



LGBT+ Fund: Get Active Fund

1. Key summary

- The LGBT+ Fund: Get Active Fund (the “Fund”) is a new, 2-year fund open to LGBT+ organisations/groups supporting LGBT+ people within sports and physical activity¹. Please see this key summary, and subsequent sections for a breakdown of what the Fund is for and how organisations can apply.
- The Fund is a collaboration between the LGBT+ Fund, powered by Consortium, and London Marathon Foundation.² The Fund is managed with the support of a steering group comprising of those with significant experience in LGBT+ sports and physical activity communities.
- A total of £400,000 will be awarded across a range of organisations and groups.
- **The Fund opens to applications on Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 12 noon.**
- **The Fund closes to applications on Wednesday 4th November 2026 at 12 noon.**
- All eligible applications received within the application window will be considered.
- The Fund’s aim is to increase resource to LGBT+ sports and physical activity groups and projects in the UK, which are broadly under-recognised by funding initiatives. It equally responds to the fact that LGBT+ individuals are more likely to face barriers to physical activity participation; aiming to improve access and increase levels of activity within LGBT+ communities.

¹ * We intend ‘Physical activities’ to mean any activity that intentionally and explicitly facilitates increased physical movement and wellbeing.

² The Fund is administered by LGBT+ Consortium through the LGBT+ Fund. London Marathon Foundation is a separate organisation.

- Given the Fund's objectives, the Fund will prioritise organisations / projects supporting the following intersectional communities that are underserved in UK grant-making, and who face additional barriers to participation. This includes D/deaf, disabled and/or neurodivergent LGBT+ people, LGBT+ women, LGBT+ people of faith, LGBT+ people of the global majority, Older LGBT+ people, Trans, non-binary and/or intersex people.
- **Please note, we expect the programme to be oversubscribed. Based on similar programmes we have delivered, approximately 1 in 5 applications may be successful.**

2. About the fund

Thanks to funding from London Marathon Foundation (Registered Charity Number 283813), the LGBT+ Fund, powered by Consortium, will be awarding a total of **£400,000 that will be paid over a period of 2 years**, to successful applicant organisations and groups working in LGBT+ sports and physical activities across the UK.

London Marathon Foundation is one of the UK's major funders of projects and initiatives that inspire children and adults across the UK to lead active and healthy lives. They also work to champion accessible, inclusive and sustainable sport and physical activity, so that everyone – regardless of age, ability or background – can lead an active life.

The Fund responds to the fact that grassroots LGBT+ groups delivering sporting and physical activities are under-resourced, facing consistent under-investment, challenges to accessing relevant opportunities, and a lack of meaningful engagement by decision makers. Systemic and social pressures also mean that LGBT+ individuals are more likely to disengage from physical activities in multiple settings, including those intended to be inclusive. Safety, inclusion and representation, especially for LGBT+ people who face multiple forms of discrimination, remain major barriers. We refer to this as those who face additional barriers to participation.

The Fund will invest much needed resource into community-based LGBT+ groups across the UK who focus on sports and physical activity. The Fund is managed with the support of a steering group comprising of those with significant experience in LGBT+ sports and physical activity communities. The Fund aims to reach a wide variety of LGBT+ sports and physical activity-focused organisations and projects. It will prioritise grassroots groups supporting LGBT+ communities who face additional barriers to participation.

3. Who Can Apply

Applicants must meet ALL the following requirements:

1. You're a UK-based LGBT+ led non-profit group or organisation: Your group must be registered or based in the UK. It must be led by and for LGBT+ people.

2. Your work regularly focuses on sports or physical activities* – You can apply if you are:

- An LGBT+ sports or physical activity organisation that has run recent³, or runs existing project(s) focused on sports or physical activities*
OR
- A non-sporting LGBT+ organisation that runs **existing** project(s) focused on sport or physical activities*

*We intend 'physical activities' to mean any activity that intentionally and explicitly facilitates increased physical movement and wellbeing. Examples include: Hiking, skateboarding, football, ballroom & vogue, gardening, frisbee, dance, circus skills.

