

GRANTS FOR WOMEN'S PROJECTS 2011/12

Women play a crucial role in creating and sustaining strong communities but there are often barriers which prevent their participation or engagement with local opportunities, or stop them fulfilling their potential to play a role within the broader community. They may struggle to get their voice heard in order to influence decisions that affect them, their families and communities.

The Foundation established the **Women's Fund for Scotland** in 2002, supported by the Scottish Government, to focus resources on projects that seek to address these barriers at a local level and enable women to develop themselves and their communities and to improve their own quality of life.

Grants from £2,000 to £5,000 are available to organisations predominantly run by/for women and women-only projects that seek to support and empower women to turn their lives around.

Grants are available for projects that meet the following aim:

To support projects that enable women to be better able to cope with the effects of the economic downturn and to make changes that enable them to turn their lives around.

Applications must address at least one of the following three outcomes (examples of the type of activities we will support are listed below):

1. Women are more equipped to access opportunities that will lead to employment:
 - Building confidence and self esteem
 - Improve mental health and wellbeing
 - Increase motivation
 - Support through challenging times i.e. domestic violence/abuse, addictions recovery, family breakdown
 - Literacy and numeracy skills
2. Women are better able to access employment:
 - Vocational and non vocational training, qualifications (associated childcare costs)
 - Volunteering opportunities
 - CV support, interview skills
3. Women have access to income maximisation advice and support:
 - Advocacy, life skills
 - Legal and financial advice and support

Please note that the following exclusions apply to grants for women's projects:

- One off events, including International Women's Day Events
- Projects that benefit people under the age of 16
- International exchange visits, or trips abroad
- Capital costs
- Individuals
- Groups whose annual income in the current or previous financial year is over £250,000.
- Groups with fewer than 3 members on their management committee or Board.
- Groups whose grant request is for the advancement of religion or politics (including requests to support the core activities of religious or political groups)
- Groups whose grant request is for less than 25% of the total project costs
- The purchase of second hand vehicles
- The repayment of loans or payment of debts
- Costs already incurred or activities which will take place before we have made a decision on an application (retrospective funding)
- Payments towards areas generally understood to be the responsibility of statutory authorities.
- Groups who will then distribute the funds as grants or bursaries
- General fundraising appeals or activities
- Applications for the sole benefit to flora and fauna. Applicants must demonstrate the direct benefit to the local community and/or service users in cases where the grant application is concerned with flora and fauna.
- Projects which do not benefit people in Scotland
- Staff Costs – will only consider staff costs relevant to the delivery of a specific project that meets the aim of the fund.
- Office IT equipment – will only consider IT equipment that is specific to running training course relevant to aim of the fund.

How and When to Apply

Application forms to apply for a grant for women's projects can be downloaded from www.scottishcf.org/grantsforwomen or contact us (see below).

To ensure your application is submitted in time for the committee meetings, we have provided deadlines by which you should submit your application. Please note that you do not have to wait until the deadline and would encourage groups to apply as soon as possible. Applications submitted after the first deadline will be considered at the second committee meeting.

Deadline and Committee dates for **2011** are as follows:

1st Deadline	15th August 2011	Committee Date	3rd October 2011
2nd Deadline	17th October 2011	Committee Date	6th December 2011

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