



**Veterans' Foundation
Major Grants Programme 2025
Guidance to Charities and Organisations Applying for a Major Grant**

Introduction

The Veterans' Foundation (VF) has established a new Major Grants programme to support charities and eligible organisations that provide support to those in need among serving armed forces personnel, veterans, operationally qualified seafarers and their immediate families.

The grants are to enable major change or progress in the organisation. And the VF gives priority to charities and organisations who can demonstrate that they are directly involved in the provision of support to those in need.

Available Major Grants

- Major Grants of between £100,000 and £200,000 are available. This can be for one year or a multi-year grant for up to three years.

If you are successful in securing a Major Grant from the Veterans' Foundation, then please note that you will not be eligible to apply for any other grant awards for the duration of your Major Grant period.

Application Process

The first step in the application process is to complete our Major Grants eligibility checker by clicking "Apply Now". If you are eligible to apply, the next step is to complete the Stage 1 Expression of Interest (EoI) form online. Once this has been reviewed you will be advised of the outcome and if successful, invited to submit a Stage 2 application. If you are unsuccessful at this stage, we will explain why.

If you are invited to apply for a Major Grant, we will send you an e-mail with an on-line link to the Stage 2 application form. Please note that an invitation to apply for a Major Grant at this stage is not confirmation that you will receive a grant. You will be advised after the Stage 2 review whether your application has been successful or not.

While you are completing the application form, you can save and resume your application at any point by clicking the 'Save and Resume' link at the bottom of every application page. A



link will be generated which you can use any time within 30 days to resume answering questions on the form. The link will be e-mailed to you by entering your e-mail address when prompted.

Please note that you must use the latest link e-mailed to you each time you exit your application, without the link the data you have entered cannot be retrieved and you will have to restart filling out the application form. Upon visiting the Save and Resume link, file uploads and signatures will need to be reloaded.

Major Grants priority areas

The Major Grants programme will prioritise applications that deliver impact and outcomes for our Armed Forces Community in need. This includes, but is not restricted to the following:

- Health & Wellbeing Activities to reduce social isolation/loneliness and build community/relationships (e.g. Social Events, Sports, Arts & Crafts, Bushcraft, Befriending, etc)
- Health & Wellbeing Support through peer/professional outreach services (e.g. Community Hubs; Drop-In Services; Advice Services etc.)
- Health & Wellbeing Mental Health and Addiction Clinical/Counselling Support
- Health & Wellbeing Support for mental and physical health challenges (e.g. Medical Welfare Support; Adaptive/Disability Support, etc.) Family and Carers Welfare and Wellbeing and related support
- Unemployment / Education and related support
- Homelessness / Housing and related support
- Tackling Disadvantage and other Aspects of Service Life (includes grants for support not identified separately above including through Research; Welfare Support Payments; Education/Conservation/Remembrance; and with the Justice System).

The grant purpose can be ambitious or innovative but should not be an unproven concept or brand-new pilot project. Successful organisations will be able to demonstrate the funding will deliver meaningful outcomes and provide clear beneficial impact to the Armed Forces Community in need. For example, a well-run organisation with a proven track record of delivering impactful services may be looking for additional funding to expand a service or their regional footprint or to grow the number of beneficiaries that can be served. Or a



coalition of charitable providers may seek funding to sustain growth for a referral pathway that reduces barriers to accessing vital services.

Organisations that are eligible to apply for a grant

As per the VF's Major Grants eligibility criteria, registered charities and other eligible organisations that support our beneficiaries may apply. In addition, organisations should have a minimum annual income of £100,000 to be eligible for the Major Grants programme. We would ask that any grant amount requested is proportionate to the size of your annual income.

Whilst we will accept grant applications from organisations that do not exclusively support Armed Forces' beneficiaries, information will be required as to why the service given to the Armed Forces Community differs from your normal services. You should include information on what the additional/different needs of the Armed Forces Community are, and why your organisation is best placed to deliver the project.

The Veterans' Foundation also welcomes applications from underrepresented groups such as:

- People with disabilities
- Ethnic minorities
- LGBT+ community
- Female groups
- Carers

What the VF is unlikely to fund

A separate guide can be located on the VF website listing items that we are unlikely to fund. Please read this document before you submit a grant application.

Additional information required

You will be required to submit your most recent Annual Accounts with the Stage 1 Expression of Interest.

If you are successful with your EoI we will request the following additional information as part of the due diligence process of your Stage 2 application:

- Management accounts, including variance reports, for the current financial year to date and for the previous financial year. Including Profit & Loss Account, Balance Sheet and Cash Flow
- A list of funding sources and amounts received in the past 12 months, including



information on grant applications which have been submitted to other funders and for which you are waiting on the outcome.

- Annual Report and or/Impact Report.
- Current Business or Strategic Plan or equivalent.
- Names of all trustees and/or Directors.
- Safeguarding policy.
- Job description and person specification if you are requesting a grant for salary costs.
- Project Plan & Budget - a detailed plan relating to the project which you are seeking funding for to include a delivery plan, timescales, budget, staffing model/resource plan, outcomes/KPIs or equivalent, and a learning/evaluation plan to demonstrate how you will measure impact.
- Cobseo governance tool if you are a Cobseo member or equivalent for non-Cobseo members (if available).
- Written references are required for organisations that have not previously received a grant from the VF. References should be from organisations who work in the Armed Forces communities and who are familiar with your organisation. The reference should include information such as the outcomes of your work, your organisations' ability to deliver the project and information on how you engage with other armed forces organisations in the community.

When you have completed your Stage 2 application, if needed, you will be able to upload three further documents to support your application. Please note during the assessment process, the Grants Team may ask for additional documents. If you are invited to proceed to Stage 2 and do not have the additional information outlined above, you will be able to notify the grants team who will discuss the application and documentation with you.

Please note, in some cases (especially for newer organisations), the Trustees of the VF may require additional information and scrutiny of the grant application and may decline or defer a decision on your grant application until this information has been provided.

Timeline for decisions

Submission of Stage 1 Expression of Interest	Closing date for applications Friday 28 th February 2025
Outcome of Stage 1 Expression of Interest	Notified By Monday 31 st March 2025
Submission of Stage 2 Grant application	Closing date for invited applications Wednesday 23 rd April 2025
Outcome of Stage 2 Grant application	Notified By Monday 30 th June 2025

You will be notified of the outcome of each stage of the application process as per the dates above.



If you are successful with your Major Grant application, an e-mail will be sent to the main contact advising on how your Grant Award can be accepted and the associated terms and conditions of the grant award.

Please note all decision making for grant applications is made at the discretion of the Trustees of the VF.

Grant Monitoring

If your organisation receives a Major Grant award, you will be asked to complete monitoring reports. The dates the monitoring reports should be submitted will be included in your grant offer letter. A reminder will be sent via e-mail before the report is due to be submitted.

Contact

If after reading our guidelines you have any questions, please contact the VF Grants Team at grants@veteransfoundation.co.uk.