3. You have experience: Your group, organisation, or project must have been running for at least 6 months.

The following organisations, groups and projects are not eligible to apply for this fund:

- Those who have an active grant with the London Marathon Foundation and/or Go! London at the time of applying.
- Those whose work is reflected in the 'what we cannot fund' section below.

We are seeking to particularly support organisations, groups and projects which:

- Are based in historically underfunded areas within the LGBT+ sector such as the North-East, East, South-West of England and the Devolved Nations
- Work in areas lacking provision for LGBT+ communities (beyond their own group's provision). This includes groups in rural and remote areas.
- Are focused on supporting intersectional or multiply-marginalised LGBT+ communities (those who face multiple forms of discrimination).

³ Recent in this instance is defined as within the past 3 years.

- Demonstrate an intentional focus on removing barriers to participation and enabling individuals who don't currently have access to physical activity. This means a core focus on moving from inactive to active ⁴

We will also be prioritising organisations / projects supporting the following intersectional communities of focus that are underserved currently in UK grant-making:

- D/deaf, Disabled and/or Neurodivergent LGBT+ People
- LGBT+ Women
- LGBT+ people of faith
- LGBT+ People of the Global Majority
- Older LGBT+ People
- Trans, Non-Binary and/or Intersex People

You do not need to be a member of Consortium to be eligible to apply. Groups who have been past recipients of grants from Consortium that have fulfilled all monitoring requirements, and organisations who are currently in receipt of a grant from Consortium are eligible to apply. The request must be for a different project / cost as we cannot double fund the same work.

We foresee the fund receiving a high volume of applications and unfortunately, we won't be able to fund all applications received. Based on similar programmes we have delivered, approximately 1 in 5 applications are expected to be successful.

All applicants must be able to demonstrate that they are working in an inclusive, non-discriminatory way.

⁴The UK's Chief Medical Officer defines 'inactivity' as doing **less than 30 minutes** of moderate-intensity physical activity per week. For able-bodied adults, 'active' is defined as achieving an average of **150+ minutes** of moderate physical activity per week (or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity activity). For disabled individuals the same framework can apply, but increased activity should be individually defined, following an **adapted, abilities-first approach**.

4. Outcomes

The funded work should have a primary goal of:

- Increasing physical activity participation in LGBT+ communities - enabling individuals, particularly those who are inactive and facing barriers, to participate in sport or physical activity regularly, leading to improved health and wellbeing.

It could also focus on one or more of the outcomes below (there is no requirement to seek to achieve them all):

- Funded organisations are better able to embed inclusive, anti-oppressive and accessible practices in their work, fostering safer environments in sport / physical activity.
- Funded organisations can identify and action continuity plans, so that they can become stronger and more sustainable.
- Participants facing the greatest inequity are better supported and experience support that is shaped by and responsive to their lived experience.
- Funded organisations develop opportunities for LGBT+ community members to develop as coaches, leaders and role models in sport or physical activity.
- Funded organisations can focus on systems change in the LGBT+ sports and physical activity sector - contributing to wider shifts in inclusive practice.

Examples of types of eligible organisations and work:

- An LGBT+ led basketball team looking for funding to coordinate a LGBT+ basketball league.
- An LGBT+ led hiking group seeking funding to expand on their programme of activities and deliver volunteer leadership training.
- An LGBT+ community group seeking funding to make accessibility adjustments to their existing physical activity class for trans and non-binary people.
- A football team led by and for LGBT+ Women looking for funding to provide access to individuals who can't currently attend due to session fees.

Examples of ineligible organisations and work:

- An LGBT+ mental health charity seeking funding for a new standalone series of physical activity workshops. (Ineligible due to it being a new and standalone series of activity).

