

The National Lottery Funding Criteria

Content from: [National Lottery Awards for All Scotland | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](https://www.nationallotteryawardsforallscotland.org.uk)

Rows Highlighted in **YELLOW** are relevant to show compliance.

A quick way to apply for smaller amounts of funding between £300 and £10,000.

Area

Scotland

Suitable for

Voluntary or community organisations, Public sector organisations

Funding size

£300 to £10,000

Application deadline

Ongoing

Who can apply?

You can apply if your organisation is a:

- voluntary or community organisation
- registered charity
- constituted group or club
- not-for-profit company or Community Interest Company
- school (as long as your project benefits and involves the communities around the school)
- statutory body (including town, parish and community council).

If you're a smaller organisation

We're keen to fund smaller organisations too. So we'll look at your income when we're making a decision.

Who we can't accept applications from:

- individuals
- sole traders
- Companies that can pay profits to directors, shareholders or members (including Companies Limited by Shares)

- organisations based outside the UK
- organisations that have already sent a National Lottery Awards for All application and are waiting for a decision
- organisations that don't have at least two people on their board or committee who aren't married, in a long-term relationship, living together at the same address, or related by blood
- one organisation applying on behalf of another. Be careful of businesses or consultants who say they can support you with your funding applications. They might even say they're acting on the Fund's behalf, or they're a preferred supplier of the Fund. They could even offer to write an application for you. We wouldn't accept applications from these types of businesses or consultants. But you can get support and advice on writing your application from your local CVS (your local council for voluntary services).
- organisations that have a current National Lottery Awards for All grant, or are waiting for a decision on another National Lottery Awards for All application.

If you're a school or an organisation working in a school

Make sure your project strengthens the community outside of the school too. So it should benefit, and involve, more than just teachers, pupils, and parents of pupils.

The kinds of school projects we don't usually fund:

- projects to improve school facilities or equipment
- projects to help with staff training
- projects that are part of the school curriculum
- projects that involve activities the school should already be providing (like a project teaching literacy during school hours)
- projects that take place during teaching times (lunch breaks, or before and after school might be okay).

An example of the sort of school project we could fund

Things that would be seen as extras to the school's normal curriculum activities.

The projects we fund

A good application should do at least one of these three things:

- bring people together and build strong relationships in and across communities
- **improve the places and spaces that matter to communities**
- help more people to reach their potential, by supporting them at the earliest possible stage.

Your project also has to involve your community

We believe that people understand what's needed in their communities better than anyone. So it's important to us that you involve your community in the design, development and delivery of the activities you're planning.

This short video explains it well. It might be helpful when you're putting your application together.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YDZx9AMyWUI>

We look for extra things when it comes to sports projects

With sports, we're looking for projects that:

- involve young people from deprived areas – so places where there might be social problems, less money and activities, or issues with crime for example
- involve girls and young women
- involve young people with disabilities.

If your project works with children, young people or vulnerable adults

You need to have a policy in place that explains how they'll be safe. And we might ask to see this policy, if we decide to give you funding. The NSPCC have lots of [helpful advice about setting up and following good child safeguarding policies](#).

Projects that need insurance, qualifications or affiliations to a governing body

Depending on what you want to do, your project might need:

- public liability insurance
- leaders or instructors with special qualifications
- an affiliation to a governing body.

You can ask us to cover these costs when you apply for funding (see [what else you can spend the money on](#)).

What can you spend money on?

This list doesn't include everything. So, if you're not sure, [contact us](#).

We can fund:

- equipment
- one-off events
- small land or **building projects** (but make sure you **own the land or building**, have a lease that can't be ended for five years, have a letter from the owner saying the land or building will be leased to you for at least five years, or an official letter from the owner or landlord that says you're allowed to do work on the building) - you should also think about getting planning permission for the work too
- staff costs
- training costs
- transport
- utilities/running costs
- volunteer expenses.
- we encourage you to think about any organisational costs needed to help you and your community through the COVID-19 crisis.

We can't fund:

- alcohol
- contingency costs, loans, endowments or interest
- electricity generation and feed-in tariff payments
- political or religious activities
- profit-making/fundraising activities
- VAT you can reclaim

- statutory activities
- overseas travel.

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