

# UK Youth Fund - Cost of Living



## Frequently asked questions

### Who are UK Youth?

UK Youth is a leading charity that exists to ensure all young people are equipped to thrive and empowered to contribute at every stage of their lives. We work with others to ensure that the youth sector is strengthened, supported, and that provision is youth-led, evidence-informed and delivers high-quality outcomes.

UK Youth plays a unique role in addressing; the lack of investment in the youth sector, the lack of cross-sector understanding in how youth work makes a difference and the limited opportunities to embed effective solutions. These factors lead to mass inequality of access to youth services for young people.

Working through networks of youth organisations and supporters, we galvanise a movement of people to support our shared vision. The UK Youth Movement is open to all and currently stands at over 7,000 youth organisations and nation partners, collectively reaching 4.1 million young people.

## Why do I have to register before making an application?

You must be registered on our website to access the application form. This ensures we have a record of all organisations who apply for our funding. It also allows us to keep our grant applications as simple as possible, since you will already have provided key information about your organisation during the registration process.

## I'm having trouble completing the form - can I ring UK Youth for help?

Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to respond to incoming calls. The quickest way to get the help you need is to email [funding@ukyouth.org](mailto:funding@ukyouth.org) with your query. This inbox is monitored 9am - 5pm every weekday and we will get back to you within 24 hours. You can also come to one of our weekly webinars and Q&A sessions with the grants team. These sessions will be running on the following dates:

Tuesday dates – 1-2:30pm	Thursday dates – 10:30-12pm
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb
7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb
21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	2 <sup>nd</sup> March (2 – 3:30pm)
7 <sup>th</sup> March	16 <sup>th</sup> March
21 <sup>st</sup> March	30 <sup>th</sup> March
4 <sup>th</sup> April	
18 <sup>th</sup> April	27 <sup>th</sup> April
2 <sup>nd</sup> May	11 <sup>th</sup> May
16 <sup>th</sup> May	25 <sup>th</sup> May
30 <sup>th</sup> May	

Please visit the Eventbrite link to register for these sessions:

[UK Youth fund in partnership with Pears Foundation Tickets, Thu 2 Feb 2023 at 10:30 | Eventbrite](#)

## I have accessibility requirements and require a different format or additional support?

Please email [funding@ukyouth.org](mailto:funding@ukyouth.org) with 'Accessibility' in the subject line and we will prioritise responding to your request. It is our intention to remove all barriers that may prevent an organisation from completing the questionnaire so do not hesitate to get in touch if you require additional support.

## Do I have to complete the application form in one go?

No, the form has a 'Save for later' feature you can use to save your work and return to your application later. You must click 'Save for later' to save your progress. You will need to answer each question in order to navigate through the application form. However, you can go back and edit your responses before you submit.

To resume an application you have already started, please go to 'Grants and programmes' and select 'Continue application'. You may be prompted to the beginning of the application form, but information you have already entered will appear as you click through the form.

### **When is the deadline for the application?**

There is currently no fixed closing date for the application as we are continuing to fundraise and will keep the application window open while funds still remain to be distributed. Applications will be assessed as they come in, so you should apply when you are ready. Based on the current funding pot of over £4,500,000 we expect the fund to be open for at least 3 months. We will place a notification on the UK Youth website 2 weeks prior to closing the application form.

### **Who is eligible to be considered for funding?**

To be eligible to apply you must confirm:

You have authority to make this application for funding on behalf of your organisation.

Applicant organisation is based and delivering in the UK

Applicant organisation has a turnover of less than £500,000 in the last financial year

Applicant organisation is a charitable or not-for-profit organisation and can provide a governing document stating this.

Applicant organisation has as its primary purpose the provision of services benefiting young people. At least 70% of applicant organisations' beneficiaries must be aged 8 – 25 years old.

Applicant organisation has been in operation for at least 2 years.

Applicants must submit with their application at least one year's full accounts.

Applicant organisation has the appropriate processes and policies in place to keep young people safe. This must include a Safeguarding and Health & Safety Policy. We may ask to see this if you are awarded funding.

