



Metal For Good Grants

Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your interest in applying for a Metal For Good grant.

We know that applying for funding can take time and energy, especially for small grassroots organisations, so we have created these FAQs to help you understand what we fund, who can apply, and what to expect from the process.

About Metal For Good Grants

What does Metal For Good fund?

Metal For Good funds community projects and organisations that use music to create positive change.

Your work must address one or more of our funding themes:

- supporting mental health and wellbeing;
- helping young people to thrive and reach their potential;
- addressing structural inequalities and giving a voice to underrepresented communities.

We are particularly interested in work that uses music as a tool for connection, confidence, creativity, community, inclusion or wellbeing.

What types of organisations can apply?

We fund:

- registered charities;
- social enterprises;
- community groups;
- voluntary organisations.

You do not have to be a large or long-established organisation to apply. We are happy to consider applications from newer or start-up organisations, as long as your application gives us confidence that you have a clear plan for how you will resource, manage and deliver the work.

Do you only fund registered charities?

No. You do not need to be a registered charity to apply.

We can fund a range of not-for-profit organisations, including social enterprises, voluntary organisations and community groups. However, your organisation must have a clear social purpose that you can evidence, and any funding awarded must be used for charitable or community benefit.

Do you prioritise smaller organisations?

Yes. We prefer to support smaller organisations, especially those with an annual income under £250,000.

This does not mean organisations with income above this level can never apply, but our grants are designed to support grassroots work and smaller organisations that may face barriers to accessing funding elsewhere.

Can individuals apply?

No. We are not currently able to fund individuals directly.

Applications must come from an organisation, group or constituted body.

Where can funded projects take place?

Projects can have a local, regional or national reach.

At the moment, we are only able to support projects in England and Wales. We cannot currently fund work taking place in Scotland or Northern Ireland, although this may change in the future.

Do you fund both new and existing work?

Yes. We are happy to fund both new projects and existing work.

If you are applying for an existing project, please explain clearly how a Metal For Good grant would support the work and what impact it would help you achieve.

Can you fund core costs?

Yes. We are happy to consider funding core costs, as long as your application clearly explains how those costs support work that meets one or more of our funding themes.

For example, this could include staff time, room hire, equipment, volunteer expenses, project coordination or other essential running costs connected to your work.

How much can we apply for?

You can apply for up to £3,000.

However, the final grant amount is decided through a vote by members of The Metal Collective, our community of regular supporters. Successful applicants will receive one of the following grant amounts:

- £1,000;
- £2,000;
- £3,000.

The project with the highest number of votes will receive £3,000. The projects in second and third place will receive £2,000. All other successful projects included in the vote will receive £1,000.

Why do Metal Collective members vote on the final grant amount?

The Metal Collective is made up of people who support Metal For Good through regular donations. The vote gives them a meaningful say in how their donations are used and helps connect our supporters directly with the projects they are helping to fund.

This is not an online popularity contest. The vote is only open to Metal Collective members and all projects included in the vote will receive a grant.

Expression of Interest Stage

How do we apply?

The first stage is to submit an Expression of Interest, also called an EOI.

The EOI form is completed online and will be open for 14 days only during each funding round.

We currently run two funding rounds per year. Application windows will be advertised on the Metal For Good website at the start of each year.

Can we see the questions before completing the online form?

Yes. A copy of the EOI questions will be available to download so that you can prepare your answers before submitting the online form.

We recommend drafting your answers separately before copying them into the form.

Do we have to apply using the online form?

Yes, we ask everyone to submit through the online form unless there is a specific reason why you are not able to do this.

If you have any issues with submitting the form, please contact us at grants@metalforgood.org.

Can we contact you to ask whether our organisation is a good fit?

Due to our capacity as a small charity, we are not usually able to respond to individual enquiries about whether your organisation or project is a good fit.

Please read the funding criteria and guidance available on the Metal For Good website carefully before applying. This should help you decide whether your work is likely to be eligible.

What happens if we miss the EOI deadline?

We are unlikely to accept applications that are submitted late or miss the deadline.

The EOI form is only open for 14 days, so please make sure you leave enough time to complete and submit your application.

What happens after the EOI window closes?

Once the EOI window has closed, we will check applications for eligibility.

Eligible EOIs will then be reviewed by the Metal For Good Grants Committee, which is made up of Metal For Good trustees. Applications will be assessed using a scoring framework.

