

FAQ updates

About Theirworld and the 2026 Small Grants call

➤ **What do each of the three Theirworld pillars entail?**

Our three pillars are:

1. The best start in life focuses on supporting early years, early childhood development, and there's a diversity of responses there. It could be health, it could be early literacy, it could be parent engagement, it could be teacher training.
2. Safe place to learn promotes and supports safe learning environments that could be inside a classroom where inclusion issues are addressed. This means projects that create a safe place to learn and a safe environment to learn without any marginalisation or discrimination. Importantly, this pillar also focuses on education in emergencies, war zones, children affected by crisis.
3. Skills for the future, promoting and supporting skills that are needed for young people in the future, whether in learning, employment, or future opportunities.

To learn more about Theirworld, the organisation's mission and the three pillars please visit our website: theirworld.org.

➤ **What is the specific age bracket for children, young people, and youth?**

Our three pillars cover a wide range of ages from pre-birth, zero to five years old, we work with children who start primary education, secondary education, adolescents, young people. On youth specifically for the third pillar, the skills for the future we consider youth between the age of 16 up to 28.

➤ **Is the 2026 Small Grants call the same as the Education Innovation Awards?**

No, these are two different calls. For more information about the Education Innovation Awards visit [here](#).

➤ **Can we apply to both calls?**

We encourage you to review both and decide which one fits best to your project and organisation.

➤ **How many small grants is Theirworld planning to give this year?**

We are anticipating offering 10 to 15 awards this year, and there is no quota per region or country.

➤ **What do we have to do after receiving a grant?**

If your organisation is awarded with a small grant you will be required to sign a letter of award where you confirm you receive the funds, and you will be responsible of submitting a mid-year report and an end-year report with details of your project. Travelling to meet the donors or the team at Theirworld will not be required.

About the eligibility criteria

➤ **The eligibility check is telling me, I am not eligible, but I believe I am, why?**

The criteria to apply for a Small Grant can be found [here](#). If you received an email saying that your eligibility check was rejected it may be that something you responded does not meet the criteria. If you made a mistake, please reach out to us at grants@theirworld.org. If you truly do not meet the criteria please stay in touch for future opportunities.

➤ **What types of organisations can participate?**

Only charity organisations or non-for-profit organisations that are legally registered can participate to receive a small grant.

➤ **Can a new organisation participate?**

A new organisation can participate as long as they are fully registered and have a bank account under the organisation's name. You must also have a safeguarding policy.

➤ **What is a charity bank account? Can I apply with a personal bank account?**

For Theirworld to transfer a grant your organisation must have an account under its name. These are usually called charity or non-profit organisation bank account.

Unfortunately, if your organisation does not have a bank account you are not eligible to participate, we cannot transfer funds to a personal bank account.

➤ **Can we apply if we just recently set up our bank account and do not have financial statements yet?**

Unfortunately, a bank account is a must. If you do not have financial statement, please highlight that in your financial report and projections you submit with the application.

➤ **If I submitted an application last year, can I apply this year?**

If your organisation submitted an application last year (2025), the system won't allow you to submit an application this year. Please stay in touch with us for future opportunities and remember that you will be able to submit an application next year. For more information, please check the eligibility criteria document [here](#).

Importantly, if you applied before 2025, you can apply this year.

About the projects

➤ **Types of projects eligible**

Unfortunately, we cannot provide direct feedback on each specific project. However, please review the Grant Making Policy in this [document](#) which includes more details on what we are looking for and submit an application.

The Small Grants programme is designed to support local organisations to scale up efforts, test a new idea, or provide funding to deliver important services to marginalised children and youth and drive progress in one of our three thematic areas: the best start in life, a safe place to learn, or skills for the future.

➤ **Can we submit a new project?**

Yes, new projects as well as an extension of ongoing projects can be proposed.

➤ **What are the criteria that Trustees use to decide which projects to support?**

The Trustees and selection committee follow the guidelines shared in the Small Grants Policy which can be found on the application, or [here](#).

➤ **Can I submit more than one proposal?**

No, the system restricts only one proposal per organisation.

➤ **Can projects and organisations from all countries apply?**

We will consider applications from any country. However, applicants should be aware that we are based in the UK and operating within UK and Charity Commission laws and have to follow international finance regulations limiting our ability to partner with banks/organisations with areas that are subject to sanctions.

➤ **Can we apply without a specific location for the project?**

We encourage you to be as specific as possible in your application.

Technical support with the application

➤ **Where do I submit my application and proposal? Where can we find the application form? What if I lost the link to apply?**

To start your application process please click here [Small Grants Eligibility Check](#).

After you have completed the eligibility check you will receive an email confirming whether you passed or not. If based on the eligibility criteria your organisation passed, you will receive a **unique link** to your application form. You should use this link to apply.

If you cannot find the response email or application form link please check your spam and junk inbox to make sure it is not there. If you still cannot locate it please email grants@theirworld.org.

➤ **I cannot find the button to save a draft of my application form**

The form does not have the option to save a draft of the application form, we suggest you use the offline form you received in the application form email to fill the answers first and once you have all the answers fill the online application form and submit it.

➤ **Can I apply in a language other than English?**

If you can, please translate your answers into English before submitting your application so that you make sure nothing is lost in translation. However, if this is not possible, we will try our best to review applications in a different language, but we might use a translator.

About the complete application form

Section 1: Organisation Information

➤ **If my organisation is based in one country, can we apply to do a project in a different country?**

Yes, you can apply, but make sure to specify in the description what is the country you will be working on and how you will operate in a different country than your own. Legal registration in country of operations is needed.

