

# Duke of Ed and COVID-19: Frequently Asked Questions

***Q. I am already doing an Activity and I will not be able to physically see my Assessor while I am at home, what should I do?***

A. If your current Assessor is unable to assess your activity remotely exceptions may be granted by the Award Leader, on behalf of the Award Centre, or the AOA who will consider the level and nature of familiarity of the 'family member' to the Award participant and any special needs relationship e.g. medical or special care provider.

With prior approval from your Award Leader (can be via email) your Award Leader can act as the Assessor for the activity. In this instance, participants should create diary entries, photo and video records as well as use other remote communication channels such as video calls to check in with their Award Leader. A parent/guardian can liaise with the Assessor to assist in verifying the participant's progress with their Section.

***Q. I have added a new no contact Activity to an Award Section. Who can be my Assessor if I will only have physical contact with my family?***

A. With prior approval from your Award Leader (can be via email) your Award Leader can act as the Assessor for the activity. Family members can support you and your Award activities during this time however you will need to maintain detailed Online Record Book logs with supporting photos, videos etc. and regular contact (telephone, email etc.) with your Award Leader.

***Q. How can I continue to make progress towards my Adventurous Journey (AJ) Section?***

A. In most circumstances it will not be possible for AJs to be undertaken however participants can research and plan for journeys. Participants and Award Leaders should keep abreast of current Queensland Government [health alerts](#) and make decisions about AJs based on this advice.

***Q. Can I continue on to the next level of The Duke of Ed Award without having completed my current level?***

A. Participants are encouraged to complete all Sections of one level of their Award before progressing on to another level. However, if there is good cause for a participant to commence the next level then, with their Award Leader's approval, they may start with a Section at the next level provided that they:

- have completed that Section (including signed off by the Award Leader) in their current level
- have completed 3 Sections of the current level
- have made a substantial commencement of the Section that has not been completed
- have reached the minimum age of entry for the new level
- complete the lower level before the higher level can be approved for sign-off, or the higher level will be treated as a direct entry including the need for one Section to be completed as a Major.

\*See 1.8.5.9 in the [Award Handbook](#).

This is particularly relevant for Qualifying AJs cancelled due to COVID-19. This allows participants to start logging Physical Recreation, Voluntary Service and Skills at the next level while waiting to complete their previous level AJ Qualifier.