As part of the review process, we will consider:

- how well your work fits our funding themes;
- the potential impact of the project or organisation;
- the strength and clarity of your proposal;
- whether the work supports grassroots communities;
- the geographical and thematic spread of applications in the round.

Will we receive feedback at EOI stage?

We are not currently able to provide individual feedback at EOI stage.

We know feedback is valuable, especially for smaller organisations, and we hope to introduce this in the future as our grants programme develops.

How long does the EOI review stage take?

The EOI review stage usually takes around four to five weeks.

After this, we will invite up to 20 projects to submit a full application.

Full Application Stage

Who can submit a full application?

Only organisations invited by Metal For Good following the EOI stage can submit a full application.

If you are invited to apply, we will send you a link to the full application form.

How long will we have to complete the full application?

You will usually have around four weeks to complete and submit your full application.

We will provide the questions separately so that you can prepare your answers before submitting the online form.

What is the purpose of the full application?

The full application is your opportunity to tell us more about your organisation, your work and the impact a Metal For Good grant could help you achieve.

We will review your full application alongside your original EOI, but please make sure you provide full answers to each question. Do not assume that the Grants Committee will only refer back to your EOI.

What documents will we need to provide?

At the full application stage, we will ask you to provide copies of your most recent accounts.

If your organisation is new and accounts are not yet available, we may ask you to provide an organisational budget, forecast or other financial information instead.

This helps us understand your organisation's financial position and whether the proposed work is realistic and deliverable.

How are full applications assessed?

After the full application deadline has passed, the Grants Committee will assess applications using a scoring framework.

The committee will consider:

- how strongly your work fits Metal For Good's funding themes;
- the need your work is responding to;
- the difference the funding could make;
- your organisation's ability to deliver the work;
- whether the budget is clear and proportionate;
- the potential impact for the people or communities you support.

When will we hear the outcome?

Successful projects will usually be notified around six weeks after the full application deadline.

If your application is successful, you will be invited to take part in the Metal Collective vote.

If your application is unsuccessful at the full application stage, we will provide specific feedback.

The Metal Collective Vote

What happens if we are selected for the vote?

If you are selected for the Metal Collective vote, you are guaranteed to receive a grant.

The vote determines whether your grant will be £1,000, £2,000 or £3,000.

What will you need from us for the vote?

We will ask you to provide logo files and high-resolution images to support communications with Metal Collective members.

This helps us present each project clearly and fairly, and helps our members understand the work they are voting on.

Is the vote public?

No. The vote is not public and it is not based on social media popularity.

Voting is limited to Metal Collective members only. It is designed to give our regular supporters a say in how their donations are used.

How is the final grant amount decided?

Once the voting period closes, votes will be counted.

The project with the highest number of votes will receive £3,000.

The projects in second and third place will receive £2,000.

All other successful projects included in the vote will receive £1,000.

Other Questions

Can we apply again if we are unsuccessful?

Yes, you can apply again in a future funding round, as long as your organisation and project still meet the eligibility criteria.

If you reach full application stage and are unsuccessful, we will provide feedback that may help strengthen a future application.

Can previously funded organisations apply again?

Previously funded organisations may be able to apply again, but priority may be given to organisations that have not received Metal For Good funding before.

If you have previously received a grant from us, we would expect any reporting requirements from your previous grant to be complete before you apply again.

Can we apply for more than one project?

We would usually expect organisations to submit one application per funding round.

Please choose the project or area of work that best fits Metal For Good's funding themes.

What makes a strong application?

A strong application will usually:

- clearly explain who you are and what you do;
- show how your work uses music to create positive change;
- link clearly to one or more of our funding themes;
- explain who will benefit and why the work is needed;
- describe what difference the funding will make;
- include a realistic and proportionate budget;
- be clear about how the work will be delivered;
- reflect the voice, needs and experiences of the people or communities you support.

We are not looking for the most polished or professionally written application. We are looking for clear, thoughtful applications from organisations doing meaningful work.

Who can we contact if we have technical issues?

If you have technical problems with submitting your application, please contact grants@metalforgood.org.

Please note that we may not be able to respond to general enquiries about whether your project is a good fit, so please refer carefully to the criteria and guidance on the Metal For Good website before contacting us.