

GRANTS GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS



GO!
LONDON

**CHANGING THE LIVES
OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

FUNDED BY
MAYOR OF LONDON



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

The logos for the partnership partners: London Sport and LME (London Marathon Events).

FOUNDATION AND EVOLUTION GRANTS GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS

Go! London Foundation and Evolution grants are part of a new 5-year, multi-million pound investment in youth sport across London by a partnership comprising the Mayor of London, Sport England, the London Marathon Foundation, London Marathon Events and London Sport.

This guidance will help you decide if your work is a good fit with this initial round of Go! London funding. We have kept the guidance brief, but you can find further information on the fund's [webpage](#). This includes FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions), which will be regularly updated and which you are encouraged to read. You can also call us on 0203 291 3021 during office hours, or email GoLondon@rocketsciencelab.co.uk with any queries you may have.

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CONTEXT

The **Mayor of London, London Marathon Foundation** and **Sport England** have come together as funders, in collaboration with **London Marathon Events and London Sport**, to create Go! London. This unique partnership is pooling funding in order to:

- help build a fairer London by transforming the lives of underserved children and young Londoners through sport and physical activity;
- strengthen, diversify, and sustain the provision of sport and physical activity in the capital so that it better meets the needs of underserved children and young Londoners, and
- reduce the barriers to sport and physical activity facing underserved children and young Londoners to ensure they can fulfil their potential.

The fund will run for at least five years from March 2023 and provide a number of funding opportunities each year.



OUTCOMES

Go! London is targeted on achieving the following **outcomes** for underserved children and young Londoners, aged 4-24 i.e. those who experience a higher risk of poverty, social exclusion and discrimination than the general population. We want you to create positive experiences of sport and physical activity which:

- a improve their **wellbeing** (physical and mental);
- b improve their **employability skills**;
- c better connect them to their **communities**;
- d improve their **safety**;
- e reduce their **loneliness**.

You will need to show how you are supporting **at least two** of these outcomes through helping children and young people take part in sport or physical activity. If your application is successful, we will help you set up ways to monitor your progress and communicate the difference you make.

Applications from equity-led groups and those who can show they are trusted by underserved children and young Londoners will be prioritised for funding. This will require demonstrating your organisation's roots and connections to particular target groups and their engagement with your services.

An illustrative list of target groups includes children and young people who:

- have special educational needs, are deaf or have other physical/learning/sensory disabilities; or young people with mental health problems;
- have been, are, or at risk of being excluded from school or college;
- are not in education, employment or training (NEETs);
- have been, or are, associated with gangs or impacted by exploitation;
- are experiencing, or have been impacted by, domestic violence and abuse;
- are experiencing homelessness;
- are refugees or asylum seekers, or are newly arrived migrants;
- have a social worker (this includes those in the care of a London Borough, those with a protection plan, children in need and care leavers) or are young carers;
- identify as LGBTQIA+;
- come from low-income families;
- experience barriers to being physically active.



OPPORTUNITY

How much you can apply for, and the grant types explained. There are two types of grants available

1 FOUNDATION GRANTS

of up to £40,000
for groups and
organisations

2 EVOLUTION GRANTS

of up to £150,000
for groups and
organisations



FOUNDATION GRANTS

Grants of up to £40,000 for a maximum period of 2 years. Whilst you can apply for a shorter time and smaller amounts of funding, we anticipate the average grant award will be between £25,000 and £30,000.

It is up to you to demonstrate that the length of the grant period and amount requested are right for your project and your group or organisation.

The economic environment remains tough for many as we continue to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic and cope with the rising cost of living. Foundation grants will help groups and organisations which are trusted by underserved children and young Londoners to continue to deliver their vital work and become more resilient in the future.

Funding is available to cover project-specific costs, your organisation's core costs, or both. Examples of core costs include salaries, overheads, (i.e. running costs such as rent, heating and lighting), as well as specific work that will strengthen organisations for the future.

Foundation grants will enable you to realise **stronger outcomes** for children and young people (see section 2) by addressing the following aims:

- **Improved organisational sustainability**
e.g. strengthening infrastructure, administration, management or governance; leveraging further funding; strategic development; supporting networks and collaborations
- **Enhanced services for children and young people.**
This could be achieved directly through project-based funding, or indirectly by strengthening organisations
- **Increased numbers of children and young people supported**
by sustaining current activity and provision which might be about to end and where there's a clear need for this to continue.

