

Fundraising



Why fundraise?

Each individual STAR group needs to find its own funds to run events, pay for publicity, speaker expenses and so on. This guide contains advice on how to gain funding from external organisations, and some tips on organising fundraising event. The odd fundraiser can make a real difference to what STAR can do!

The main ways of getting money for STAR activities are...

1. **Apply for funding from an external organisation (see below)**
2. **Holding fundraising events (see below)**
3. **Apply for a grant as a society of your Students' Union.** Find out from your Societies Office/Students' Union how and when to apply for this.
4. **Collect membership fees at Freshers' Fair.** This will enable you to get your group up and running immediately.

1. Top tips when applying for funding from an external organisation

See the end of this document for a list of funders.

- **Identify the deadline.** Make sure you give yourself plenty of time to complete the application form, even if it is really short.
- **Read any guidelines carefully.** Make sure you know the funder is looking for and that your proposal fits this
- **Identify who needs to apply.** Some programmes will give funding direct to individuals, others to informal organisations.
- **Be realistic.** Don't promise to deliver any more than you actually can. The people assessing the applications will know what is realistic.
- **Express your idea clearly.** Make sure that the person reading your proposal can understand your big idea and how you will go about achieving it. Ask someone who doesn't know anything about your STAR group to read it.
- **Involve those who will benefit from the project in your planning.** For example, if you are hoping to provide an activity to young refugees, you should ask their opinion to check it is something they would want and they will be able to access it.
- **Work in partnership.** If you are running a volunteering project, work in partnership. Don't forget it is important to make sure you have insurance for any projects you are running. Talk to your student union or other projects you work with to make sure they will include these activities under their insurance.
- If you need to **provide a referee** then make sure you ask someone and provide them with a copy of the written application form. The national team can perform this role.

Advice and support

- **The national team** can talk through project ideas and are happy to check applications. We can't promise you success but are happy to read draft application forms and provide feedback. Please contact us at 0208 980 7036, or send an e-mail to Kim at volunteering@star-network.org.uk. Where possible allow at least 3 working days for us to turn these around. We can also talk through potential project ideas and help you to identify the most appropriate funder to approach.
- If you are successful then please let the national team know. This knowledge will help us to support other STAR groups to access funding opportunities.

4. Fundraising events

- As with planning meetings & events think about what you want to achieve & plan!
- Aim for the achievable
- Make sure you publicise well
- Use all available resources/imagination: you've got lots of members so get them involved!
- Think about opportunities to combine fundraising with getting a message or campaign across or simply increasing your presence and membership.

Hold a club night: ask around your friends and contacts to find a band that will play for free. Check out the costs of hiring a venue (better still get one for free) and plan carefully to make sure you do actually make a profit.

Stalls: these are simple to plan/get permission for and are ideal to give out info/sell cakes/STAR T-shirts from. Be imaginative and try to get noticed.

Top Tip - Any problems with the permission to "sell" things can be got over by asking for "a suggested minimum donation of e.g. 50p for cakes etc"

Funders

Organisation	Description	How to apply
Awards for All (UK wide)	<p>What for? Projects that enable people to take part in art, sport, heritage or community activities, or promote education, the environment or health in the local community. It is extremely broad in what it will consider funding, and projects relating to practical support, awareness raising or campaigning would be eligible if they were shown to meet the aims of the programme. There are different priorities for funding in each government region.</p> <p>Who for? Not for profit organisations. There are requirements for what forms of organisation can be funded, so it may be most effective to apply for funds with a local partner.</p> <p>How much? Between £300 and £10,000.</p>	<p>www.awardsforall.org.uk</p> <p>There is an ongoing application process. Download and submit the application form. Decisions are made within eight weeks.</p>
Community Cash Awards (UK wide)	<p>What for? Disadvantaged young people to set up a project that will benefit their community. This programme would not be suitable for student volunteers. However, if your STAR group works with young refugees aged between 14 and 25 then you could support them to identify a project and apply. The scope for projects is broad.</p> <p>Who for? Individuals/groups. 14 to 16 year olds need to be in school and struggling, 16</p>	<p>www.princes-trust.org.uk</p> <p>The young refugees you are working with need to complete a very, very short online form.</p>

