



Investing in the future of Black and minoritised-led women's and girls' organisations

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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What is the Rise Fund?

What do we want to achieve with this funding?

Rosa's Rise Fund provides organisational development funding for Black and minoritised-led women's and girls' organisations. Through this fund, we are offering **two-year grants of up to £40,000** to **Black and minoritised-led women's and girls' organisations in the UK** which have been established for **three years or more**, and which have an **average income of less than £100,000 per year**.

The funding is for organisational development work relating to areas such as strategy, governance, leadership, alliances and partnerships, funding, demonstrating impact and systems and processes.

How many grants do you expect to make?

With the funding we have raised to date, we expect to fund between 25 and 30 organisations.

Who can apply to the Rise Fund?

Do organisations have to be registered as a charity to apply?

No, but their activities must be charitable, legal and for the benefit of Black and minoritised women and/or girls. They must also have all of the supporting documents listed in the application guidance.

Do you fund non-constituted groups?

No. You must have a constitution and have been active for at least 3 years in order to be eligible.

I am a current recipient of one of Rosa's other grants, can I apply?

Yes.

What does the Rise Fund support?

How much can I apply for?

You can apply for a grant of up to **£40,000** over a **two year period** from **1st July 2022 to 30th June 2024**. You can apply for between £5,000 and £20,000 per year. We want to be able to fund organisations on a longer-term basis, so one-year applications will **not** be accepted.

We want to make sure funded organisations are able to manage the grant we award them, so we recommend that you do not apply for more than a third of your average annual income over the last three years in each of the grant years.

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For example, if your average income over the last three years was £30,000, we would not recommend that you apply for more than £10,000 each year (£20,000 in total).

What types of organisations will you fund?

This fund is for **Black and minoritised-led women's organisations** which have been **established for at least three years** and which have an average annual **income of less than £100,000**.

Your organisation must meet **all** the following eligibility criteria to apply for this fund:

- Be non-profitable and run predominantly by and for Black and minoritised women and girls. By this, we mean:
 - Organisations must have the principal objective of working with and for Black and minoritised women and/or girls.
 - The majority of the organisation's beneficiaries are, and will always be, Black and minoritised women and/or girls.
 - At least 75% of the organisation's senior management team and trustees/governing body are Black and minoritised women and girls.
 - Organisations do not have to be a registered charity, but their activities must be charitable, legal and for the benefit of Black and minoritised women and/or girls.
- Have a written governing document, e.g. a constitution or set of rules.
- Have a governing body with at least 3 unrelated members.
- Have a UK-based bank or building society account in the name of the organisation, with at least 2 unrelated signatories.
- Have been active for at least three years and can produce annual accounts for three full years.
- Have an appropriate safeguarding policy in place (every organisation that delivers charitable activities has a duty to safeguard volunteers, staff members, participants and donors).
- Have an average income over the last three years of less than £100,000 (assessed by calculating the average income of your organisation, taking figures from the last three years of your organisation's annual accounts.)
- Have unrestricted reserves of 6 months expenditure or less.

If we don't have independently examined or audited accounts yet, will you accept management accounts?

You will need to provide annual accounts for three full years, including your most recent financial year. If your most recent accounts are not ready yet, please provide a draft signed by your Chair or CEO. You will also need to provide management accounts, signed by your Chair or CEO.

Can I apply if our organisation has reserves?

Yes, you can apply to the Rise Fund if you have unrestricted reserves of 6 months expenditure or less.

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Are there any specific groups Rosa is looking to receive proposals from?

Rosa's Rise Fund is open to all Black and minoritised led women's and girls' organisations who meet the eligibility criteria. We particularly welcome proposals from organisations that:

- are 'user-led'. By this we mean organisations that are created from and connected to the communities they serve and which design their services based on direct, lived experience.
- work with and for especially marginalised Black and minoritised women and girls e.g. those with no recourse to public funds, refugee and asylum seekers, women experiencing homelessness, women and girls using drugs and alcohol, women and girls who have been trafficked, those with a disability, older women, LGBT+ women and girls.
- operate in less economically resilient communities within the UK.

What type of work will you fund?

We will fund organisational development work that supports your organisation to survive and grow in the future. We know that developing an organisation takes time and resource, so through this programme we are funding **extra** capacity in organisations, rather than supporting existing costs. We understand that organisational development work will look different for each organisation so we have provided a table of examples in the application guidance to guide you. Please refer to the application guidance for more information.

