



Youth Advance

Empowering Young People Around Australia

Our mission is to provide opportunities to young Australians which will challenge and reward them through active engagement, personal pursuits and community-based projects.

Proud to deliver



YouthAdvance Australia - NSW

YouthAdvance Australia is proud to introduce an exciting new initiative that is solely focused on providing support services to Schools, Award Units and independent Participants of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award. Through our services, we are able to continue to support the accessibility of the Award to all young Australians.

YouthAdvance Australia's mission is to provide opportunities to young Australians which will challenge and reward them through active engagement, personal pursuits and community-based projects. We do this by providing a safe framework that takes our Participants outside their comfort zone. From structured mentoring and encouragement, our ultimate goal is that our Participants are equipped for work and life. We pride ourselves on not just being another "tick box operator" but a company that drives change and provides a lasting impact on our Participants.

YouthAdvance's CEO - Keith McReynolds

YouthAdvance Australia's CEO Keith McReynolds has a long-standing history with the Award and YouthAdvance has been born out of the lasting impact the Award has had on Keith through his various stages of involvement with the Award. A Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awardee, Keith has held a number of Award roles over the years including Participant mentor, expedition coordinator and Project Officer for the NSW Awards Office. From each of these roles, Keith has a unique perspective and insight into the experience of Participants and Award Leaders.

Our Services

YouthAdvance Australia offers a range of services supporting the delivery of the Award to Schools, Universities, Colleges, current Award Units, Award Leaders and Participants. YouthAdvance offers the following services:



NSW Open Award Centre: Through the NSW Open Award Centre, we mentor and guide Participants through their Award journey, providing a hands-on approach to ensuring each Participant is able to achieve their full potential. The YouthAdvance NSW Open Award Centre is available to all young people between the age of 14 and 25 wishing to complete the Award but who are not associated with an organisation which currently coordinates the Award. Such Participants may include:

- Participants affiliated with an Award Unit which caps their numbers.
- Participants who started with an Award Unit but have moved on due to graduating or change of schools.
- Participants who are currently undertaking secondary studies or who are employed.



Client Award Centre: YouthAdvance can act as the Award Unit for your school or organisation. YouthAdvance provide all administration, logistics and support for the students including the Adventurous Journey programs. This is done with a minimal amount of effort from your school or organisation and only requires a liaison within the school as the face to face contact of the YouthAdvance Award Leader.



Award Administration Support: YouthAdvance can support you with the administrative side of the Award. This service is where your school or organisation runs the award, however YouthAdvance can take the paperwork side on to ensure that students are enrolled correctly and complete the checks on the award assessors. YouthAdvance can also then assist the school to run Adventurous Journeys in either a supportive or fully managed way – it's entirely up to you.

Adventurous Journey Solutions

YouthAdvance understands the complexities associated with managing and organising Adventurous Journeys within Award Units. Through our extensive experience with the Award, we have developed several solutions to support Award Units in the delivery of their Adventurous Journeys:

- 1. Program Solutions** - Our Program Solutions relieves Award Leaders from the majority of the coordination and management work associated with organising Adventurous Journeys but still allow them to have a major role in the development of the Adventurous Journeys. We consult with the Award Leader and then take care of the planning, staffing and logistics of the journey. Through this approach, we are able to deliver a custom-tailored journey experience.
- 2. Staffing Solutions** - Our Staffing Solutions is ideal for Award Units who struggle to find experienced and qualified staff to assist them in the running of their AJ programs. YouthAdvance can supply Award Units with industry leading professionals with national qualifications and a wealth of experience to help Award Units achieve their journey goals.
- 3. Open AJs for Participants** - YouthAdvance offers a range of open programs which meet the requirements of the Adventurous Journey component of the Award. YouthAdvance currently has 52 venues set in a variety of terrain from urban fringes to some of the most remote locations of Australia. We offer several modes of transport, including hiking, kayaking, snowshoeing and canyoning, for all levels of the Award. These programs are open to any Award Participants in Australia.
- 4. AJ Equipment and Hire** - Keeping Participants comfortable while they are on their AJ's is paramount in ensuring that they have an enjoyable and memorable experience. By providing affordable equipment options, both as purchase and hire we ensure that Participants are also equipped for a range of different weather situations.

Media Enquires or Questions

Our team is excited to speak with you about solutions we can offer that will help support your Award goals. For media enquiry's please contact YouthAdvance's Chief Executive Officer, keith@youthadvance.com.au (0431 248 389).