Applicant organisation has the appropriate insurances, qualifications or affiliations to a governing body. Depending on what you want to do this could include public liability insurance, leaders or instructors with special qualifications or an affiliation to a governing body. We may ask to see these if you are awarded funding.

Applicant organisation complies with the Equality Act 2010, the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 and Data Protection Act 2018, Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 and all other relevant statutory or regulatory requirements.

### **How much funding will you be awarding overall?**

We currently have a funding pot of over £4,500,000. However, we are continuing to fundraise and expect this figure to increase.

### **How much funding can I apply for?**

We are asking applicants to request funding up to the value of 10% of your organisation's annual turnover. In exceptional circumstances we may distribute grants of a slightly higher level, but this is unlikely. This is a 3-year unrestricted grant with the grant amount being the same for all three years. So, if your organisation's turnover last year was £100,000 we would expect you to request up to £10,000 a year, resulting in a total grant of £30,000 over 3 years.

### **Why can I only apply for 10% of our turnover?**

This funding is targeted to help bring stability to youth organisations over three years and to mitigate some of the impact of the cost-of-living crisis. It is not meant as a crisis fund, so if you require vastly higher sums in the short term then this may not be the correct fund for you to apply to.

### **Is there a minimum funding request?**

No, there is no minimum funding request.

### **Do I have to be part of the UK Youth Movement to apply?**

No, but we encourage all applicants to sign up to the UK Youth Movement newsletter to become part of a network that shares opportunities for young people and the youth sector, gaining free access to events, campaigns, training, peer support, themed networks and programmes. We'll keep you up to date on all of these opportunities through our optional fortnightly newsletter.

### **Do I have to be a youth club or a youth charity?**

Applicant organisations must have as their primary purpose the provision of services benefiting young people. At least 70% of applicant organisations' beneficiaries must be aged 8 – 25 years old. There must be a strong developmental aspect of your work with young people.

### **When will I receive notification on the outcome of my application and when could I receive the funding?**

There will be two assessment streams depending on the amount you request. We will be assessing applications on a rolling basis as they are submitted. Applications requesting up to £10,000 a year should receive notification on the outcome of their application within 3 – 4 weeks of submission. Applications requesting over £10,000 a year should receive notification on the outcome of their application within 7 weeks of applying.

Once you have been notified of a successful grant application, we will send you a grant agreement for you to sign and return so that your first payment can be made. Typically, we will make payment within two weeks of receiving your signed grant agreement.

### **When does the grant have to be spent by?**

Successful applicants will receive 3 grant payments, each a year apart. We will expect you to have used each annual grant within the year since it was received.

### **What reporting requirements will there be?**

We want the reporting requirements to be proportional to the size of the grant. Therefore, we will be asking for you to complete a short online reporting form which will be provided to all successful applicants and must be completed before your next grant payment will be made. We will want to know how you have used the grant, the impact the grant has had on your organisation and young people, and your plans for the following year's grant. You may wish to collect data on the numbers of young people you are supporting or the impact you are having to help you with this.

We also want to maximise the opportunity to spotlight and showcase the work of youth organisations and will be looking for case studies and organisations who are willing to create digital content we can use to demonstrate the impact of youth work. You will be asked at the grant agreement stage whether you are interested in this opportunity.

### **Where has the money come from?**

UK Youth has established the UK Youth Fund in partnership with Pears Foundation to create, expand and improve local youth facilities and their services, in order to drive positive outcomes for young people, including improved health and wellbeing and skills for work/ employability and life. This is part of UK Youth's campaign to raise awareness of the devastating impact the cost-of-living crisis is having on youth organisations and young people. With over £4,500,000 raised so far, UK Youth will continue working to bring additional funders on board to increase the funding pot and support as many youth organisations as possible.

### **Can I make more than one application?**

Only one application per organisation can be made.

### **Can I apply on behalf of an organisation?**

You must confirm that you have authority to apply for this funding.

