

Grants and support for the purchase of a defibrillator

Have you seen the statistics, know your site would benefit from defibrillator access, but can't afford the investment?

Purchasing a defibrillator for your site might seem out of reach for a small budget, but there are grants and other help available from a variety of sources which could make it possible. According to fundraising partners Localgiving, there are around 27,000 active grant-making trusts and foundations in the UK! Here we have tried to narrow that down to provide ideas of the kinds of organisations which may be able to help you. *

Government Funding

On 29th December 2022, the government announced a further £1 million to be spent on increasing the number of defibrillators in the community by an estimated 1,000

Any organisation can bid to place defibrillators in areas most in need and successful bidders will be asked to match funding, potentially doubling the number of new defibrillators.

Applicants will also be asked to demonstrate that defibrillators will be placed in areas where they are most needed, such as places with high footfall, vulnerable people, rural areas, or due to the nature of activity at the site.

Examples could include town halls, community centres, local shops, post offices and local parks, to ensure that defibrillators are evenly spread throughout communities and easily accessible if someone is experiencing an unexpected cardiac arrest. Details for bidding for this funding will be added here when they become available.

If your defibrillator plans can be shown to demonstrably support your local community then check out some of these organisations and others like them to see if they could help:

National Charities

The British Heart Foundation has a list of strict criteria, and won't support private companies, but if you are eligible and there is a clear need, then they may part-fund a defibrillator which has protected and supported public access.



AEDDonate is a charity which will part fund and offer you continued support in fundraising for the remainder of the finances needed for a defibrillator that will benefit a community space.

Although this charity is based in the capital, London Hearts supports applications for public access defibrillators from all over England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

You can also get specific defibrillator fundraising help from Gofundme.com, the online crowdfunding site, or from the Community Heartbeat Trust.

The National Lottery have supported a number of defibrillator purchases around the country - to apply for funding from their small projects fund visit them here.

Community/Council led

Your local Borough Council may well have a grants scheme like this one based in Swale, north Kent, this grant support scheme in Northern Ireland or this one in the Cotswolds. Contact your local district councillor who may be able to point you in the right direction.

CONTINUED OVER

Grants and support (continued)

Local charities

Local organisations such as the ambulance service or privately set up charities offer funding for defibrillators where there is a need. Below are some examples, but there will be more in your local area which can be found by a simple online search or by contacting your local Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, Masons or other similar fund-raising associations.

In Yorkshire the ambulance service has a dedicated charity aimed at offering defibrillator grants and the North East Ambulance Service also offers part funding. In Scotland, St John Scotland will help fund, install and train people to use Public Access Defibrillators

Specific organisational charities

If the defibrillator is to support a particular type of group, then sometimes you can find charities have been set up specifically for them, often in the name of someone who has, or would have, benefitted in the past. Examples such as this Community Rugby club charitable foundation, the Premier League support for grassroots football clubs and this charity supporting schools might give you ideas of the kind of organisations to look for.

NB. The government has pledged that all state schools will receive a defibrillator by the end of the 22/23 academic year. Visit this government page to ensure your school receives one.

If you are from a not-for-profit organisation and you need further help in sourcing a grant for your defibrillator plans, you can also try approaching an organisations such as GRIN (Grant Resources Information News) who can help you in finding funding.

Remember to be aware of the following:

- ✔ What your contribution will need to be - 100% grants are not common and you may need to fundraise for the difference.
- ✔ The grant may not include a cabinet - which will be necessary to protect your defibrillator.
- ✔ Ensure you have chosen a site carefully and have the property owner's permission to position the defibrillator there indefinitely.
- ✔ Remember there are some ongoing costs for battery charging and eventual replacement (approx. every 4 years) as well as replacement pads if the unit is used.
- ✔ Your defibrillator must be registered straight away with your local ambulance trust for use in an emergency. Visit The Circuit (The National Defibrillator Network) to register yours on the UK network.

**Please note that there are a number of external links in this article which potentially could change. If you find any which have ceased to work, please contact us at customer.care@anchorsafety.co.uk so we can update them.*

Find out more now about purchasing an AED for your workplace. Don't delay, you could be saving a life. Contact our customer care team. Or view our range at: www.anchorsafety.co.uk/defibrillators