➤ **If my organisation started working before we registered, what date do we use in the question when was your organisation set up?**

Please use the date it was registered.

➤ **Do we need to have a website to participate?**

No, if your organisation does not have a website you can respond with a link to your social media accounts or with “not available”.

Section 2: Your Aims and Objectives

➤ **If I am a Global Youth Ambassador (GYA) or participated as a GYA in the past, should I participate and mention it?**

Yes, we encourage GYA's to apply and please mention it in Section 2 of the form.

Section 3: Proposal Request

➤ **What if our project addresses more than one Theirworld pillar?**

You will only be able to choose one pillar so please analyse carefully and choose the pillar that best reflects and aligns with your project.

➤ **What can be included in the budget?**

At the end of Section 3, proposal request, you are asked to provide a **budget of the specific project you are proposing** in this application. The budget must be realistic and under £10,000 GBP.

Click [Add additional budget items](#) to add all the budget items you are planning to incur to develop your project. There are no restrictions of what you can request funding for, but we do review that the budget items and costs are realistic, feasible, and needed to the execution of your project.

Fill the field **Total project budget (GBP)** with your estimate of what the total project will cost. If you are planning the project to cost more than the funding you are asking for, please fill in the total amount here.

The field **Total amount requested (GBP)** is calculated automatically by summing up all the budget items you filled in above. Remember that this amount should be of maximum £10,000.

➤ **Can we participate if we operate in a different currency?**

Yes, you can participate but please for the budget items and the financial details please convert to GBP with the latest exchange rate available.

➤ **How long can the project be? What is the duration period of the project?**

The grant should be spent in maximum 1 year, that means your project can last maximum 12 months.

After you apply, the applications will be reviewed by Theirworld team and board of trustees, organisations who are successfully awarded will be notified around 30 June 2026. The contracts and grant disbursement will be done between July and August 2026, so please consider this timeline to plan for your project. **You will have funds from September 2026 onwards.**

Section 4: Financial Details questions

This section allows us to understand how your organisation operates in terms of finance, what is your income and what is your expenditure based on previous years or if you are a new organisation (less than 15 months) you can also provide a projection. Here is a detailed explanation of the questions according to what was explained in the webinars.

Section 4: Financial Details

Are the figures below: *

- Information from the latest accounts approved by your organisation
- A projection because your organisation has been running less than 15 months
- Independently audited

Accounts for year ending

Total income for 2025 (GBP) *

Total expenditure for 2025 (GBP) *

Surplus for 2025 (GBP)

0

What are your programmatic costs? (GBP)

What are your operational costs? (GBP)

Annual Accounts Upload *

Choose File No file chosen

Payment details:

Account Name *

Account number *

Sort code/SWIFT/IBAN *

Fill in with the information you have from your organisation bank account

Please mark what type of financial information you can provide in this application. **Preferably provide the latest report (independently audited or internally developed) you have.**

- * If you are a new organisation you can choose: A *projection...*
- * If your organisation has independently audited financial reports for 2025 select that.
- * If your organisation does not have independently audited financial reports for 2025, please select and provide your latest internal financial reports.

What year are you reporting?

- *Preferably please submit the latest annual financial information you have.

Report the income and expenditure you had in 2025 in GBP.

- *if you did not have income fill this field with £0 GBP.
- *if you operate in a different currency, please convert to GBP with the latest exchange rate available.

The Surplus for 2025 field fills in automatically using what you reported on income and expenditure.

Report the **programmatic costs** from 2025 which consist of **all the costs you had to incur to be able to run the projects or programmes your organisation develops.**

- *if your organisation is new, please provide a projection of costs.

Report the **operational costs** from 2025 which consist of **all the costs you had to incur to be able to operate the organisation but are not directly used for the project or programme. Some organisations call this indirect costs or overhead costs.**

- *if your organisation is new, please provide a projection of costs.

Please upload the latest financial reports, annual accounts you have available where the income, expenditure and costs you reported above are detailed.

- *We are not requesting a bank statement, but the detailed annual accounts or latest annual financial reports.

- **Can I apply if my organisation did not have income last year or if it is a big organisation with high income?**

Yes, we do not evaluate organisations or projects according to the income of their organisation. Please report your income as accurate as possible.

- **Can we submit financial reports, account reports in a different currency than GBP?**

Yes, the financial reports that you are asked to upload can be in the currency you normally operate.

- **Can the financial reports, annual accounts be in a different language?**

Yes, you can submit your reports in the language that you originally have them.

- **The form asks for an account number and the sort code/ SWIFT/IBAN**

Depending on your type of account and the country you have it you might use a sort code, SWIFT, or IBAN. Please fill in this field with whatever your bank account uses.

Section 5: Safeguarding

- **What do I have to submit in Section 5: Safeguarding? What if I am not based in the UK?**

For Theirworld it is very important to partner with organisations that protect children and young people while in their care.

Complete this section explaining clearly how you protect children and young people when working with them, how do you ensure that everyone, including children and young people in your organisation knows about and uses in their day-to-day work.

Upload all documents from your organisation where this is explained, specifically your safeguarding and child protection policy.

Section 6: Declaration

- **How can the Chair or Chief Executive of my organisation sign the application being submitted?**

The last section: **Declaration** asks for the signature of the Chair or Chief Executive of the organisation. After you have completed the application, please ask them to review and sign typing their name in the field available.