

# Community Defibrillator Funding Programme

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



## Eligibility

### Am I eligible if I am applying on behalf of a:

**Charity:** Not for profit organisations, including charities that meet all other criteria listed are welcome to apply for a free defibrillator

**Private or profit-making company:** These are not eligible as we only accept applications from non-profit making organisations or community groups.

**School:** We do not accept applications on behalf of schools of all types. Other funding, including from the Department for Education may be available.

**Nursery:** If the nursery you are applying on behalf of is not a profit-making organisation, you are welcome to apply

**Hospital, GP or Dentist Surgery:** Unfortunately, we do not allocate defibrillators to healthcare organisations

**An individual on behalf of my community:** If you are applying on behalf of a group in your community, and you have an agreed public-access location to site the defibrillator, you are welcome to apply. We do not accept applications from individuals looking for their own defibrillator to keep at their residence.

### What if there's a defibrillator nearby but it is not 24/7 accessible?

You can find out where your nearest defibrillator is located using [Defib Finder](#).

You are welcome to apply if there is a defibrillator nearby that is not accessible 24/7. When reviewing applications, we prioritise groups based on several factors including access to local defibrillators.

### The location I want to install the defibrillator is having work doing to it, will this affect my application?

Once awarded, the defibrillator needs to be installed at the proposed location and operational within 4 weeks of delivery. If the ongoing work will be complete within this deadline, allowing the defibrillator to be installed and accessible, this will not affect your application. If the completion date falls beyond this or future work is planned that could impact access to the device, we will not consider the application in the current round of funding, and instead suggest that you apply in a future round.

### Can we install the defibrillator in a phone box?

Yes, however before you apply you need to have permission from the council/owner of the phone box, as

well as confirmation from an electrician that there is an existing power supply, and it is suitable for a defibrillator installation.

### Can I apply more than once for different areas?

We only accept one application per person and per organisation each application cycle, any duplicate applications will not be considered

### I am not eligible, what are my options?

We advise that you do a Google search for relevant programmes, grants or initiatives you may be eligible for. You could check if your local or national government offers any defibrillator funding schemes or reach out to sports organisations as they may have programmes in place to promote cardiac safety in sports facilities. Alternatively, as a community group, you can raise the money either via an online funding platform or in cash by holding events like a bake sale, a walk-a-thon or a sponsored neighbourhood clean. If you would prefer to buy a defibrillator we have a range of products and packages from our [BHF Defibrillator shop](#), that can be tailored to suit your needs.

### Do you provide a grant for replacement defibrillator accessories?

Currently our funding is for a complete defibrillator package, including the new defibrillator, cabinet and replacement pads or batteries when required. We do not provide funding specifically for accessories only.

### We already have a defibrillator on the premises that is not available 24/7. Can we still apply?

In this case we would not consider your application. We would advise that the current defibrillator is moved external to the premises so that it is accessible to the public 24/7.



## Submitting an application

### What does the application process involve?

The first step is to create a user account that will register you with us and enable you to fill out and submit the application form. You will need to provide an email address, user name, password and your name to register, you will then be able to access the application form. You will not be able to fill out the application form

without creating a user account and registering. You will be able to save and come back to complete your application form in multiple visits. It usually takes no longer than 25 minutes to complete the application form. We recommend that you aim to complete and submit the application form within a week of beginning the process.

### Can I make changes to the form once I've submitted it?

Once you have submitted your application form you will not be able to make changes to it. You will be emailed a full copy of your application shortly after submitting the form to the email address you registered with. If you spot any errors within the application after you have submitted your application, please contact the programme admin team at [defibs@bhf.org.uk](mailto:defibs@bhf.org.uk)

### What if I forgot my user ID or password?

You will be able to reset your password and User ID following the on-screen instructions. If you have any issues you can contact the programme admin team at [defibs@bhf.org.uk](mailto:defibs@bhf.org.uk)

### I experienced a technical issue with the form, what do I do?

If you ever experience a technical problem with the application platform please contact us at [defibs@bhf.org.uk](mailto:defibs@bhf.org.uk)



## Award contents

### What comes as part of the award?

You will receive a defibrillator, an unlocked cabinet, resources for promoting our free online CPR training, and stickers for the cabinet (to be placed on the cabinet once the defibrillator has been registered on the Circuit).

### Does the defibrillator come with paediatric pads?

No, the defibrillator comes with pads designed for ages 8+. If you would like to have child pads these would need to be purchased separately. If you do not have access to paediatric pads, the adult pads can be used.





## Installation

### How do I organise installation?

The installation of a defibrillator cabinet is usually very straightforward, it needs a constant supply of electricity and is installed similarly to an outdoor light. We advise using a trusted electrician to complete the installation and exploring options prior to submitting your application to ensure a suitable power supply. You may have a contact already, or you could try going out on social media or contacting local electricians to see if there are any available to support you. You may find that the electrician can complete the installation at a reduced cost if it is for the benefit of the community.

