



Coca-Cola Thank You Fund 2026

The Coca-Cola Thank You Fund is back again this year!

The fund closes on Friday 26th June at midnight.

Fund Objective

A fund of €100,000 / £87,000 (sterling figure based on conversion rates at the time) will be available this to support community-based projects and programmes across Ireland and Northern Ireland that are focused on cultivating inclusive communities by empowering young people aged 16-25 to become work-ready, skilled and engaged citizens under the pillar of **Inclusion and Wellbeing for Future Work Readiness**.

The fund will support programmes that promote education completion, access to third level education, mentorship, increase employability skills, enhance personal agency, strengthen essential life skills and overall wellbeing for young people experiencing disadvantage, those who are not in education, employment or training, and those who may be at risk of disengagement or disaffection.

There are three areas of focus within this year's theme, which are explained in detail below:

1. Employability and Skills Development:

Programmes that develop young people's employability through a combination of technical training and essential soft skills (e.g. communication, resilience, teamwork), improving their access to an independent, meaningful and sustainable economic future.

2. Education Access, Retention and Progression:

Programmes that improve access to education, support school completion, and enable progression into further or higher education for young people at risk of disengagement.

3. Wellbeing and Personal Development:

Programmes that enhance young people's wellbeing, resilience, and personal development, enabling them to navigate challenges, remain engaged in education or employment pathways, and achieve their potential.

****Programmes working with or based in schools will NOT be eligible for funding***

The fund will support not-for-profit or charitable organisations working with young people across the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland **aged between 16-25 years only**.



Who is eligible to apply for funding?

To be eligible the applying organisation must;

1. Work with young people aged between 16-25 years old.
2. Be a registered not-for-profit or charitable organisation.
3. Have a bank account set up in the name of the organisation.
4. Be registered in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland and active for the past 12 months.
5. Have a child protection / safeguarding policy in place

What funding opportunities are available?

Awards of between €5,000 - €15,000 / £4,500 - £13,000 (sterling figure based on conversion rates at the time) will be available.

Organisations applying for funding will be asked to submit a **detailed budget breakdown** of expenditure for the total funds being requested. The final allocation of awards will be determined after all applications have been reviewed.

Evaluation

Organisations applying for funding will have to show how their proposed project will show and measure **impact**.

How can projects apply for the funding?

All applications will be made online via the Irish Youth Foundation grants platform https://iyf.smartsimple.ie/s_Login.jsp, which will be linked from the Coca-Cola Ireland website [www.coca-cola.ie/thankyou].

How will applications be assessed?

- The IYF will assess all applications received using a scoring sheet to assess their suitability against the fund criteria.
- A longlist of applications that meet all the criteria will be prepared by IYF and Youth Action NI, and these will be presented to the Coca-Cola's social impact committee for evaluation.
- The committee will meet to review and will agree the shortlist.
- IYF will conduct due diligence on the shortlist.
- The final decision on awarding grants rests with Coca-Cola's social impact committee.
- Successful applicants will be notified by IYF and Youth Action NI and contracts will be issued by IYF.
- Once signed contracts are received, the funds will be transferred.



Criteria used to assess projects will include:

- An assessment of impact type and impact depth, both in terms of the measurable outcomes for young people in the areas highlighted above and the numbers of young people reached.
- The capacity of the project to continue to generate benefits beyond the funded programme.
- Any other opportunities the funding might unleash e.g. leverage other funding opportunities or pro bono support from other stakeholders.

Timeline for use of funding

If your project/programme is successful in securing funding, we would request that funding is spent **by 31st August 2027**

Reporting

Awardees will be asked to submit two progress reports as part of the contract - one at the halfway stage of the programme and one on completion of the programme. IYF will provide full progress reports for completion.

Term and conditions of funding

Please see separate terms and conditions document for full list of T&C's associated with this funding opportunity.