



International award of Duke of Edinburg



Original language:
Slovak

Country:
Slovakia

Source:
International award of Duke of
Edinburg

Link: <http://www.dofe.sk>
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Target group
X Teacher / trainer
 Counsellor
 Social worker
X Youth worker
X future employer
 other:

Type of best practice
 tool
 initiative/campaign
 project
 website only
X programme
 model
X training
 learning material
 other:

Experiences
 available for more than 5 years
X available for less than 5 years
 pilot phase / testing
 in development
 unknown

Summary:

Duke of Edinburgh learning programme (DofE) is a programme led on high schools, where the students plan, organize and realize their personal development in 4 areas: talent, sport, volunteering and adventurous expedition. After successfully completing the learning program and the set goals, the participants receive a certificate validating the gained competences. This certificate is applicable in the admission procedure for some of the world's universities, particularly those from English-speaking countries. Successfully managing the program can also attract a future employer, given that the certificate itself is a proof of the young person's honest work to develop his/her own competencies.



Description:

In the DofE program, young people set individual goals and challenges in a number of activities and this way they strengthen their responsibility and perseverance, they learn to overcome themselves and acquire new skills useful for further academic and professional life. By joining the program, moreover, they become a part of the international community.

Areas and levels of the program

The international price of the Duke of Edinburgh is built on four key areas, in which young people are involved: talent, sport, volunteering and adventurous expedition. All areas have three difficulty levels, from bronze to gold. Each young person is appraised after completing one level and motivated for further development.

The main condition for entering the program is age 14-24 years. The two main conditions for completion are to engage at least one hour a week in selected activities in all four areas of the program and fulfill their individual targets for each area of the program. In DofE, the participants are not competing against each other, but each has to overcome himself/herself.

Talent development

The possibilities are many - playing musical instruments, languages, ceramics, business, IT, science or perhaps some technical skill.

Sports activity

In this area, the program young people improve their athletic performance, physical fitness, get to know the joy of movement and learn to respect the principles of a healthy lifestyle.

Volunteering

Volunteering is one way to give and receive at the same time. Participants in the program meet new people, they learn empathy, tolerance and patience. They learn how to be responsible and useful to society.

Adventure Expedition

Adventure expedition is a challenge to overcome the fear of the unknown and an opportunity to hang out with a bunch of friends for a few days to discover interesting places in Slovakia and abroad.

Residential project

During the residential project are the participants of the gold level program acquainted with new friends in an unfamiliar environment and they occupy themselves with interesting and meaningful activity of their choice. Residential project may be, for example, camp-week internship, exchange trip or volunteering project in Slovakia or abroad.

To make the completion of the DofE program challenging for young people, it is important that their goals are set individually. If it is too easy for the participant to achieve his/her objective, he/she does not reach sufficient satisfaction in its fulfillment. On the other hand, if it is too hard, the participant may feel discouraged. Therefore, the program has three levels with different intensity - bronze, silver and gold. It is possible to start with the bronze level or get down at the silver or gold level.



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Contributing partner : Qualed