

Infrastructure Grants Frequently Asked Questions

youth futures FOUNDATION

Youth Futures Fund Infrastructure Grants FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions about the Youth Futures Grants Infrastructure Fund

Please click any of the questions below to be taken to the answer

Please note that these questions will be updated as we receive new enquiries.

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1. What type of organisation is eligible to apply for Infrastructure Grants?

The funding is intended for national infrastructure bodies that strengthen the youth and / or employment sector across England for all young people or national or regional infrastructure bodies that strengthen the youth and / or employment sector specifically for young people from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic backgrounds, including those of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller heritage in England.

Applicants must be registered charities or other not-for-profit, voluntary or community-sector organisations operating for at least three years and have had their finances impacted as a result of COVID-19. They must also be delivering at least two of the following to 20 or more organisations within in their network, membership or movement:

- Maintaining a membership, network or movement of organisations
- Convening and managing youth voice and advocacy activities at a level beyond individual organisational delivery
- Providing training, information, advice and guidance to organisations (face to face or online)
- Helping organisations thrive through funding core activities or programmes
- Providing digital support and online forums for young people, members or the wider network
- Helping to convene and advocate on behalf of membership or wider-network organisations to influence policy, improve practice and unlock funding

They must also have organisations in their movement / network / membership that are working with young people between 14 and 24 years of age. The full details around eligible organisations can be found in our Grant Prospectus at https://youthfuturesfoundation.org/infrastructure-grants/

2. Why must we be delivering to more than 20 members?

This funding is targeted at regional and national infrastructure organisations, in setting our criteria we wanted to ensure that those unlikely to be funded did not apply unnecessarily.

3. Why have you decided to support infrastructure bodies specifically for young people from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic backgrounds, including those of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller heritage in England?

For further information on why we have decided to fund infrastructure organisations as part of our resilience funding, in particular those run by or supporting young people from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic backgrounds including those of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller heritage, please see our full explanation on page 4 of the prospectus.

4. What is the deadline for applying to the Infrastructure Fund?

We will close to new applications at midnight on Friday 31 July.

However, you can apply until midnight on Thursday, 18 June 2020, for a decision by the end of July; or midnight on Friday 31 July for a decision before the end of September.

If your organisation is in urgent need of funding due to Covid19, we urge you to apply by Thursday 18 June in order to access support more quickly.

5. Is there a minimum or maximum amount that we can apply for?

We currently do not have a minimum grant size as we will be considering each organisation's current circumstances and their individual shortfalls. We also do not have an overall maximum grant size; however, applicants cannot apply for more than 30% of their annual income stated in their last accounts.

6. What can the Youth Futures Foundation Infrastructure funding be used for?

We are offering unrestricted funding and we will accept applications that include both core costs and relevant programme costs. We will ask you for a detailed explanation of how you will use the funding over the next 12 months, why this is needed and how will this support you, your network, and young people.

7. How long do we have to spend the funding?

The initial commitment will be for 12 months to address emergency needs in response to COVID-19 and will support your future planning and delivery. It is anticipated that in some cases this may lead to ongoing support where there is a clear benefit for young people progressing towards and into work. However, your initial request should be for 12 months of support.

8. What happens if you need to contact our organisation?

Should we require further clarification or additional information on your application, you will be contacted by email or phone on the details provided. Please ensure that you update us regarding any relevant contact changes.

9. When will I hear back about the outcome of my application?

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by email by the end of July, if you apply before the 18 June or by the end of September of you apply before the closing date on Friday 31 July 2020.

10. We are already included as a partner in an application to your main grants programme, can we still apply for an Infrastructure grant?

Yes. Organisations can be included in another application to us as well as applying independently to our Infrastructure grants.

11. What reporting requirements will there be if the funding is unrestricted?

All organisations funded through this grant programme will be part of an independent, externally commissioned evaluation. The full specification of this evaluation will be developed in consultation with funded organisations, but will aim to:

- Map the infrastructure sector and develop areas in which they operate based on themes
- Look thematically across funded organisations for the aims, strategic operation and delivery practice of infrastructure bodies
- Understand the mechanisms by which infrastructure bodies effect change at national, regional and local levels
- Understand how infrastructure bodies network and develop partnerships within defined areas to share good practice
- Develop a qualitative and quantitative data framework that can show the operation, delivery and value of an infrastructure body, to include cost benefit where possible
- Collect data on the impact infrastructure bodies have on young people and the organisations they support
- Provide overall lessons of what works, for whom and why
- Develop case studies that demonstrate individual impacts at national, regional and local levels.

12. How do I start an application form for a Youth Futures Infrastructure Grant?

To begin an application, please visit <u>www.youthfuturesfoundation.org</u> and complete our Stage 1 eligibility quiz via our grant portal (pictured). We strongly encourage you to read our prospectus before deciding whether you should begin an application. If you are applying to Youth Futures for the first time, please click on the 'New Applicant' button on the portal and complete our quiz.

Please note that, for data security reasons, the portal will automatically log you off from your application after **60** minutes of inactivity. To ensure that you do not lose any information you have input, please ensure that you save your form regularly.



Welcome to our online grants portal

For the best customer experience please use Internet Explorer, Edge or Firefox. This system does not work with Google Chrome.

New Applicant?

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Please click on the 'New Applicant' button below to register for an online account.
You will be asked to provide an email and password.
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Already have an Account?

Please enter your email address and password below

If you have an account, but have forgotten your password, please click on the 'Forgot your Password?' link found below. If you are looking to access your part saved application form please click here.



13. Can I save and return to my initial application form if it is incomplete?

Please note that you cannot save and return to the eligibility quiz. If you receive a negative response and you wish to try again then you will be asked to start again.

If you pass the eligibility quiz you will automatically proceed to the next stage of the application process. From this point onwards you can save and return to edit your initial application form at any time until it is submitted. To access the form you have already started, please ensure that you click on the 'here' phrase where it says '*If you are looking to access your part saved application for, please click here*' (pictured below).

Already have an Account?			
Please enter your email address and password below.			
If you have an account, but have forgotten your password, please click on the 'Forgot your Password?' link found below.			
If you are looking to access your part saved application form please click here.			
E-mail Bryony.livesey@rocketsciencelab.co.uk	Password		
New Applicant?	Forgot your Password?		
Login			

14. Are Youth Futures Foundation grants subject to VAT?

No, Youth Futures Foundation grants are not subject to VAT. We will not add VAT to any grant payments that we make. Organisations cannot claim expenditure or use our funding for recoverable VAT because the grant recipient should be able to reclaim these funds back from HMRC. In terms of irrecoverable VAT, as part of their funding bid, organisations can include such costs in their grant bid (as they would not be able to claim the VAT back). However, this will have to be evidenced and included in the overall grant amount being requested.

If you have any questions about the Infrastructure Grants application process, please call us on 020 7553 4539 or by email at: <u>grants@youthfuturesfoundation.org</u> quoting 'Infrastructure Fund' in the subject line.