



Scout Chief Scout Award - **Scouter**

The Crean Award:

Endurance:

Planning
Promise & Law
Scouting Involvement
Patrol Responsibility
Patrol & Troop Activities
Environment
Community
Skills

Polar:

Self Awareness
Promise & Law
Patrol & Troop Activities
Share Skills
Environment
Community
Skills

SPICES

All

Adventure Skills

3 Different Skills

The CSA Guide

Objective:

To introduce and explain what is involved in the Chief Scout Award for the Scout Section

Roles:

Scout
Programme Scouter
Chief Scout Award Mentor
Advisors, Instructors, Supervisors, Coaches





Plan...CSA

The Chief Scout Award is an Award open to all older Scouts. For it you need to do 4 Special Interest Badges, progress in 3 Adventure Skills, an expedition and a four day camp.

Requirements:

A Scout must be at least 14 to begin the Award.

- 1 Skill Special Interest Badge
- 1 Physical Special Interest Badge
- 1 Community Special Interest Badge
- 1 Environment Special Interest Badge
- 2 Adventure Skills to Stage 4
- 1 Adventure Skill to Stage 6
- An Expedition: Walking 25 -35 km (or an alternative travel method) over 2 consecutive days and one night
- Residential/Intercultural: Shared activity with a group in a residential/camp setting for 4 days and 3 nights, must include an *intercultural aspect* and a *community project*.

Note: A Special Interest Badge for the Scout CSA must involve at least an hour a week for 13 Weeks for Skill, Physical and Community. Also, an additional 13 weeks must be completed for one of these. The Environment Special Interest Badge should involve a similar a time commitment to the other Badges but it can be spread over a shorter time scale.

Please ensure that the Scout understandings that the Special Interest Badges for the CSA are different to other ones they may have previously done.

International Award:

The Chief Scout Award is linked with the International Award, which is known as Gaisce – The President’s Award in the Republic of Ireland and as the Duke of Edinburgh Award in the United Kingdom. When you get your Scout Section Chief Scout Award, you will also receive your Bronze Gaisce or DoE.





Plan...CSA

Main Elements of the CSA:

1. Marathon, not a Sprint

The CSA will take several months to complete, so it is important that you think of it as something you work on over a long period of time. You will need to combine weekly activities, with progress in your adventure skills, as well as large projects like the residential activity. With a good plan, you can complete it all in time.

2. NEW Challenges

The CSA is about doing new things. The Award begins when you register for it and meet your CSA Mentor. However, any Special Interest Badges or Adventure Skills you have at that stage, do not count towards the CSA. It is about new challenges.

If a Scout is considering doing the CSA please explain this to them and ensure that they understand the concept of new learning.

3. The Spirit of the Award

You need to get into the spirit of the Award. There are some technicalities, but mainly it is about you trying new things, committing to activities and doing your best.

4. Part of your Programme

The CSA should be part of your main programme. The activities, camps and expeditions you organise should be done with your Patrol and Troop.





Plan...CSA

Special Interest Badges

Community _____

Physical _____

Skill _____

Environment _____

Expedition:

Type _____

Route _____

When _____

Adventure Skills

Skill to Stage 6 _____

Skill to Stage 6 _____

Skill to Stage 6 _____

Residential & Intercultural:

Type _____

Other Group _____

Location _____

Project _____





Plan...CSA

Adults involved:

Programme Scouters

Your Section Scout will help you plan, do and review many of the parts of your CSA.

You should discuss your role with the Mentor and direct any technical questions to them if you are unsure of things. Parts of the Award have requirements outside of SI's control, so do not answer any questions you are unsure of. The Mentor is there to help.

Chief Scout Award Mentor

The Mentor is someone who has received special training to help you with the CSA. They may be a Scouter from your Group or another Group in your County. You will meet them at the start to help you plan your Award, they will then meet you every few weeks to discuss things with you and review progress. They will be the person who signs the forms to say you have completed the Award.

Advisors, Instructors, Supervisors, Coaches

Some of the Special Interest Badges will involve you doing activities outside of Scouts, in that case, you will need an appropriate person, such as a coach or an instructor, to sign off on these specific challenges.



Technical Bits:

There are some technical parts to the CSA you need to be aware of before you start.

Registration

You need to register for the CSA with Scouting Ireland's National Office, you have not begun the Award until you are registered and have received your CSA booklet. Talk to your Section Scouters about arranging getting forms and sending them off.

Forms and Records

There are some forms and records you will need to keep and fill out as you are doing the CSA. It's nothing too complicated, but they are important. Also, you will need to keep logs and records of any Scouting activities you complete.

All the forms are available online or from National Office, if you are unsure of who your local Mentor is, one can be assigned to you.





Do...CSA

Special Interest Badges:

Skill: This can be to acquire a new skill or develop an existing one – e.g. drama, cooking, painting, martial arts, web site design, musical instrument, foreign language.

Physical: Any physical pursuit or activity – e.g. athletics, sports team, caving, archery, training for a marathon.

Community: Participation in a community organisation: helping out in Beaver Scouts or Cub Scouts, volunteering with St Vincent de Paul or an After School Club.

Environment: An activity or sets of events which makes a positive impact on the environment and natural world – e.g. running a Leave No Trace day for a Scout Group, caring for an allotment, learning about pollution and personal responsibility.

Expedition:

- It should be a challenge for you and your patrol, it can be walking, hillwalking, cycling, kayaking or canoeing.
- It has to be a substantial expedition with an overnight component.
- You will need to organise and lead it
- You must keep records: a short written log, an activity programme, a route card, sketch map, a budget, a menu and photos.

Residential/Intercultural Events:

- You will need to organise and lead it
- It needs to be a shared activity with another group of people who you do not know: eg. A Scout Troop from another Scout County, a Girl Guide Group, a youth club/youth café group, a youth group from a culturally or socially different area, a youth group for special needs.
- It needs to have a substantial intercultural element
- Run a community project
- You must keep records: a short written log, an activity programme, a budget, a menu and photos.





Review "SPICES"

Social

- Relationships
- Communication Skills
- Other Cultures
- Community Involvement
- Promise & Law

Physical

- Eat Well
- Personal Hygiene
- Balanced Lifestyle
- How Body works
- Physical Limitations
- Health Choices
- Access Help

Intellectual

- Achieving Goals
- New Ideas
- Learn from Decisions
- Team Member

Character

- Promise & Law
- Friends & Friendships
- Plan before do
- Ensuring Fairness
- Respect
- Differences & Views
- Following Dreams
- Live the Scouting Spirit

Emotional

- Aware of feelings
- Asking/Giving Help
- Responsibility for Emotions
- Controlling Emotions
- Going Further
- Beliefs & Values
- Developing Talents

Spiritual

- Promise & Law
- Impact on Environment
- Reflection
- Changing Beliefs





Review Summary

The Chief Scout Award will take several months if not a year to complete. Instead of having an overall review, it would be better to use the other reviews throughout the Award to shape the final review.

The final review of the Chief Scout Award should be more like a Food Dump Review than a standard activity review. It will be made up of generally looking over the progress made and seeing what areas of the SPICES were met.

This review should be more conversational, maybe involving the Mentor as well. You can look over the reviews from all the other aspects of the Award. Each Special Interest badge will have been reviewed separately, as will each activity that was completed for the Adventure Skills.

Moving On

The Chief Scout Award will be finished up during the Scout's final year in the Scout Section. This final review can help the young person as they transition into Venture Scouts and beginning the Personal Progression Scheme for that Section.

