

Personal Performance Awards – Frequently Asked Questions

A section of frequently asked questions is included here. Most of this information (and more) is in the '*Personal Performance Awards Announcement (July 2018)*'. The '*Personal Performance Awards Provider Requirements*' also offer further details for potential providers. These are available to download from the British Canoeing Awarding Body website from 31st July 2018. We recommend that you read the Announcement prior to these FAQs.

The questions are split into general FAQs, Provider and Aspirant Provider FAQs and Candidate FAQs.

When are the NEW awards going live?

From 2nd January 2019, paddlers and providers will be able to start taking part in these awards.

Details on the content for each award will be made available from Autumn 2018 on the British Canoeing Awarding Body website.

How do the changes affect the qualification pathway?

They don't really. The Personal Performance Awards will no longer be linked to the Coaching and Leadership qualifications as prerequisites but the awards can be used as the recommended level to progress through qualifications and awards. See Appendix 1 for further information.

Are the awards equivalent to the existing Star Awards?

The NEW awards are very different in terms of content and purpose. The NEW awards have been designed for the paddler's development and engagement in the sport. Providers will approach and facilitate the awards that reflect the ethos of supporting paddlers and empowering individuals. As the awards do not directly link to Coaching and Leadership qualifications, it is encouraged that formal assessments are not conducted and that a formative approach is used that develops an individual's progress.

How are the awards linked to Adventure Activities Licensing Authority / Adventure Activities Licensing Service?

AALA/AALS will be informed of the changes to the awards and advised on how we recommend they could be used within the industry.

British Canoeing recognises that deployers (clubs and centres) will benefit from understanding the level of Personal Performance Award that is suitable for deploying the NEW Paddlesport Instructors, in a different craft not stated on the candidate's Paddlesport Instructor certificate.

Craft	Award title
Canoe	Canoe Award
Kayak/Sit on top	White Water Award Touring Award Sea Kayak Award Surf Kayak Award
Stand up Paddleboard	SUP Sheltered Water Award

After the Personal Performance Award has been achieved, it is advised that the deployer checks their skill and competence; British Canoeing would anticipate Paddlesport Instructors could then be deployed in the alternative craft.

How do we communicate the changes?

Over the next six months we will be continually making sure we communicate with members, clubs, centres and providers. This will be via digital newsletters, club and centre mailings, provider training announcements and greater presence on social media.

Provider and Aspirant Provider FAQs

What is the knock on effect to our current Personal Performance Award Providers?

The requirements for new providers are different to what was required of the existing Personal Performance Awards workforce. The changes in the awards are different enough that we can consider them to be 'new' awards.

- All providers will need to complete an eLearning package to be able to deliver the new awards.
- New awards are focused around 'supporting the paddler'.
- Award delivery will be made available to instructors, coaches, guides and leaders.

If I am working towards becoming a Star Award Provider in 2018, should I continue?

Yes, existing provider roles will be recognised and, as such, a 3 Star Provider will automatically transfer over to the NEW system. Once the eLearning package has been completed, the Provider will be able to run awards from January 2019.

What are the requirements to becoming a Provider?

Please see the British Canoeing '*Personal Performance Awards Provider Requirements*' for full details.

British Canoeing requirements to deliver the awards will be circulated and announced in July 2018 which enables British Canoeing Instructors, Coaches, Leaders and Guides to deliver the Personal Performance Awards.

Consideration has been given how appropriate training, standardisation and assessment of these awards can be carried out. In Autumn 2018, a specific **eLearning package** will be available for potential providers to access, reducing the need to travel, and enable the provider to access the package in their own time.

Aspirant Providers must have completed the PPA eLearning package, hold the relevant role/qualification, have a current First Aid qualification, hold a safeguarding certificate and appropriate CPD on record prior to being given a recommendation from an approved provider in the relevant award.

How can I work towards becoming a Provider?

Qualification holders that can work towards becoming a Provider must have completed the Personal Performance Award eLearning package, hold the relevant role/qualification, have a current First Aid qualification, completed Safeguarding training and appropriate CPD on record prior to being given a final recommendation from a current status/roles that can deliver the NEW Awards in the relevant award.

What are the candidate to Provider ratios?

Ratios will depend on the award being delivered, as well as the environmental context. All Instructors, Coaches and Leaders are encouraged to make themselves aware of the suggested ratios when working in such environments. For confirmation, please refer to the Environmental Definitions and Deployment Guidance for Instructors, Coaches and Leaders document.

<https://www.britishcanoeingawarding.org.uk/guidance-documents/>

Candidate FAQs

How do the changes affect current Star Award holders?

They don't. Any Star Awards taken with British Canoeing will remain recognised.

From the start of 2019, the new awards will be recognition of the paddler's achievements and have no formal link to British Canoeing Coaching or Leadership awards. Although not a requirement, the awards provide appropriate milestones and acknowledgement of personal skills and understanding, setting up the paddler appropriately for British Canoeing Coaching and Leadership qualifications. Please see Appendix 1 for the Personal Performance Awards link to Coaching and Leadership qualifications.

Do existing Star Award holders need to do the NEW Personal Performance Awards to stay current?

No. Any Star Award taken with British Canoeing will always remain recognised. The Personal Performance Awards could be used to refresh your skills or development in another area.

If a candidate is interested in taking the Star Awards this year, should they wait until the changes are launched in 2019?

Current Star Awards are still an appropriate way of gauging development and progress and we would encourage and support anyone wanting to do this over 2018 to access the suite of Star Awards.

