

funding

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Disabled people may need adjustments or assistance to enable them to volunteer.

Self funding

Organisations that can afford to should set aside a budget to pay for adjustments for disabled volunteers.

For organisations with multiple branches, a central fund can be set up to meet costs that individual branches may struggle to fund.

Using underspends

If you have an underspend, try asking the funders if you can use this to improve accessibility.

“I volunteer twice a week at a Scope charity shop, and have done for the last 12 years. I am partially sighted and found it difficult to read the till screen. Scope has a specific budget to cover adaptations for disabled volunteers, which enabled the shop to make changes to the counter and till.”

Bhavna Jogia, Scope charity shop volunteer, Wigan

Inclusion in funding bids

The government's Compact code of good practice in volunteering now recognises that it is legitimate for voluntary and community organisations to include the cost of reasonable adjustments for volunteers in relevant funding applications.

You should include a budget for volunteer travel expenses and adaptations for disabled volunteers in all funding bids for projects that involve volunteers.

Travel expenses

The Millennium Volunteers* scheme can help to meet the travel expenses of volunteers aged 16-24 who are signed up to their programme.

*see contacts page 69

Grants

Organisations offering funding for involving young people as volunteers at the time of print include:

- v charity
www.wearev.com
- Big Lottery – Young Peoples Fund
www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/programmes/ypf
- Opportunities for Volunteering (OFV)
Grants available for local health and social care organisations in England.
www.dh.gov.uk

Resource Sharing

Look at options for sharing resources, such as specialist equipment or training, with other local organisations.