- A non-LGBT+ led community centre looking to fund sessions with a LGBT+ inclusive fitness coach (Ineligible as the organisation is not LGBT+ led).

5. How much can I apply for?

In 2026, organisations can apply for grants of between £5,000 and £25,000 per year for projects lasting 1 or 2 years.

This means applicants can request:

- A single year grant (1 year): between £5,000 and £25,000 in total
- Or a multi-year grant:
- 2 years: between £10,000 and £50,000 in total

Please be aware that funding is limited, and we expect the programme to be oversubscribed. We are unlikely to be able to fund all applications received, and only a limited number of larger grants are likely to be awarded. Based on similar programmes we have delivered, approximately 1 in 5 applications are expected to be successful.

Funding available in 2027 will be informed by the applications received in 2026, including consideration of geographic spread and communities currently underrepresented in funding.

For single year (1-year) grants, successful organisations will have 12 months to spend the grant. For multi-year grants (funding for 2 years), funding for year 2 will be released on receipt of a completed short report on how the work is progressing.

6. What we can fund

- Project and activity costs such as a venue hire, refreshments, volunteer expenses, kit / equipment hire or kit / equipment purchase.
- Subsidising training or activity costs, and other defined accessibility measures, with the purpose of increasing access for those who would struggle to attend otherwise.
- Core or running costs such as staff salaries, building rent, utilities, administration, training & development costs. If applying for overheads such as running costs and salaries, you should be able to demonstrate how these will practically enable you to deliver on the funding outcome(s) listed in section 4 of this guidance.

- Collaborative work between LGBT+ sports and physical activity groups
- Coaching qualifications and courses for group members to upskill and increase their experience.

7. What we cannot fund

Whilst we are keen to fund as many LGBT+ organisations, groups as we can, there are several types of organisations and groups projects and work that we cannot fund.

Please ensure that you read the list carefully. If you are unsure if your organisation or proposed work is eligible, please get in touch with the Giving Team.

- Brand new organisations or projects (that have been delivering sports and physical activity work for less than 6 months)
- Multiple applications from an organisation. In the interest of fairness, Consortium can only consider one application from each organisation/group per fund.
- Organisations with fewer than 2 (unrelated) trustees, directors, or management committee members.
- Individuals who submit an application not on behalf of an LGBT+ organisation.
- Statutory organisations, such as local authorities and schools.
- NHS bodies.
- Organisations which cannot demonstrate that they are working in an inclusive, non-discriminatory way.
- All organisations based outside the UK.
- All activities that take place outside of the UK.
- Standalone or large capital purchases. **However - kit and equipment is eligible. We will also consider larger equipment / item costs for disability accessible equipment.**
- Research.
- Political Groups.
- Work that promotes religion (i.e. work that evangelises or proselytizes).
- Organisations or groups that apply with the intention to distribute the grant money to a third party.
- Retrospective costs, i.e. costs already incurred prior to receiving a grant including the repayment of loans.
- Work that duplicates existing local or thematic work.
- Any organisation currently or previously in receipt of a grant from Consortium which has a history of non-compliance with grant conditions.

8. How Do I Apply?

Applicants will be required to have the following in place when applying:

- A constitution/governing document which outlines the aims of the organisation, who it is for and the rules for running it.
- Information on two or more unrelated trustees, committee / board members or directors.
- A correspondence address and contact details.
- An up to date, relevant and appropriate Safeguarding Policy which has been reviewed within the last year (we can support you with this if needed).
- If you work with vulnerable adults or young people: confirmation that staff members and/or volunteers have undertaken all required UK criminal record checks.
- A set of recent accounts
- A budget for the amount being requested
- A bank account in the organisations name or an account with a fiscal hosting platform.

To view the application form and apply online by written or video application, please visit [Get Active Fund - LGBT+ Fund](#)

Written Applications

Applications do not need to use formal or technical language. We welcome applications written in your own words.

