

Foodbank Fundamentals Fund

Guidance & Criteria 2026

Applications open: 8th September (10am) - until 22nd September (10am)*
Grants of up to £1000⁺

AIM: To provide food banks with essential provisions and equipment necessary to sustain and enhance their services for disadvantaged members of the local community.

Asda Foundation's goal is to help build resilient communities by funding grassroots groups to address local needs. In response to ongoing cost-of-living challenges and high demand for foodbanks and food providers, this grant helps to cover their essential needs.

If you are a foodbank or food service provider that needs to stock up on food, invest in equipment to expand your reach, or support the delivery of your services, the Foodbank Fundamentals Fund is here to help.

Funding can only be used for the following, (or a combination of):	We are unable to fund the following through this grant:
Essential Food (inc. baby food/formula)	Groups who don't currently offer a foodbank or food provision for those in need as part of their core service
Basic hygiene items (inc. toiletries, nappies and baby wipes)	Food and refreshments for one-off events, or regular social activities where food provision is not the primary objective
White Goods (e.g. fridge, freezer)	Promotional/advertising/fundraising costs
Storage and essential fixtures/fittings (i.e. containers, shelving)	Grants which will benefit only one person
Fuel costs for delivering food provisions to isolated members of the community	Membership fees (e.g. FareShare subscriptions) and running costs
* If your funding needs are NOT covered by the above, please consider our other grant programmes as and when they are available.	* Please note this is not an exhaustive list. All applications will be judged on merit and the impact and value they add to your local community.

*The grant closing date is 10am on 22nd September but may close earlier if we receive a high volume of applications. If certain geographical areas are oversubscribed, they may close before the full grant programme does. Any changes will be communicated on the Asda Foundation website, social media, and the grant management system.

+Final Grant Value will be determined according to the volume of applications received.

Essential Group Criteria

Your group must have...	Details
A total annual income of £250,000 or below	What we need: If we can't verify your group's annual income is £250,000 or below, we will request this information. If your group is a branch or project of a parent organisation with an income over £250,000, you must show a separate bank account in the name of the applying group, independent annual accounts, and your own constitution to be eligible. Why we need it: Asda Foundation prioritises supporting grassroots organisations, and the income limit ensures our funding has the greatest local impact.
Governing documents	What we need: A finalised copy of your organisation's Constitution (or Articles of Association/Memorandum, if applicable), outlining your group's name, charitable aims and non-profit status. Why we need it: To ensure groups receiving our funding have proper governance in place. For guidance, refer to the NCVO's governing document guide.
A Safeguarding policy specifically for children	What we need: An up-to-date Safeguarding policy specific to your service users. This policy must outline how your organisation would handle a safeguarding issue. You must also be able to name 2 safeguarding leads in your application. See our safeguarding guidelines here. Why we need it: To ensure the protection of service users and understand your processes for handling concerns.
A bank account in your group's name that accepts cheques	What we need: Proof of your group's bank account payee name (e.g. bank statement, paying-in slip, or bank letter). Ensure your bank accepts cheques before applying. Why we need it: We can only pay by cheque, made payable to your group (not individuals or personal accounts).

We do not accept applications from:

- Organisations based outside the UK or benefitting people/communities outside of the UK
- Groups who have already received funding from Asda Foundation in 2026.
- Third party grant making organisations (grantees must directly deliver the service/activity)
- Religious organisations whose services are only open to people of a particular faith
- Public / Government bodies (incl. schools and academy trusts, although PTAs can apply)
- Groups who have a clear affiliation with a particular political party
- Animal charities or groups which have animal welfare as their main focus
- Projects which could negatively impact the reputation of Asda Foundation
- Groups whose services and activities involve alcohol.

If your organisation has more than one branch or sub-group in the same community, Asda Foundation can only support **one** of these groups with a Foodbank Fundamentals grant.

Application Process

1. Read Guidance	It's important that your project or activity meets the aims and criteria of the Fund, therefore we recommend that you read this guidance document in full before applying, to make sure your project and group are eligible.
2. Gather your supporting documents	Before completing and submitting your application, you will need to upload copies of your group's governing document, your safeguarding policy, and proof of your group's payee name – we recommend that you gather these documents prior to starting your application.
3. Register	Complete the Eligibility Check on our website - we want to make sure that your group is eligible to apply. Upon completion, you will be directed to our grant management system, hosted by SmartSimple, where you will be able to log in or register if you are new to the system. New users will receive an email to verify their email address and set up a password.
4. Complete Application	You will find the grant application form in the 'Apply for a Grant' section of your homepage portal.
5. Await Outcome	Once you submit your application, you'll receive an email confirming receipt. Throughout the review, we may send status updates or request more information, so please keep your contact details current. You can also track progress in your SmartSimple account. Successful applications If successful, you'll be notified by email within 12 weeks, with your local Asda Community and Customer Champion copied in. They'll be excited to visit and celebrate with you. A cheque will be mailed to the address you provide. Funding must be used within 6 months of receipt. Unsuccessful applications Due to the volume of applications, sometimes we must make difficult decisions. The decision of Asda Foundation is final and at our discretion. If unsuccessful, you'll be notified by email within 12 weeks. You cannot reapply but can apply for future funding if any concerns are addressed and new criteria are met.
6. Complete Follow-Up Activity	Following a successful funding award, we want to know how our funding was used and the impact it's made in your local community. You will receive an email link to a post-award impact report for you to complete within our grant management system. We may also ask to see receipts, so please keep these safe! Incomplete and overdue report submissions may affect future funding opportunities.

All applications, documents and communication must be in English.