From January 2019, there will no longer be Personal Performance Awards directly linked to Coaching or Leadership awards. However, if a paddler is looking to attend a British Canoeing (UKCC) Paddlesport instructor course in 2018, they will need to hold the current 2 Star Award.

For anyone who has started their Paddlepower journey already or looking to start in 2018, we will support you in your development and no time limit will be put in place for completion. For anyone who completes their Paddlepower journey after January 2019 please send in the relevant documentation and we will certificate.

What craft can I undertake the Personal Performance Awards in?

The Personal Performance Awards give you the option to progress in the craft you want to. The Paddle Awards can be taken in any craft as they are designed for someone new to paddling, giving the option to try out a range of craft.

For the Discipline Specific Awards, these vary on the craft you may use depending on the environment that the activity takes place in. The awards are designed for development and an individual is encouraged to make informed decisions on the craft, paddle and equipment appropriate for the discipline and environment.

Do I have to take the award in two craft?

No. Each award is craft specific, you will not need to paddle a variety of craft to gain any NEW award in 2019.

Will undertaking the Personal Performance Awards update my CPD?

The Personal Performance Awards will be recognised as CPD and can be used in this way. Full details of CPD value will be made available in Autumn 2018.

What are the prerequisites to the Personal Performance Awards?

There are no entry requirements for any of the awards. Providers should check paddlers' suitability, as well as having appropriate mechanisms for anyone under 18.

How long does each of the Personal Performance Awards take?

There is no set or stipulated time for any of the Personal Performance Awards, this is very much individual and we would see paddlers developing at their own pace with the support of an Instructor, Coach or Leader.

What are the candidate fees for the Personal Performance Awards?

The fees for 2019 are as follows –

- Paddle Start Award is free.
- The Paddle Discover Award and the Paddle Explore Award cost £8 each, with a 25% discount for members at £6 each.
- The Discipline Specific Awards are £20 each, with a 50% discount for members at £10.

Appendix 1. Link to Coaching & Leadership Qualifications

Although not a requirement, the awards provide appropriate milestones and acknowledgement of personal skills, setting up the paddler appropriately for British Canoeing Coaching and Leadership qualifications.

British Canoeing Qualification		NEW Personal Performance Award	
Paddlesport Leader		Touring Award/Canoe Award/SUP Sheltered Water Award/Sea Kayak Award/White Water Award/Surf Kayak Award/Racing Explore Award/Flat Water Freestyle Award/Polo Explore Award/Slalom Explore Award/Wild Water Racing Explore Award	
Moderate Water Leader	White Water Leader	Progressive White Water Award	
	Sea Kayak Leader	Coastal Sea Kayak Award	
	Surf Kayak Leader	Progressive Surf Kayak Award	
	Canoe Leader	Progressive Canoe Award	
Advanced Water Leader	Advanced White Water Leader	Advanced White Water Award	
	Advanced Sea Kayak Leader	Advanced Sea Kayak Award	
	Advanced Surf Kayak Leader	Advanced Surf Kayak Award	
	Advanced Canoe Leader	Advanced Canoe Award	
Paddlesport Instructor		Touring Award/Canoe Award/SUP Sheltered Water Award/Sea Kayak Award/White Water Award/Surf Kayak Award/Racing Explore Award/Flat Water Freestyle Award/Polo Explore Award/Slalom Explore Award/Wild Water Explore Award	
Coach Award (SW) – Sheltered Water (MW) – Moderate Water (AW) – Advanced Water	Kayak Coach (SW)	Touring Award/ Sea Kayak Award/White Water Award/Surf Kayak Award/Racing Explore Award/Flat Water Freestyle Award/Polo Explore Award/Slalom Explore Award/Wild Water Racing Explore Award	
	Canoe Coach (SW)	Canoe Award / Touring Award	
	Canoe & Kayak Coach (SW)	Touring Award/Canoe Award/ Sea Kayak Award/White Water Award/Surf Kayak Award/Racing Explore Award/Flat Water Freestyle Award/Polo Explore Award/Slalom Explore Award/Wild Water Racing Explore Award	
	Freestyle Coach	Freestyle Award	
	Polo Coach	Polo Perform Award	
	Racing Coach	Racing Perform Award	
	Slalom Coach	Slalom Perform Award	
	Wild Water Coach	Wild Water Racing Perform Award	
	Surf Kayak Coach (MW)	Progressive Surf Kayak Award	
	Surf Kayak Coach (AW)	Advanced Surf Kayak Award	
	Open Water Canoe Coach (MW)	Progressive Canoe Award	
	Open Water Canoe Coach (AW)	Advanced Canoe Award	
	Sea Kayak Coach (MW)	Coastal Sea Kayak Award	
	Sea Kayak Coach (AW)	Advanced Sea Kayak Award	
	White Water Canoe Coach (MW)	Progressive Canoe Award	
	White Water Canoe Coach (AW)	Advanced Canoe Award	
	White Water Kayak Coach (MW)	Progressive White Water Award	
	White Water Kayak Coach (AW)	Advanced White Water Award	
	Performance Coach	Open Canoe	Advanced Canoe Award
		White Water Kayak	Advanced White Water Award
Sea		Advanced Sea Kayak Award	
Surf		Advanced Surf Kayak Award	
Slalom		Slalom Excel Award	
Sprint Racing		Racing Excel Award	
Marathon Racing		Racing Excel Award	

Note: This list does not replace the leadership qualification requirement for the White Water/Sea/Surf or Canoe coaching qualifications.