### **Will you help us to write a bid to apply for funding?**

We will be holding weekly meet the funder Q&A webinars. These will be open to any organisation considering making an application, we will be talking through the application form and taking questions on how to make a great application. To book your place on the webinar please register here: [UK Youth fund in partnership with Pears Foundation Tickets, Thu 2 Feb 2023 at 10:30 | Eventbrite](#) Please see above for information on dates and times for these webinars. If you are based in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland, you may also reach out to our Nation Partners for support.

UK Youth are committed to making our grant funding accessible to all applicants. Please contact us if you require additional support. If English is not your first language and you would like assistance with any aspect of the application process, please contact us and we will be happy to help you apply.

To contact the grants team direct please email [funding@ukyouth.org](mailto:funding@ukyouth.org).

### **What age range do we have to support to be eligible for this funding?**

UK Youth goes by the approach that youth work refers to the ages of 8-25. However, we are taking each application in a case-by-case scenario, and if you are slightly out of this age range, we will review your application based on what you have told us about your organisation and its impact on the lives of young people.

### **I've made a mistake on the form I completed. Can I amend it?**

Please check your application thoroughly before submitting. However, we understand these things happen. Please email [funding@ukyouth.org](mailto:funding@ukyouth.org) with the correct information as soon as possible. We will do our best to match this to your submission ensuring we have the correct information to review, however applications will be assessed as they come in and if information was incorrect when it was assessed we will not be able to reassess your application.

### **Is there a limit to funds in the bank account or reserves?**

We have not stipulated a limit to funds available in bank accounts or reserves, however, we do ask for details of your reserves. If you do have large cash reserves, you will need to explain why you are unable to use those resources to assist you.

**Is the grant only applicable to organisations who work solely with children/young people, or can organisations who work with a wider audience, which also includes young people, also apply?**

Organisations that work with a wider audience, including young people, would be eligible for the fund. Applicant organisations must have as their primary purpose the provision of services benefiting young people. At least 70% of applicant organisations' beneficiaries must be aged 8 – 25 years old. We must be satisfied the any funding distributed is used to support young people.

**The organisation as a whole exceeds the income level of £500,000, but the project that focusses on youth work has an income within that level. Are we eligible?**

Unfortunately, no. For eligibility we are looking at the income of the organisation as a whole.

**Will you fund organisations that have started operating from this year?**

No. Your organisation must have been operational for at least two years.

**Could we apply for unrestricted funds?**

Yes, the funding on offer is unrestricted.

**Can we apply if our organisation does not have a website?**

Yes, you can still apply to the fund if you do not have a website.

**Will I get feedback if I am unsuccessful?**

No. Unfortunately, we do not have the resources to provide individual feedback. But we will notify all applicants on the outcome of your application.

**Who will make the funding decisions?**

All eligible submissions will be assessed by assessors following a clear scoring framework. The shortlisted submissions will then go to a panel for final decision. The panels for grants of over £10,000 a year will be made up of 50% young people and 50% external sector experts from across the UK.

**How will we make funding decisions?**

Applications that meet the eligibility criteria and have submitted all requested information, will be assessed against the following:

**Financial need:**

Experiencing loss of income or deficits; low free reserves; risk of reducing services for financial reasons. Lack of funds available to meet increased or changing demand.

**Impact:**

How you help young people, and what difference this makes (i.e. how it improves their wellbeing, increases their life chances and opportunities). How your work remains relevant and responsive to young people's needs. Particular note will be taken of where the young people supported are from disadvantaged groups.

**Demand:**

Number of young people you are supporting or are needing your support. We will also consider the availability of similar provision locally.

**Delivering High Quality Youth Work including Outdoor Learning:**

How young people are enabled and encouraged to grow and develop in a safe space with trusted adults. Young people have a voice and agency in the work that is being designed and delivered. Youth organisations are meeting and engaging with young people where they are at and on their terms.

**Sustainability:**

How your organisation is managed (appropriate policies); future sustainability; and what actions you have already taken to lessen the impact of financial difficulties.

**Can I appeal the decision?**

No, decisions cannot be appealed.