We know we need organisational development support but don't know specifically what that means for our organisation.

We know this may be a challenge for a few organisations and have provided a table of examples of areas of work to guide you. The table is not to direct you to apply for these costs, but simply gives you an idea of some activities to help you as you write your proposal. Please refer to the application guidance for this table.

We know that it can take time and resource to know what your organisation's development needs are, and for this reason, you may not feel you know what to apply for. In your application you need to tell us what work you would like to do and provide approximate costs in your budget, but **we will consider some costs for 'diagnosing' your specific organisational development needs**. For example, you might want to work with a consultant to assess your current accounting systems and to propose how they can be improved.

If your organisation is funded and you discover that the focus of your organisational development work needs to shift, **we will be open to discussing proposed changes to your grant**.

What will you not fund?

Under this programme, we will not fund the following:

- responsibilities of statutory agencies
- profit-making work
- party political activity
- activities promoting religious beliefs
- work outside the UK
- applications from individuals
- overseas travel
- interest payments on loans
- building purchase
- costs that your organisation has already incurred ('retrospective costs')

Can I request core costs?

You can request up to 15% of the grant request amount to cover general running costs. For example, if your total grant request is £30,000, up to £4,500 of this could be for general running costs. Your grant request cannot exceed £40,000 (20,000 per year).

We want to make sure organisations can manage their grant, so we recommend that you do not apply for more than a third of your average annual income over the last three years in each of the grant years. For example, if your average income over the last three years was £30,000, we would not recommend that you apply for more than £10,000 each year (£20,000 in total).

Can you accept an application from a partnership of two organisations?

Applications should be submitted by one organisation. If you need to pay another organisation to deliver part of your project, you should make this clear in your budget. You will also need to show us that they have the skills and expertise to do this work.

What do I need to do to apply?

Where do I apply?

To apply, please complete our online application form outlining how you will use the funding. The **closing date** for completed applications is **5pm on Monday 10th January 2022**. We are unable to accept late applications.

Rosa will host '**How to Apply**' webinars to help applicants develop their applications. Please book your place using the following links.

Thursday 2nd December at 6.00pm

Tuesday 7th December at 3.00pm

Wednesday 15th December at 1.00pm

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Who can I contact if I have an enquiry?

We urge you to contact us if you have any queries about submitting an application. The best way to contact us is to send an email to grants@rosauk.org. Please insert 'Rise Fund' as your email subject and provide your organisation, contact name and contact number if you would like to speak to someone. We will respond to your enquiries as soon as possible, but do bear with us as we're a small team and will receive a lot of enquiries about this fund at the same time.

Please note that the **Rosa office will be closed after Thursday 23rd December, reopening on Tuesday 4th January** meaning **we will be unable to answer queries during this period**. We will respond to any emails we receive during this period by close of business on Wednesday 5th January.

I'm having technical difficulties with the online application form, can you help?

The online application form may not be compatible with some older versions of Google Chrome. Please ensure you use one of the following web-browsers to access the form:

- Internet Explorer 11 (latest version)
- Google Chrome for Windows or Mac (latest version)
- Mozilla Firefox for Windows or Mac (latest version)
- Microsoft Edge
- Safari (Mac)

How will you decide who will receive funding?

How will funding decisions be made?

Applications will undergo basic eligibility checks before being shortlisted (more details about the eligibility criteria can be found in the application guidance). The eligibility checks will be carried out by a group of trained assessors who are Black and minoritised women.

If your proposal is shortlisted we will arrange a call with you to discuss your application. Final decisions about who will receive the funding will be made by a panel led by and comprised of Black and minoritised women with relevant expertise and understanding.

When will decisions be made?

The decision-making timetable is as follows:

Closing date for applications	5pm 10 th January 2022
Notifications to applicants not shortlisted	By 31 st March 2022
Prearranged call to discuss your application	April/May 2022
Notification of outcome for all other applicants	By 31 st May 2022

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What if my application is unsuccessful?

If your application is unsuccessful, we will write to you telling you the reasons why. We do provide feedback on common errors and application weaknesses. You are not able to appeal our decision, but if you have a complaint about how your application has been dealt with, please contact Rosa's Executive Director, at info@rosauk.org, please title your email 'Rise Fund'.

Will further rounds be available after this?

We do not currently have plans to run this fund for another round. Please sign up to our newsletter for updates on any Rosa funding that is available.