

FAQ's

About the Grants

The Fund offers unrestricted grants of up to £5,000 to organisations that are able to demonstrate the impact of their mission. Eligible charities would also need to show how they offer creative solutions to getting through the current crisis and building for delivery beyond the acute phase; certain applicants may be eligible to re-apply for further funding if appropriate and subject to available funding.

The application process is extremely simple with a high level of support provided by our assessors. The aim is to place minimum administrative burden on the applicant in order to ensure the charities can continue to concentrate on delivery of services. Funding decisions are targeted to be made within two weeks of receipt of application.

How do I apply for funding?

We will open and close the WMA-WCI fund for applications so as not to create a backlog of applications in the system or have organisations spend time on an application if we do not believe we will have enough funds. To apply for funding, check on the website (www.winnersinthecommunity.com) and our social media handles on Instagram @[winnersinthecommunity](https://www.instagram.com/winnersinthecommunity) @[winnerslondon](https://www.instagram.com/winnerslondon)

Please see below the guidelines to submit your application.

The Process

The process is designed to put as low a burden on charities as possible. We have no application form. We just want you to tell us who you are and what you need in your own words. There is no “right” format for your application document.

We suggest you think of your application as your pitch document – this is your chance to tell us how your organisation meets a vital need with a compelling and demonstrably effective solution. Organisations are requested to submit an application document. **This must be no longer than three sides of A4 and should include the following:**

- A brief description of the organisation, its leadership, and the work it does and why the work is compelling.

- How much funding is requested and how the funding will have a transformational impact on the organisation during this period
- A few simple targets for the organisation for the period of funding requested.
- Applications should be submitted to cdc@winners-chapel.org.uk

Our assessors, all of whom have a combined 20+ years of professional experience, will conduct desk research and one-to-one due diligence before writing up funding requests. Funding decisions will be made at regular weekly panels containing a diverse, rolling mix of individuals.

How long will the WMA-WCI fund stay open for applications?

Registration is based on a first-come, first-served basis. We may close applications to the fund if demand for grants outstrips funds available. We are acutely aware of the lack of support available to small charities and social enterprises during the Covid19 crisis and given that this is a pilot, we are committed to learning from this and understand the need.

Therefore, our intention is that even if we are required to close the fund for applications, it will soon be able to reopen. We therefore encourage you to keep a close eye on our social media platforms

I applied but I have not heard back. What do I do?

Please first check the spam/junk folder of the e-mail address you used to register. We will be processing applications as quickly as we can and you will receive feedback from your assessor via email but, if you have not heard back from us within two weeks of your application, please e-mail cdc@winners-chapel.org.uk.

Am I required to include a project budget in my application?

No project budget is required, just a simple description of how you intend to spend the grant.

Do I need to include a financial table in my application?

Please see the guidance for an example format

We are a new organisation and do not have any accounts.

If you cannot provide any annual / year-end accounts that have been submitted to the Charity Commission or Companies House, we will not be able to consider your application.

I do not have my audited accounts for this year. Can I still apply?

Yes. Please attach the most recent audited accounts you have available, and please include your most recent management accounts.

There is something odd or unusual about our financial history, and we think it may be confusing. What should we do?

Please include further explanatory detail as necessary to enable our assessors to make sense of the information you have provided.

I made a mistake when sending my application through. What should I do?

Please email the correct information to cdc@winners-chapel.org.uk and we will update your application record.

Eligibility

Does my organisation need to be a registered charity?

We accept applications from Kent Based UK-registered charities, community interest companies, charitable incorporated organisations and community benefit societies who have been operating for two years or more

Do I have to be working in a focus area?

Yes we are interested in organisations working across these five areas;

- Foodbank and Poverty Alleviation
- Tackling Homelessness
- Collaboration, Inclusion and Diversity
- Improving Health, Safety and the Environment
- Enterprise and Employability Training

Can I apply if my organisation is a company limited by guarantee?

Unfortunately, we can only accept applications from companies limited by guarantee if they are also UK-registered charities. Otherwise, we cannot accept applications from companies limited by guarantee, even if they have other elements associated with social enterprises (such as asset locks, non-distribution clauses or charitable/social purposes).

We have applied to be a registered charity/community interest company/charitable incorporated organisation/community benefit society, but our application has not yet been approved. Can we still apply for funding?

We are unable to fund organisations whose registration as a charity, community interest company, charitable incorporated organisation or community benefit society in the UK is in process but has not yet been approved. Please do not apply to the fund until you have received confirmation from the relevant regulator that your registration has been approved.

Do you fund charitable activities in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as well as England?

Unfortunately, no. Our focus during this period is on Kent based organisations

Do you fund charitable activities overseas?

Unfortunately, no. Our focus is Kent based organisations that are registered within the UK as described above.

My organisation has annual income of more than £100,000. Can we still apply for funding?

Unfortunately, not. WCID only provides grants to organisations with less than £100,000 annual income.

If I have been turned down for a grant, can I apply again?

Unfortunately, we cannot accept applications from organisations that have already been turned down for funding.

If you have any further queries, please contact us at cdc@winners-chapel.org.uk