### What if I cannot arrange installation myself?

We encourage organisations to get help from their local community for installation. This can help increase community buy-in and ensure the community are committed to the upkeep and use of the defibrillator. Where this has been explored and is not possible, BHF can support with installing your defibrillator. Please let us know as soon as possible if this is required.

### What if my building is listed?

You need final permission to place the defibrillator on the building before you make your application so that it is ready to install if you are successful.



## The Circuit

### Why do I need to register my defibrillator on the Circuit?

It is a condition of funding that all BHF-funded defibrillators must be registered on The Circuit.

Your defibrillator has a better chance at saving a life if it's registered on [The Circuit](#) (the national defibrillator

network). Registering your defibrillator only takes a couple of minutes and could significantly improve the chances of the defibrillator being used in an emergency.

CPR and defibrillation can more than double someone's chance of survival, but many publicly accessible defibrillators are not used in an emergency because their location is unknown. This results in lives being lost unnecessarily. Once registered on The Circuit, the ambulance service will be able to direct members of your community to your lifesaving defibrillator, if this is the closest one to them. [Watch some of our case study videos about The Circuit.](#)

### What if my organisation moves location?

If your organisation is expecting to move premises, we would ask that you refrain from making an application until you have finished the move to the new site (which may mean waiting until the next round of applications).

The awards are made based on the location the defibrillator would be placed. Therefore, if your organisation moves premises, we ask that the defibrillator remains in the original location, and if necessary that you find a new guardian for the device and update these details on the Circuit.





## Defibrillator upkeep and guardianship



### What is involved in being a defibrillator guardian?

Being the guardian of the defibrillator is an important but straightforward role which involves checking the defibrillator regularly (we recommend weekly) to ensure it is still rescue ready and updating The Circuit with any changes. This check only takes a few seconds and involves checking the 'rescue ready' light is on.

[This guide](#) covers everything about being a defibrillator guardian.

### If I leave the organisation, can someone take over being guardian?

Yes, [this guide](#) explains how to transfer the defibrillator guardian role to someone else.

### I am concerned about the defibrillator being in an unlocked cabinet. Will it be at risk?

The requirement to store the defibrillator in an unlocked cabinet external to the building is in line with guidance from the Resuscitation Council UK (RCUK) on accessibility on defibrillators. While there is widespread use of unlocked cabinets, in line with the RCUK and our guidance, rates of theft and vandalism are rare, and if a defibrillator is in a locked cabinet,

this appears not to make it any less likely to be broken or vandalised.

The need to access a defibrillator would always be in an incredibly time critical situation where every second counts, and placing the defibrillator inside or in a locked cabinet means it will not be accessible to the community with the immediacy required in the event of a cardiac arrest, so that it could give someone who needs it the best possible chance of survival. There's more information on this here. If you are concerned about this, for extra peace of mind we recommend placing it in a well-lit area, educating the local community on the importance of the defibrillator as well as doing some research into insuring the defibrillator.

### How do I order replacement pads or batteries?

As part of the award, successful applicants will be offered replacement pads and batteries at no cost, for 10 years following the award, if:

- The batteries or pads expire (usually around 5 years after installation).
- The defibrillator is used in a rescue situation (please be aware that we'll need data about the defibrillator's usage for verification purposes).

To claim these, the defibrillator guardian will need to send a request directly to Zoll, the manufacturer.

Information on this process will be shared with successful applicants.

This will only be offered where defibrillators have been registered on The Circuit as per the funding criteria.

### What is the running cost of a defibrillator?

The cabinet will use a maximum 60W of power; actual power usage will depend upon the ambient air temperature at any given time. For an example, assume the lights are on year-round and the heaters are on non-stop full power for 3 full months of the year: Power Usage (weather dependant) =  $(50W \times 91\text{days} \times 24\text{hours}) + (5W \times 365\text{days} \times 24\text{hours}) = 153\text{kWh}$  per year, this equates to approximately £50 per year (based on 38.21p/kwh). Note that the cabinet is dual layer insulated and the heater will only click on when the thermostat drops to 5 degrees and will switch off again at 10 degrees; therefore the actual cost of running the cabinet is likely to be much less.

The cost of replacement consumables (such as batteries and pads), where required, will be funded for 10 years in line with the funding terms.



## CPR Training

### How do I go about organising CPR training?

You can use our free online CPR training RevivR – all you need is your phone and a cushion to do the training and it takes just 15 minutes. Resources for promoting this training will be included your defibrillator packages, you can facilitate group training for your community very easily and you can share the link to RevivR to your contacts.

You can find out more about how to organise training and download a guide to making your community safer on our website [here](#).

### Do I need to be a qualified first aider to run the RevivR training?

No, running the training simply involves inviting attendees and showing the training interactive video at the front of the room. You do not need to teach anything yourself and we also have a guide for anyone organising the sessions full of information on how to set it up.

# Thank you

If you can't find the answer to your question please contact

**defibs@bhf.org.uk**