

Blackpool District Scout Council

District International Policy

International expeditions are an amazing opportunity for creating lifelong memories, developing skills and having brilliant adventures.

Blackpool District Scouts are keen to encourage and support young people and adult volunteers who wish to participate in international events and projects. Scouting is an international movement, and a visit abroad is a great opportunity to learn about different cultures, meet other Scouts and understand how they live.

The opportunity to have great adventures and to experience an understanding of global issues can all be enabled by a visit overseas.

Our International Fund

We recognise that the expenses of visiting Scouting events abroad can sometimes be a barrier to taking part. Blackpool District Trustee Board have a designated fund to support International Scouting to provide a financial contribution towards the overall cost. We want to ensure all young people have the opportunity to attend international events regardless of background or financial circumstance.

All International participants are encouraged at the earliest opportunity to apply to the District for financial assistance toward what is often a large expenditure (note: separate rules and conditions apply to World Scout Jamboree participants). In respect of International events, participants need to make application in the manner outlined below and for which there is an application form available on the District website.

Principles of accessing support

There is no guarantee that financial assistance will be granted as every application is reviewed individually by the District Trustee Board to make the final decision.

Grants may be available, and the budget will be divided on a pro-rata basis with the amount awarded to each individual dependent upon the number of applications and the cost of the trips.

Under certain circumstances the District Trustee Board may choose to support a trip directly in which case, individual applications for that trip will not be accepted.

Applications to attend a Scout Group international trip will not normally be accepted.

All payments will be made by BACS.

It is anticipated that where there are fund-raising events held in the District to raise funds for International events, that those who have been selected for Internationals, will actively arrange, take part and support.

Qualifying criteria

The applicant must have active and regular service up to and including the trip.

The applicant must be a Cub Scout, Scout, Explorer Scout, Young Leader, Network member, Section Leader, Assistant Section Leader and any other role that includes the word, Leader, Manager or Commissioner.

Applications cannot be accepted from an Occasional Helper or from outside Blackpool District.

For youth roles, the District Explorer Scout Commissioner or Group Scout Leader will need to confirm regular attendance and participation.

For adult roles then we should expect the applicant to have completed necessary training, regular attendance and participation.

For Young Leaders we will expect the young person will be regularly attending, participating and undertaking training.

Procedure for accepting support

- As soon as the person is aware that they have been accepted on an international visit, they should let their Leaders and ADC (International) know. The application form can be completed at a later date, but no later than the ADC (International) advises.
- A formal application should be made to the ADC (International) on the International Fund application form on the Blackpool District Scout website.
- Applications will be collated by ADC (International) and presented to the Trustee Board at the January/March meeting for consideration and agreement. The decision will be final.
- Applicants will be notified by the ADC (International) as soon as possible.