EVOLUTION GRANTS

Evolution grants of up to £150,000 are available across a maximum period of 3 years. Your project can run over a shorter timeframe. The size and duration of the grant need to be right for the project and your group or organisation.

We know that sport and physical activity can address a wide range of social challenges in the capital and play a significant role in enhancing young people's lives, particularly for those with complex needs and barriers to participation. Evolution grants will enable you to realise **stronger outcomes** for these children and young people (see section 2) by aiming to:

- **Develop and deliver innovative or new approaches and ideas,** supporting innovation at an organisation and/or sector level, or
- **Scale your work which has already been tested and has demonstrable impact** in meeting the needs of underserved children and young Londoners.



COMPARING GRANTS

	Foundation Grants	Evolution Grants
Maximum Size	£40,000	£150,000
Anticipated average size and number of grants	£25–30,000 Approx. 100 this year	£100,000 Approx. 10 this year
Duration of your activity	Up to 24 months	Up to 36 months
Rounds per annum	Two	One
Eligible Costs	Project and core costs	Project costs
Turnover of Applicant	Likely to be less than £1m pa	Likely to be less than £5m pa
Grant as % of turnover	N/A	Likely to be less than £5m pa
Grant focus	Provision and sustainability	Innovation and scaling
Monitoring and Evaluation	Sustainability and learning	Impact and learning



PRIORITIES

Priority for both Foundation and Evolution grants will be given to applications which are:

- From **equity-led** groups/organisations and those developed or informed by young people, and/or organisations that amplify youth voice
- From groups/organisations that are **trusted** by underserved communities and young people
- Focused on **reducing barriers to sport and physical activity for underserved children** and young people with high needs
- Clear about the role which sport and physical activity can play in **achieving social change**
- **Locally based**, or from organisations with a direct connection with children and young people
- **Addressing gaps** in provision and make the most of local facilities and existing infrastructure
- Including **additional wrap-around support** for young people, such as mentoring provision, to achieve the fund's outcomes
- Focused on **future sustainability**, including a commitment to complete and act on Go! London's organisational health check.
- The fund will run for at least five years from March 2023 and provide a number of funding opportunities each year.

Additional Support

In addition, we expect applications for an Evolution grant will:

- Show how you intend to **take your vision and ambitions to the next level**
- Address the recently **heightened needs of growing numbers of children and young people** and evidence this through your evaluation and learning
- **Demonstrate creative and innovative approaches.** Innovation in this context can be a new idea for your organisation and/or the wider sector
- **Consider a collaborative approach**, including more joined-up, cross-sector working
- Contribute to social change by **reducing inequality and building a fairer London** through sport and physical activity.



MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

Our key monitoring, evaluation and learning objectives for Go! London are to:

- 1 Determine the impact of the funding on the five key outcomes identified for individuals
- 2 Gauge the impact of the Fund on organisational sustainability and sectoral development
- 3 Generate new learning to support future delivery and funding decisions.

Suppliers have been appointed to provide monitoring, evaluation and learning services for the fund and will help you set up the necessary tools and processes to collect, analyse and report on relevant data and information. For some awards, additional capacity will be available from the fund's research, evaluation and learning partner to help implement specific evaluation approaches.

Applicants must put a minimum of 5% of their grant towards monitoring, evaluation and learning so that you and others can understand your project's impact and learn from it. For example, if you're requesting a grant of £30,000, you must set aside at least £1,500. If your application is successful, you will receive help to find an appropriate monitoring organisation to work with you on measuring the impact of your work. Alternatively, you will be asked to demonstrate how you will use a ring-fenced budget of a minimum of 5% of the total grant to undertake this yourself. This will be discussed in the clarification meeting, towards the end of the application process.

The fund's monitoring and evaluation activity aims to show that enabling underserved children and young people to take part in sport and physical activity achieves positive social outcomes and measurable returns on investment. It will also allow you to show what has worked, and what has been more challenging, by sharing your experiences through Go! London's community of learning.

