

## Volunteering Support Fund 2017-18

**Grants between £7,500 and £10,000 are now available to small to medium-sized not-for-profit organisations working in Scotland.**

### About the Volunteering Support Fund

The purpose of the fund is to enable Scotland's small to medium-sized third sector organisations to recruit additional volunteers (who will contribute towards delivering a new volunteering project, or extending/expanding an existing one) and improve how volunteers are supported in their role.

Successful applicants will be expected to contribute towards the following outcomes during the eight month funding period (1 Aug 2017 – 30 March 2018):

1. Increasing the diversity of the third sector's volunteer pool, especially to include those who experience disadvantage or would traditionally experience barriers to volunteering;
2. Improving opportunities for skills and personal development through volunteering;
3. Improving the third sector's capacity to support, train and deploy volunteers; and
4. Enhancing the services organisations deliver to better meet the needs of the communities they serve.

### Who can apply?

1. Third sector organisations with an annual income of under £250,000. Organisations do not need to be registered charities, although their constitution or set of rules should make clear that funds will only be spent on purposes established in the constitution, and not distributed amongst members;
2. Organisations that have not applied to the Volunteering Support Fund before, or were previously unsuccessful, or that received a grant during 2016-17 but not during the previous year (ie over two consecutive years); and
3. Organisations that are able to start their project within 10 days of being awarded funding.



## What can I apply for?

Organisations can apply for the costs of recruiting additional volunteers (both delivery volunteers and voluntary board members) and should demonstrate that they aim to recruit at least an additional 10 volunteers, including 6 who experience disadvantage.

Other costs should contribute towards how volunteers are supported, eg increased staff hours, volunteers' expenses, volunteer training, establishing robust volunteering policies and procedures, volunteer planning/evaluation days or thank-you events, or uniforms or equipment.

## How to apply

The Application Form and Application Guidance Notes, including full details of eligibility and how to apply for the grant, can be downloaded from the Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) website at [www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk](http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk).

**The deadline for applications is 5pm on Fri 14 July 2017 and the period of the grant will be from 1 Aug 2017 to 30 March 2018.**

If you have any queries about the fund, would like clarification on how to complete the Application Form, or wish to discuss your project proposal with a member of staff, please contact VAF using the details below.

Voluntary Action Fund  
Suite 3 - Forth House  
Burnside Business Court  
North Road  
Inverkeithing, Fife KY11 1 NZ  
Telephone: 01383 620780  
Email: [VSFenquiries@vaf.org.uk](mailto:VSFenquiries@vaf.org.uk)

## About Voluntary Action Fund

VAF ([www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk](http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk)) is a long-established, independent grant maker in Scotland. Since 1982 VAF has distributed over £95 million to a wide range of organisations in Scotland: from grassroots community groups with limited income to national organisations. VAF manages the Volunteering Support Fund on behalf of the Scottish Government.