	<p>to 25 year olds unemployed or working less than 16 hours per week.</p> <p>How much? Up to £5,000</p>	
Community Foundation Network (UK wide)	<p>What for? Community foundations are charities located across the UK dedicated to strengthening local communities, creating opportunities and tackling issues of disadvantage and exclusion. Community foundations target grants that make a genuine difference to the lives of local people. They manage funds donated by individuals and organisations, acting as a link between donors and local needs. Their priorities can vary between each area. Practical support or awareness raising work is likely to be most attractive to these funders.</p> <p>Who for? Grassroots, local organisations.</p> <p>How much? Varies by project and area.</p>	<p>www.communityfoundations.org.uk</p> <p>Application processes and timescales vary between each foundation and project. However, the idea is that these grants are available to grassroots, local organisations so the process should not be overly onerous.</p>
Football Foundation Small Grants (England only)	<p>What for? This aims to increase participation by players and volunteers by supporting the costs associated with providing new football activity. For example, training coaches, training referees, hiring facilities, buying first aid kits.</p> <p>Who for? Not for profit community groups, youth clubs, football clubs and education establishments.</p> <p>How much? Grants are up to £9,000 and must not account for more than 90% of the overall budget (i.e. you need to find someone else to fund at least 10% of the total cost). The project can last up to 3 years.</p>	<p>www.footballfoundation.org.uk/apply/community-grants/small-grant/</p> <p>Complete the online application form. Decisions are usually made within 12 weeks.</p>

Greenprints (England only)	<p>What for? GreenPrints flagships funds young people to create environmental volunteering projects which improve a publically accessible green space for people and wildlife. Projects should be designed, created and actively led by young people aged 16 to 25. STAR groups could volunteer together with young refugees to deliver an environmental project in their local community. Projects need to be completed by March 2009.</p> <p>Who for? Young people aged 16 to 25. You could apply as a STAR group.</p> <p>How much? Grants are for up to £10,000 and projects also gain from an experienced</p>	<p>www.sitatrust.org.uk/greenprints</p> <p>Complete the short application form. If you pass stage one you will be assigned a mentor who will work with you to produce a more detailed proposal.</p> <p>There are eight assessment dates during 2008. The last date for stage two applications will be 24th October 2008. Stage one applications should probably be submitted by the end of September at the latest.</p>
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Here to Help Awards (UK wide)	<p>What for? Projects that have a positive impact on the circumstances and experiences of children up to the age of 18.</p> <p>Who for? STAR groups or young refugees could apply, and projects should be young person led, improving young people's life choices and benefit vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. Young people under the age of 18 must be involved in the planning and delivery of any project.</p> <p>How much? Up to £1,000</p>	<p>www.helpyourselves.org.uk</p> <p>Visit the website to complete the short application form.</p> <p>The programme usually runs annually. The closing date for 2008 is 11th July.</p>
Heritage Lottery Fund: Young Roots (UK wide)	<p>What for? Projects that involve young people (aged 13 to 20) in activities which help them learn more about their own or other people's heritage. Projects should provide opportunities for young people to enjoy and develop their own views about heritage.</p> <p>Funding is for a maximum of 18 months, and young people should manage and participate in the project. Projects should promote social inclusion and equal opportunities by involving a wide range of young people of different abilities and cultural backgrounds.</p> <p>Who for? Not for profit organisations, so successful applications will probably involve a STAR group working closely with a partner organisation. Additionally, you must work with at least one heritage partner to deliver the project, (e.g. your local wildlife trust or museum).</p> <p>How much? Between £5,000 to £25,000</p>	<p>http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YoungRoots</p> <p>Visit the website and complete the short eligibility application form. This will be assessed within 10 days and if successful you will be invited to submit a full application form.</p> <p>Applications can be made at any time and decisions are made within 3 months.</p>
UnLtd Level One Awards (UK wide)	<p>What for? UnLtd Level 1 Awards are designed to help make new ideas become real projects. Level 1 Awards are aimed at individuals or informal groups of people who have an idea to benefit their community and want help getting it off the ground. The money is to help with the running costs of the project.</p> <p>Who for? Individuals or informal groups of people.</p> <p>How much? UnLtd gives out 1,000 Level 1 Awards each year across the UK, with a value between £500 and £5,000.</p>	<p>www.unltd.org.uk</p> <p>The first stage is to complete the application form. Then, assuming your project is eligible, you will be invited to a meeting to discuss your project. There are 10 rounds each year, and UnLtd aim to make decisions within 6 weeks of receipt of an application. During the process you will need to demonstrate there is a need for your project, your plans are achievable and will be a learning opportunity for those involved.</p>
Inter Faith Youth Trust (UK wide)	<p>What for? Projects that promote inter faith learning between young people. Young people (up to 25) should be involved in the running,</p>	<p>www.kisch.org.uk</p> <p>Visit the website to complete the short</p>

