of choice for students looking for more than just a qualification
- 🌱 Empower a team of student volunteers who go on to become Award leaders themselves who promote the Award and the institution

"The Award is beneficial to both students and institutions, not least as a way to engage with the local community. The Award is generating positive publicity for the University of Limerick and its students. There are times when the media can only focus on negative stories about student behaviour. Having positive coverage about students who are involved in good causes helps to change people's attitudes and, therefore, build better relations in the community." Aidan Healy, Student Development Co-ordinator, University of Limerick, Ireland



The International Award: A Programme for Life



Encourages responsibility to the community through service projects such as AIDS awareness, conservation work, or specialised training such as life saving



Encourages the development of personal interests & life skills; participants choose from an almost unlimited range of activities from arts & crafts to computing



Encourages a spirit of adventure, resourcefulness, problem solving, an understanding of the environment & the importance of teamwork



Encourages improved physical performance, perseverance & a healthy lifestyle; it could be a team or individual sport, but the emphasis is always on individual progress

RESIDENTIAL PROJECT

At Gold Level, young people also undertake a residential project over a period of five days.

The Reward

Most students are able to enter the Programme at Gold Level, but can enter at Bronze or Silver if they wish. Find out more at www.intaward.org



The International Award: Working in Communities



"At Egerton University, located in Njoro 200 km from Nairobi, the Award is helping young people make a difference in their communities. Award participants are teaching in primary and secondary schools, providing information on HIV/AIDS and taking part in outreach work to support parents. They are also fundraising to help send three children from primary schools they've visited on to secondary education.

"Participating in the Award Programme has been a powerful experience. Since joining the Programme, campus life has been fun and organised. It has instilled discipline and motivation to studies and other activities. There is the joy of participating in an activity and achieving what you set.

"Though some things are not fun, the spirit of perseverance developed after attending expeditions and physical recreation comes in handy. More still, becoming an Award leader and seeing participants through the Programme feels comforting. It gives one the opportunity to pass on the knowledge to someone else. I cannot tell how I would be if I did not join the Award, but I bet it would not have been as good as now."

John Paul Kibet, Award holder and unit leader at Egerton University, Kenya.



The International Award: A Positive Learning Experience

Skills & experience for life

"The Award ensures you always have something to talk about in interviews. It isn't just the Award itself, but rather a key to interpret the things you have done in the past. It guarantees life experience, teamwork and commitment - all things employers look for." Alex Murphy, Gold Award holder and board member, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Australia



Recognising hard work

"The Award recognises young people for the list of extra-curricular and voluntary activities to which they give their time. It's often tough to balance school or college with activities, but the Award makes it easier. I think it's because at the end of it you have something that rewards you for all the work you put in!" Aoife Finnerty, student, Ireland

Standing out from the crowd

"As an employer I often look for something that will distinguish an applicant from other candidates. When I see that someone has participated in the Award I immediately prioritise that candidate. The Gold Award in particular demonstrates the qualities of leadership, initiative and social conscience that I am looking for in my employees." Liam Dobson, employer, Australia

Building self-confidence

"Joining the Programme was one of the best decisions I've made. My participation in the Gold Award has provided me with many learning opportunities and new experiences. In the process, it has allowed me to forge new friendships and rebuild my self-confidence." Alvin Lee, Gold Award holder and Senior administrative officer, National University of Singapore



Empowering young people

"Through this excellent Programme I have become focused, set a goal for myself and achieved it. Now I believe in myself that nothing is impossible." Tukhbita Afroz Nawmi, student, Bangladesh

To find out more about the Award and how you can take part as an institution, contact sect@intaward.org

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association
Award House, 7-11 St Matthew Street, London, SW1P 2JT
Tel: +44 (0)20 7222 4242 Fax: +44 (0)20 7222 4141
sect@intaward.org
www.intaward.org

© 2009 The Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Association



*challenging
young people
everywhere*