



Funding support from Scouts Scotland

There are various funds administered by Scouts Scotland to support Scouting across the country. All grants can now be applied for online via a straightforward application form.

What we can fund

Support for the development of Scouting

Do you have an idea for growing Scouting, making it more inclusive or developing volunteers? We want to fund innovative new approaches to developing Scouting locally which meet the Scouts Scotland strategy.

Additional Support Needs Grant

We can support young people with additional needs to access Scouting or to take part in specific activities. We'll help fund specialist equipment, training for volunteers or to allow a carer or other support to attend an activity. Adaptations to buildings will not be considered under this grant.

Adventurous Activity Training and Permits

We can support up to 1/3 of the course costs up to a maximum grant of £200 towards training in Scout skills, a Scout permit, an external qualification, permit assessment, or the assessment of an external qualification.

New Section Start Up Support

We want to help you grow Scouting locally, so we'll provide a Start Up Box worth £400 which has everything you need to get going, or £400 in financial support towards specific start-up costs like hall hire or membership fees.

Scout Brand Update

We truly believe that the new Scout brand will help make sure that Scouting is clearly understood, more visible, trusted, respected and widely seen as playing a key role in today's society. We have a small amount of funding available to help Groups with the cost of updating their materials to the new brand.

Scottish Scout Adventures Centres Travel Fund

We know you are passionate about the difference that adventure residential have on young people. We also know that you've told us that the cost of travel is one of the biggest barriers you face in delivering them. Which is why we have created this fund for Scottish members visiting our Scout Adventure Centres in Scotland – we don't want this to be a barrier anymore.

Support for Scouting in areas of deprivation

Recognising the unique challenges facing Groups in areas of deprivation this fund will support you to grow or sustain Scouting. We're open to innovative ideas and can be flexible with funding to meet your needs.

scouts.scot/funding

Other sources of funding

Databases of funding

fundingscotland.com - funding Scotland is a service provided by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations to provide access to up to date, high quality information on funding opportunities that is vital to third sector organisations in Scotland. Funding Scotland is free to any organisation in Scotland and provides a search of over 1,200 funding opportunities. It includes grants, loans, prizes and other support.

foundationscotland.org.uk - Foundation Scotland is part of a national movement of community foundations that undertake strategic grant making, facilitate philanthropy and contribute to achieving lasting impact in communities across Scotland.

Scotland-wide funding sources

Look at some of the funders that are part of the Scottish Grantmaker's Association – these are not always Scottish funders but they have an interest in Scotland

Robertson Trust – <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/>

Big Lottery Fund – <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding/programmes?location=scotland>

Big Lottery Fund Awards For All – quick and easy way to get grants of up to £10k - <https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-all-scotland>

Corra Foundation Henry Duncan Grants - <https://www.corra.scot/>

Funds that may be available in your local area

Look up your local authority website for local grants that are available – most Council Wards have some funding to give out to community groups – often called 'Area Grants' or 'Community Partnership Grants'. Some Council's now use participatory budgeting, which means you get to go along to a meeting and present your idea to the public – Scouts are likely to do well out of this model.

Lots of supermarkets now have community funding available from the proceeds of the plastic bag charge or other community funding. E.g. Waitrose/Asda/Tesco do a token system for three local charities every month, Scotmid, Cooperative etc often have grant applications.

Case for Support Template

YOUR VISION – what difference will this money make to the world? In other words, why should anyone fund what you want to do?

THE PROBLEM YOU FACE – specifically, what is the barrier to you achieving your vision?

YOUR PLAN – what are you proposing to do to solve the problem?

CALL TO ACTION – what can the funder do to help? How much will it cost?

Remember: all applications should be rational, compelling, emotional and inspiring.

TOP TIPS FOR COMPLETING GRANT APPLICATIONS

These are some top tips for completing grant applications, but much of it will be useful for writing to HNWI's or other funding pitches you make.

1. Research your funder carefully – learn what motivates them, who they usually give grants to, what their deadlines are (and timescales for making decisions) and specific things they fund or don't fund. If there is an opportunity to discuss an application in advance take advantage of it!
2. People give to people to help people – remember your application will be read by fellow humans! So make it a human story – inspiring, emotional and compelling.
3. Make your project achievable – even if you know you can do it, make sure you explain to the funder *why* you know – what evidence do you have to back up your application? Make sure your application is rational, budget realistic etc.
4. Funders prefer to fund projects rather than running costs, although some funders specifically fund running costs. Try and think of something specific you can get funding for rather than just because you need some money. Demonstrate *why* that project will make a difference/
5. Tell a story – don't just stick to facts and figures – write up a case study of a young person who has been changed for the better because of Scouting. We all love to read stories – funders too!
6. Leave yourself enough time to apply –
 - a. Check out what their deadlines are and work back. Be realistic with your time
 - b. Always, always, always make sure someone else reads your application before you submit it – preferably someone with no background in your Group so it is a fresh perspective
 - c. Don't submit it at the last minute in case there is a problem or you haven't attached something you're supposed to attach
 - d. Don't underestimate how much work is involved in writing a grant application – if you can do it in half an hour, you've not done it well!
7. Always get feedback from unsuccessful funding bids – you will learn a huge amount from that. If they are willing to chat on the phone or in person even better.
8. Clearly define the problem you are trying to fix and why the funding will make a difference. Avoid jargon and Scouting terminology. Think about the big picture – what impact will this funding have on the young people you work with?
9. Think about the amount you are asking for – make sure it is in line with their usual grant giving (i.e. don't ask for too much or too little). Funders may fund the full costs but that is less likely these days so think about match funding in advance – even if it's just other funders you have applied to. Be realistic – if you're asking for £500 to carry out a massive project the funder knows it's unlikely to happen. Equally if you turnover £10k a year don't ask for £100k from one funder!
10. If you have a large cash reserve explain why in advance – are you saving up for something?
11. Don't give up – some funders just aren't right for you. Try again with another one! And again, and again, and again....!

Contact Michael Shanks, Chair of the Development Grants Committee with any questions – michael.shanks@scouts.scot.