	<p>planning and evaluation of the project, and it should promote equal opportunities. They will support new or existing work.</p> <p>Who for? They prefer to fund organisations so it is important to work with a local partner organisation.</p> <p>How much? Up to £3,000 (usually under £1,000).</p>	<p>(3 page) application form.</p> <p>For grants under £500 you can apply at any time and receive a decision within 6 weeks. Larger grants must be applied for by the middle of February, June or October.</p>
It's Your Community (UK wide)	<p>What for? Anything that you can show will benefit your community. Projects need to improve a community place, bring people together, put pride into the community or improve a landscape. Projects should aim to have a lasting impact. Projects providing practical support to refugees would be especially eligible for this programme.</p> <p>Who for? Local groups and individuals</p> <p>How much? Up to £1,000</p>	<p>www.itsyourcommunity.co.uk</p> <p>Complete the short online application form. Decisions are made within 28 days.</p>
vcashpoint (England only)	<p>What for? vcashpoint is the funding initiative for young people aged 16 to 25 who want to set up a voluntary project in their own community. The project must create new volunteering opportunities and be either a new project or stand alone extension of an existing project. Projects involving raising awareness, campaigning or practical support would all be eligible. You must define who benefits from the volunteering and how.</p> <p>Who for? Young people aged 16 to 25.</p> <p>How much? Funding is up to £2,500 and must be spent within six months.</p>	<p>www.vinspired.com</p> <p>Complete the application form by the deadline. This will then be assessed and assuming it is eligible a telephone conversation to discuss your application will be arranged.</p> <p>The next round is coming up in December 2008.</p>
Youth Action Network Small Grants Awards (England only)	<p>What for? Youth Action Network provides small grants of up to £500 for volunteering projects led by young people. Generally they need to showcase the contribution young people make to their community as volunteers. In 2008, grants will be available for activities led by young volunteers to put on events and activities during Volunteers Week (1-7 June) to recruit new volunteers.</p> <p>This week falls during the end of the academic year, so for those STAR groups still needing committee members to kick off 08/09 might be an ideal way to celebrate the achievements of your group and engage new people.</p> <p>Who for? Young people aged 16 to 25.</p> <p>How much? Up to £500.</p>	<p>www.youthactionnetwork.org.uk</p> <p>Grants are usually offered once or twice per year, and are advertised on the YAN website. You can also sign up for their e-mail newsletter which will alert you to new rounds. Details for the first 2009 round are expected during the Spring.</p> <p>Applications are by completing a short form.</p>

Youth Bank UK (UK wide)	<p>What for? A youth bank is where young people can apply for money to support activities that help their local community. Youth Banks are run by young people who decide how big grants should be, the application process and local priorities and assessment criteria. This means a YouthBank can respond effectively to local needs.</p> <p>Who for? Young people under 25</p> <p>How much? Depends on the local priorities</p>	<p>www.youthbank.org.uk</p> <p>Application process vary from region to region, so log on to the web</p>
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