Quickline Moving On Up

Brief summary
Grants of up to £15,000, up to £5k per year over 3 years, for community organisations supporting young people aged 14-30 years, in South Yorkshire. The focus for grants will be for those groups working specifically with vulnerable and marginalised young people in removing barriers into employment.

How much can I apply for?
Up to £5,000 to be spent within one year of grant award or £15,000 multiyear funding over 3 years.

When can I apply?
Applications are open now. Please submit your application by 9am, Monday 19th January 2026.
Grants will be paid from mid-March.

Aims and priorities:
The aim of this funding is to help community organisations support young people in South Yorkshire from pre-employability through to established pathways to employment.

By young people, we mean people aged between 14- and 30-years-old living in South Yorkshire.

Based on consultation with local employers, partners and community organisations, we understand that supporting young people into productive and rewarding employment needs a range of approaches, from pre-employability through to pathways into work, so we are looking to fund activity across all three of the approaches below.

(NB each grant is only expected to fund one of the approaches below, but throughout this round we hope to fund a range of grants which between them cover all three approaches).

1. ***Pre employability skills – engagement, soft skills development***

Under this heading we expect to fund activity focused on engaging young people, raising aspirations, and ensuring they have the soft skills and the confidence to continue their journey towards work.

Applications will be expected to demonstrate that they are reaching those that are furthest away from work: vulnerable, underrepresented and marginalised.

2. ***Pre employment and establishing pathways – interview techniques, access to support centres, mentoring, skills training***

Under this heading, we expect to fund activity to get young people ready for work. This might include providing work-ready skills training or supporting young people to gain qualifications which link to employment. It could also include CV writing, interview practice, job coaching or mentoring.

3. ***Pathways to Employment – offering apprenticeships, kickstart programmes, graduate schemes, work experience, employment***

Under this heading, we expect to fund activity which completes the pathway into employment. We anticipate this will include supported work experience placements or engaging with apprenticeships or

kickstart programmes. Under this heading we also hope to fund the wrap-around support which can help young people to secure a good employment, and perhaps even more importantly to stay and progress in employment.

Priority groups:
Across all three approaches, priority will be given to organisations working specifically with vulnerable and marginalised young people, including the following:

- Young people suffering mental health and isolation issues
- Young people with a history of drug and alcohol abuse
- Ex-offenders or those at risk of offending
- Young people in or leaving the care system
- Young people from Minoritised Ethnic groups
- Young people suffering inequalities: gender, race, disabilities, sexual orientation or health
- Young people living in workless households
- Young people living in geographical areas of high unemployment

Linking Employers with young people, and engaging vulnerable and marginalised groups
This funding also aims to support young people to connect and engage with a local employer and donor Quickline. This support could include job coaches, workplace visits and interview workshops.

Where possible, SYCF aims to facilitate a link between Quickline, other employers and those working with young people in order for mutually beneficial partnerships to develop. In this way we hope to align needs of young people to plans and outcomes expected from employer.

Who can apply?
Moving On Up grants are for community organisations in South Yorkshire. This includes charities, community groups, and not-for-profit social enterprises. To be eligible for a grant you must:

- Have a governing document (e.g., a constitution or memorandum of association),
- Have a board or management committee of at least three unrelated people,
- Have a bank account in the name of the group requiring at least two unrelated signatories, and
- Have beneficiaries who live in South Yorkshire and be locally led and run.

We will only fund local offices or branches of a national charity if they have their own local management committee and manage their own local finances.

A partnership approach is particularly encouraged, because we believe that community organisations can achieve more by working together with other community groups, businesses and statutory partners. One organisation will need to submit the proposal as the lead applicant, meeting the eligibility criteria above, taking responsibility for the application as a whole and ensuring that roles and responsibilities of all partners are clearly set out within the application. It will be expected that the lead applicant has previous experience and expertise to deliver the project, working alongside other organisations.

What can be funded?
The grant funding is focused on project costs including operating and revenue costs.

If your application includes staff costs, we encourage you to pay at least the real Living Wage.

Don't forget to include a fair share of overheads like rent or room hire, utilities, and admin or management costs needed to support your project.

For more information about how to develop a project budget, see this SYFAB information sheet.

Where relevant, we expect you to shop around to find the best value for money. For any individual items costing over £200 we'll expect you to attach a quote to your application.

What cannot be funded?
Grants cannot be awarded to fund:

- For-profit organisations, statutory organisations (e.g., schools and hospitals) or overseas organisations
- Retrospective funding (activity and costs that have already taken place or repayment of money which has already been spent)
- Overseas trips or expeditions
- Grant-making to other organisations and/or individuals
- Organisations or activities primarily for the benefit of animals rather than people
- Activity that promotes a particular political or religious point of view

We can fund religious organisations (like a church, mosque or gurdwara) delivering activity which benefits the community (like running interview skills sessions), but we cannot fund religious services or activity intended to promote a particular religion.

If activity is intended to target a particular group of people (ethnicity, gender, religion, etc.) there should be a good reason for this, for example if this is the best way to redress an existing inequality or to ensure services reach a group which would otherwise be underserved or marginalised.

Reporting and Evaluation
Requirements for this will focus on the collection of case studies (photographs and feedback), proof that the grant has been spent as agreed and any information you would like to share.

Please note that if you are applying for multi-year funding, you will need to complete a report at the end of each year before the next year funding is released. Further information will be supplied if you are successful.

What happens after I apply?
On receipt of the application forms, we will check the eligibility and supporting documents, and assess your application against the aims and priorities above. We may contact you to ask some additional questions.

Our panel of independent volunteers will consider the applications and decide which to fund. The panel's decision is final.

If your application does not meet our criteria, or if the panel decide it is not a priority for funding, we will contact you to let you know.

Please note that we expect to receive more applications than we are able to fund, so not every eligible application will be funded.

Contact us
If you would like more information or to discuss your application please get in touch with the Grants Team via grants@sycf.org.uk.

If you are based in Barnsley or Sheffield, and you would like more support to make an application, please contact our colleagues at SYFAB who will be happy to help you.