

YOUTHBANK SCOTLAND



Want to find out more?

involve invest inspire

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Who are YBS?

YouthBank Scotland is an innovative grant making and empowerment initiative run by young people for young people. YouthBank Scotland builds on young people's skills and experiences to enable them to give cash for action, funding young people's ideas for the benefit of the wider community.

Through support for YouthBanks, provision of training for young people and those who engage young people, YouthBank Scotland's mission is to:

- Involve young people in decision making and grant making.
- Invest in young people's potential and their ideas.
- Inspire others to do the same.

YBS does not have a grant pot so please do not apply to YBS for funds.

So what exactly does a YouthBank do?

A YouthBank is a youth-led group that sets up and distributes a grant fund to other young people to improve their local communities. Each YouthBank is set up to suit its communities needs so while they are all based on the same values they look different.

Can anyone join a YouthBank?

Yes – YouthBank is open to any young people person aged 12 to 25 BUT as each individual YouthBank is set up differently there may be some differences.



How do I join a YouthBank?

You can find out if there is a YouthBank in your area by contacting the YouthBank Scotland Development Officer in Edinburgh. Contact info@youthbankscotland.org or phone 0131 313 2488 but if there is NO YouthBank in your area you could start one – contact the YBS development officer.

Every YouthBank is hosted and supported by an organisation. If you are part of a youth or community organisation please discuss it with a volunteer or worker there. YBS can provide you with information on how to set it up. All YouthBanks have a license so you have to achieve certain things to get a license, it's not hard but it helps all involved keep a strong connection to the YB Golden Rules and makes sure that young people play leading roles.

What do I need to do as a member of a YouthBank?

Firstly, turn up to meetings. They take place usually weekly, fortnightly or monthly somewhere easy to get to, maybe the local community centre. At these meetings, you'll meet other young people who also want to make a difference in their communities.

As a member of a YouthBank you will be offered the opportunity to take part in accredited training. This training is really valuable and will give you skills in grant making, decision making and leadership. As part of the YouthBank team, you will take part in the grant making process and then work with the projects which apply to you for funding to monitor their progress after they get their grant and measure its impact.

There are opportunities to attend skills academies and the annual YouthBank National Forum. These are great opportunities to meet up with other YouthBanks from all over Scotland – these are informative and great fun too!

Where do YouthBanks get their money from to make grants?

As part of a YouthBank you will fundraise and make funding applications to organisations such as local councils and other donors to grow your grant pot.



There may be other funding streams available in your area like Common Good Funds etc.

How do I find out about applying to YouthBank for funding my project?

Only young people can apply to a YouthBank for a grant. Each YouthBank is responsible for publishing its work but at YBS we share information they provide through our website and newsletters. Check social media, look at school and community notice boards for posters and other local events.

How do I apply for a grant?

Every YouthBank has its own application form and decision making process. These have been designed by young people in YouthBanks and they really want to fund your good ideas that will benefit the community.

How much might a grant be?

Every YouthBank is different, with a different size of grant pot and different criteria.

Keeping in touch with YBS

You can follow us on twitter [@ybspig](https://twitter.com/ybspig)
Many YouthBanks have their own social media but we will share big news via the YBS website.