To ensure the overall evaluation is carried out effectively and can collect consistent, meaningful data, we have certain requirements that you will need to incorporate into your monitoring and evaluation. You will be asked to submit regular updates, no less than every six months, which will be proportional to the size of your grant. These could include:

- Short summaries of progress
- Reports to show how the grant has been spent
- Data collected on numbers engaged in activities (for example, physical activity or mentoring) and participant characteristics
- Surveys to create a baseline and measure outcomes at follow-up points
- Case studies and stories of change with contributions from children and young people.

The financial information will be reviewed against your agreed profile, and the monitoring return checked for completeness before your next payment is released.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The table below sets out who is eligible to apply for the Foundation and Evolution grants.

- Voluntary and community sector organisations
- Registered charities
- Sports development organisations
- Social enterprises
- Young people-led organisations or groups
- Faith groups



You first need to complete a registration form to demonstrate your eligibility and alignment with the fund's priorities. This requires you to be able to answer yes to all the following:

- ✓ Do you have a constitution, trust deed or articles and memorandum of association?
- ✓ Are you a not-for-profit organisation?
- ✓ Will your work or project have a focus on sport or physical activity? (Please refer to FAQs for information on what sports or types of physical activity are included)
- ✓ Will your work or project take place within Greater London and deliver services to resident children and young people?
- ✓ Will your work or project directly help underserved children and young Londoners aged between 4-24 to improve their access to sport and physical activity?
- ✓ Can you demonstrate a track record of working with children and young people?
- ✓ Do you have appropriate safeguarding measures in place?
- ✓ Can you provide annual accounts for your last financial year? (If not, you will need to identify a sponsor organisation to apply on your behalf)
- ✓ Can you provide a budget breakdown for your grant request?
- ✓ For Evolution Grants only: Can you provide a monthly cashflow forecast for the next 12 months?
- ✓ Do you have a bank account in the name of your organisation?
- ✓ Will you pay at least the London Living Wage for any posts funded by the grant?
- ✓ Will you allocate a minimum of 5% of your grant request towards monitoring, evaluation and learning?

If you are not able to answer yes to these questions, please still consider completing the Stage 1 registration form, as you may be offered support to help you meet the fund's eligibility and priorities in future funding rounds.

If you currently or have recently received funding from the Mayor of London, Sport England, or London Marathon Foundation (previously London Marathon Charitable Trust) you can still apply for a Go! London grant. However, you will be asked to explain how your proposed project/work builds on our investment. Please note, because we expect the fund to be oversubscribed, priority will likely be given to organisations/groups which are not current beneficiaries of our funding.

HOW AND WHEN TO APPLY

There are six steps in the Go! London application process

	Key dates
01 Step One – Programme launch Eligibility and alignment with fund priorities form available	7 March 2023
02 Step Two – Eligibility forms received and reviewed Ineligible applicants provided with feedback and guidance to support future applications Eligible applicants invited to complete an expression of interest/application form	Deadline: Foundation 4pm 28 March 2023 Evolution 4pm 4 April 2023
03 Step Three – Programme closes Expression of interest/application forms received Completeness and first stage due diligence checks undertaken	Deadline: Foundation 4pm 25 April 2023 Evolution 4pm 9 May 2023
04 Step Four – Assessment Review of the applications and publicly available documentation	May 2023
05 Step Five – Clarification meetings Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a 30 minute interview to discuss the application and any additional clarification questions	May/June 2023
06 Step Six – Decisions Decisions made on Foundation and Evolution applications Due diligence checks on recommended applications Outcome communicated to applicants Unsuccessful applicants provided with guidance which may include capacity building to support future applications and organisational resilience	End June 2023

In the first year of Go! London, there will be two funding rounds or chances to apply for a Foundation grant and one application round for an Evolution grant. A **second round for Foundation grants only** will open later in the year.

Go! London opens for applications for **Foundation and Evolution grants** on 7 March 2023.

To begin your application, you first need to complete the Stage 1 form [here](#).

If you do not meet the eligibility criteria and are applying through a sponsor, please complete the form as the delivery organisation and provide the details where requested about your sponsor.

	Deadline for submitting Stage 1 form	Deadline for submitting expression of interest/application form
Foundation grants	4pm 28th March 2023	4pm 25th April 2023
Evolution grants	4pm 4th April 2023	4pm 9th May 2023

Costs and budgeting

For a full list of costs that we can and cannot fund, and for further information to support your budget planning, please see our FAQs. We will provide a costing tool template as part of your application which can be viewed [here](#).

