

DWP - FUTURE JOBS FUND BID

What is the Future Jobs Fund?

The Future Jobs Fund (FJF) is a government fund of around £1 billion to support the creation of jobs for long term unemployed young people and others who face significant disadvantage in the labour market.

The Fund is seeking to attract bids in order to create 150,000 new jobs. These will be aimed primarily at 18-24 year olds who have been claiming Jobseekers Allowance for approaching a year.

Successful bids must demonstrate that :

- the jobs on offer are new jobs, which wouldn't be available without funding via the FJF
- the jobs will last at least 6 months, with a preference given to long-term job opportunities
- they must be suitable for long term unemployed young people or people from unemployment hotspots
- the job roles will contribute to delivering a wider benefit to local communities
- candidates will be employed for a minimum of 25 hours per week, and be paid at the National Minimum Wage

DWP will give preference to strong partnership bids that can offer long-term employment opportunities and provide value for money for the investment, by delivering maximum benefit to individuals and communities at the lowest effective cost.

Why is the National Skills Academy leading the sport sector bid to the FJF?

The National Skills Academy for Sport and Active Leisure, has been established as part of the SkillsActive Group to professionalise the industry and upskill its employees by providing training solutions and brokering provision for employers within the sector. We work closely with employers to identify workforce development needs and then signpost to high quality providers of accredited and bespoke training. We are able to offer a seamless progression route for potential employees from recruitment, to job relevant training at the appropriate level, through to employment opportunities.

The National Skills Academy has demonstrated its ability to deliver cost-efficient impactful solutions for publicly funded initiatives. It has already been successful in its first 'whole sector' bid to the FJF, which achieved funding for the comprehensive training of candidates and full wage subsidy for over 2400 jobs.

As a result, the National Skills Academy is best placed to lead a second bid to the FJF on behalf of the sector, because of its experience of the Fund and its ongoing relationship with stakeholders, employers and training providers.

What is the main aim of the second bid?

The aim of the bid is to build upon the strengths and good practice developed in the first bid and to take a further 3,000 young people from the long term unemployment register and place them in new community-related jobs in the sport and active leisure sector.

Which types of job roles can I apply for?

Eligible jobs could include coaching, community development and healthy living roles, or other sport, physical activity or health-related community outreach work, within all types of organisations: sports clubs, local authority sports development units, extended schools programmes, community sports groups, National Governing Bodies, local authority leisure centres, School Sport Partnerships, County Sport Partnerships and many other, similar organisations. There is no restriction on what the role might be, but all job roles must contribute to delivering a clear community benefit.

In summary how will the bid be delivered?

Organisations wishing to access the FJF, and who have eligible job roles they are seeking to create, need to express their interest and provide outline details (see Next Steps below). If appropriate, they will then be included within the bid submitted to the DWP during the latter part of December. The National Skills Academy will be advised if the bid has been successful by mid February 2010.

If successful:

- Bid employers will be contacted immediately to map the months in which they wish their jobs to start and the local authority locations where the jobs will be placed. This unlocks the grant funding from DWP. The first job starts in this bid can occur from May 2010.
- Members of the NSA Team will meet each employer to map the detail of the training programme necessary to ensure that candidates are 'fit for purpose' for their job roles. Two weeks training can be delivered pre-employment. At this stage we will identify any preferences regarding who undertakes the training provision.
- We will also confirm the job roles, agree the recruitment process for candidates and discuss and agree whether any employer support might be required.
- We will then commission and fund the training programme for each job candidate, as agreed.
- The jobs will be advertised through the Job Centre Plus network.
- Eligible candidates will apply online through the Academy's FJF Website
- Employers will be provided with a list of applicants for their jobs and then undertake their own recruitment process, as previously agreed, to select appropriate candidates for their jobs.
- The Academy will provide support during employment - working through training providers, JCP and Employers to offer mentoring and support to successful candidates, as agreed.
- Finally, the Academy will work with employers to facilitate long term employment - to identify further training opportunities to develop the candidates potential for the longer-term.

Why should your organisation be involved in this bid?

The Fund offers Sports and Active Leisure employers an unrivalled opportunity to access funding to support the development of their organisation. For many, the cost of training staff and employing them through their initial probationary period - until they become net contributors to the business - can be prohibitive. The FJF allows employers to meet their growth plans by:

- Recruiting motivated candidates
- Delivering a fully funded and bespoke training programme specific to each employer's needs
- Paying the first 6 months wages for job candidates, during which time they become capable of delivering organisational and financial objectives

What are the next steps?

Organisations wishing to access funding should express their interest by completing the form below:

- Providing a brief introduction to their organisation
- Giving an outline of the type and number of job roles they are seeking to create
- Identifying what broad skill areas they feel candidates for these jobs will need to achieve during the initial 6 months of employment
- Detailing the community benefit that will be delivered by these jobs

What is the deadline for my response?

We have to submit our second bid so that it can be included within the submissions DWP will collate for January. The timeline below gives more details of the stages of production:

| Event | Week Commencing | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| | 23 Nov | 30 Nov | 7 Dec | 14 Dec | 21 Dec | 28 Dec | 4 Jan | 11 Jan | 18 Jan |
| Communication, distribution and targeting of potential partners | | | | | | | | | |
| Discussions with potential partners, research and information gathering | | | | | | | | | |
| Drafting of initial bid document | | | | | | | | | |
| Consultation on draft bid document | | | | | | | | | |
| Amendments made to bid document and final approval | | | | | | | | | |
| Submission of bid | | | | | | | | | |

Potential employers are asked to ensure they return the attached template, expressing their interest, to Peter Cooke, Regional Director at the National Skills Academy, via peter.cooke@sportactivena.co.uk
Please also copy your enquiry to Jeff Spencer via Jeff.Spencer@skillsactive.com.

Please return by Thursday 10th December 2009.

Job Skills:

Can you give a broad outline of the qualifications, and/or skills and competencies you would need to develop in job candidates over the 6 month funded period?

Community Benefit:

Please outline the community benefit that will be delivered through these jobs