

opportunities

QGA SERVICE IN GUIDING



This clause is your opportunity to make a personal contribution to guiding. It requires a significant commitment to the organisation but is extremely rewarding when completed! You should plan all four elements carefully, as one activity cannot be counted twice. So, for example, you cannot use the same residential event for both element 1 (practical service) and element 2 (taking on a new responsibility). Also, don't forget that at least one of the elements must include two different guiding sections (Rainbows/Brownies/Guides/Senior Section).

To complete the challenge you need to fulfil the requirements for all four elements. At least one element should involve working within at least two guiding sections.

Element 1

CARRY OUT PRACTICAL GUIDING SERVICE FOR A PERIOD OF 60 HOURS. AT LEAST 20 OF THOSE HOURS SHOULD BE DEDICATED TO ONE PARTICULAR ACTIVITY OR PROJECT.

This element is meant to demonstrate a sustained commitment to guiding, so you should try to make sure that the service is done over a period of a few months rather than during one residential event.

You can use a variety of activities to count towards this element. A few examples are:

- Regular unit meetings as a Young Leader or Leader.
- Volunteering as an appointment holder (Adviser/Trainer/Commissioner).
- Working as a member of a service team at a camp.
- Taking part in a GOLD project.
- Volunteering at a Girlguiding UK shop or depot.

- Volunteering at a campsite or activity centre.

There are many other forms of service too. If you have any other ideas, talk them through with your mentor.

Element 2

ATTEND A RESIDENTIAL GUIDING EVENT AND ACCEPT A RESPONSIBILITY THAT IS NEW TO YOU OR THAT FURTHERS YOUR EXPERIENCE. THE RESPONSIBILITY SHOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO YOUR CAPABILITIES AND THE EVENT SHOULD LAST FOR AT LEAST TWO DAYS AND TWO NIGHTS.

A large part of giving service in guiding is the ability to take on new challenges. This element will give you the opportunity to take part in a residential guiding event and to expand your skills.

There are many activities you could take responsibility for:

- Take charge of games/activities at a camp or holiday.
- Be Leader in Charge at a camp or holiday.
- Act as First Aider at a camp or holiday.
- Become a Trainer and run some sessions at an event.
- Lead a group at an international event.

Don't forget that there are many Girlguiding UK schemes that may help you to complete this element. These include the Camp and Holiday, Adult Training, Catering and Health and First Aid schemes. Have a chat with your mentor about the role you'd like to take on and how you will tackle the challenge.



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Element 3

TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN THE PLANNING OF AN EVENT, WHICH WILL INVOLVE THE PARTICIPATION OF AT LEAST TWO UNITS.

This element will require you to work alongside others and develop teamwork skills. It will also require you to prepare well and communicate with other members of your working group.

Contact your District Commissioner to see if she can help you with some ideas of what to do. Some ideas could include:

- Rainbow day out.
- Brownie revels.
- Guide fun day.
- Division camp fire.
- World Thinking Day celebration.
- District swimming gala.

Your mentor will help you decide what type of event to organise and will give you some tips on getting enough support for the event. Remember to make sure you have qualified instructors for any adventurous activities you might be running.

Element 4

ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN A WORKING GROUP OR COMMITTEE RUN BY GIRLGUIDING UK OR GET INVOLVED IN AN ASSOCIATION ISSUE. TRACK PROGRESS AND GIVE FEEDBACK ON YOUR EXPERIENCES TO A LOCAL UNIT.

This element is an opportunity to get involved in guiding projects outside your own County. It is also a chance to contribute to the development of Girlguiding UK. There are a number of ways to get involved, including:

- Joining your Country or Region's council/forum.

- Joining the British Youth Council delegation.
- Volunteering for a working group working on a country-wide event.
- Attending INNOVATE (a forum run by Girlguiding UK for Senior Section members).
- Visiting and taking part in a WAGGGS seminar.
- Joining the SSAGO executive committee.

Again, have a chat with your mentor to decide on an appropriate project to become involved in. Track the progress of the project and then pass on your experiences to a local unit so that they know what's going on! Contact your Country/Region Headquarters to see what opportunities there are.

Assessor

For each element, ask somebody involved in the activity to be your assessor. It could be a Leader in the unit you work with, or, if you are working with new people, it may be someone you do not know very well. Make sure you ask someone to be your assessor as early as possible in order that they can review your role throughout the activity.