We encourage applicants to work in partnership with others to combine assets and resources at a local level and, where possible, to bring additional partnership funding. This might be external cash support which you have received, or are expecting from other funders, and/or non-cash support for your project – i.e. things that you need but you either do not have to pay for, or which add value to the project such as free/reduced cost venue hire, or volunteer support. Your ability to bring in additional partnership funding is not, however, a pre-condition of receiving a Go! London grant, nor is it part of the assessment criteria.

MAKING DECISIONS

Your Stage 1 form will be reviewed for eligibility and against the fund's priority areas. If successful, you will be invited to complete an expression of interest.

A Grants Panel, comprising representatives of Go! London's funders and young Londoners will assess all the applications received and agree a shortlist to interview. This will last around 30 minutes and provide an opportunity to discuss your application. A final portfolio of recommended Foundation and Evolution grants will be presented to Go! London's Strategic Board for final approval.



WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL?

If your application is successful, you will be contacted by our grant management partner, Rocket Science, who are looking after the Go! London grants on behalf of the fund's partners.

You will be sent a provisional offer subject to your passing a due diligence check. This will require you to provide the following documents:

- A copy of your latest:
 - Annual accounts
 - Governing document
- Information on directors/trustees. Do you have at least three directors in place, with no one person having more than 33% of voting rights?
- Appropriate public liability insurance policy for the planned activities
- Evidence of your commitment to diversity, equality, and inclusion
- A copy of the bank account statement dated within the last 3 months
- A copy of your latest child protection and/or adults-at-risk policies

Once these checks are complete, you will be issued with a funding agreement to sign and return together with an organisational health check. Rocket Science can talk you through the funding agreement if you have any questions; support will also be available to complete your organisation's health check.

Your funding agreement will include details of how the grant will be paid and a proposed payments schedule which will include an up-front payment and subsequent instalments linked to your 6-monthly monitoring and reporting updates. The final instalment of your Go! London grant will be paid only after your final reporting requirements have been met.

We are likely to receive many more applications than can be funded. If you are unsuccessful, you will receive a letter explaining why your application has not received funding. Rocket Science will let you know of any further support available to help you prepare future applications. As this is a multi-year fund, you may have the chance to apply again.



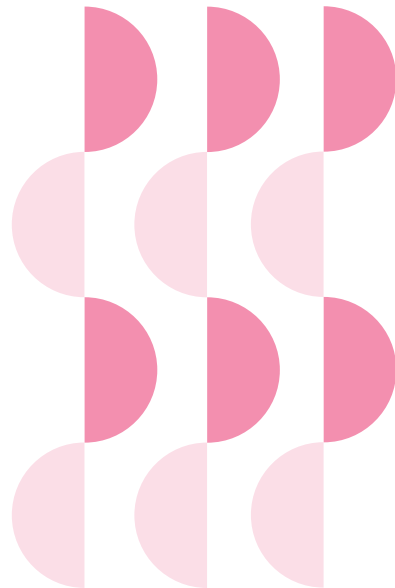
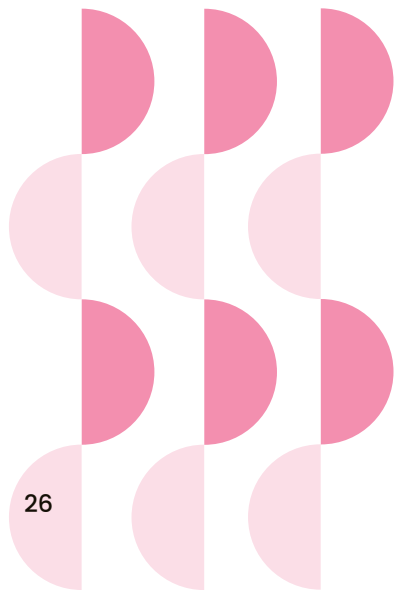
FURTHER INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

If this guidance document and the FAQs do not cover what you need to know, or if you have any accessibility requirements, please call 0203 291 3021 during office hours, or email GoLondon@rocketsciencelab.co.uk

We are hosting information and online Q&A sessions about the fund and the application process. You can [sign up here](#).

To start your Stage 1 registration form, please [click here](#)

If you have already started and part saved your form, please [click here](#) to log back into your account and continue your registration. **Good luck!**



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