Video Applications

Applications can also be made via a video application. In the interest of fairness, video applications must include answers to all the written application form questions.

Videos should be a maximum length of 5 minutes and information included will be transcribed into a written application form by a member of the Giving team. No community panellists will view the original video.

Supported Applications

For those who require assistance to apply, we also offer supported applications. More information can be found in the below section: "What support is available?".

Use of AI

We can accept applications where AI has been used as it can help applicants when English is not their first language, as a prompt tool if you're new to writing applications or as an accessibility tool.

AI tools can be incredibly useful but please bear in mind the following considerations:

- It can often produce generic content which is not specific to your organisation or community. We can usually tell when an application has been created using AI, so please make it personalised so that we can gain an accurate picture of your organisations work.
- Check for any inaccuracies in the text or data provided as it is not always 100% accurate.
- The tools can store data inputted so do not submit personal or confidential information into them. It's not always clear how the data will be stored or used.
- There are ethical and environmental considerations to using and AI and it is a personal decision to use it.

9. Decision Making and Timeline

How applications are assessed:

Our grants process has two stages.

Stage One: Eligibility and due diligence

The LGBT+ Fund's grants team will review every application to confirm that it meets the eligibility criteria and to complete relevant due diligence checks. At this stage, the team does not assess the quality of applications or make decisions about which organisations should receive funding.

Stage Two: Community panel decision-making

All eligible applications will be passed to our community panellists for assessment. Our panellists have relevant lived experience and expertise within LGBT+ sport and physical activity communities, and they make the decisions about which applications to fund.

Your application will be considered in line with the Fund's criteria and how strongly it demonstrates need and impact, with reference to the Fund's objectives.

Consortium's staff team may be in touch to ask additional questions as part of this process, but the final decision will be made by the Fund's community panellists. Please be aware that an organisation's track record of meeting conditions of

previous or existing grants and completing end of grant monitoring will be considered when assessing applications.

We aim to let applicants know the outcome of their applications by the beginning of February 2027. To ensure a fair and consistent process for everyone, decisions are final and we are unable to offer an appeal process.

Support with your application:

We appreciate it may be some people's first time submitting a funding application and/or some people may find form-filling challenging. We want to remove as many barriers to receiving funding as possible.

The Giving team are available to provide support and advise with your application. We can do a supported application where we accept application form answers via a call. If you require any help in preparing or submitting your application, including a request for an alternative reasonable adjustment, then you can request assistance: giving@consortium.lgbt

If you think you may need assistance in applying, please get in contact early once the Fund opens to ensure there's enough time for the team to provide appropriate support. Please ensure you have read this guidance and our [FAQ's](#) before emailing us where possible.

Support for grantees:

We aim to offer a programme of wrap-around support for grantees, based on what groups tell us they would find useful. In the past, this has included networking and peer learning opportunities, online safety, wellbeing and fundraising workshops.

11. Reporting on Your Grant

If your application is successful, we will ask you to collect some monitoring information at the start of your grant as well as at the end. The monitoring form can be viewed in advance here: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:EU:a00d9146-e0f2-41d8-bed5-4744f0073e57>

Once your grant has been fully spent, you are required to complete a separate 'End of Grant Report'. This report will be sent out in advance once your grant has been paid, so that you're aware of what information needs to be reported on. The report asks for information on how your grant was spent and what you achieved.

You can also report back on how your grant went via video or through a conversation with The Giving Team. For multi-year grants, you will be expected to report annually on how the work is progressing before we can release subsequent yearly payments.

12. Data Protection

How we use your application data

We will use the information you provide in your application to process your application, check eligibility and carry out due diligence. Eligible applications will be shared with community panellists so that they can make funding decisions. If your application is successful, we may also use relevant information to administer, monitor and evaluate your grant.

For full details of how we collect, use, store and share personal data, and your rights, please read our [Data Privacy – Grant Funding notice](#).