



## Frequently Asked Questions

# Young Advisory Board

### **I've never been on a board before. Does that matter?**

Not at all. You do not need any previous experience of advisory boards, governance, or grant making to apply.

We actively welcome first-time applicants. What matters most is your perspective, your curiosity, and your commitment to improving opportunities for young people.

If you are open to learning and willing to share your ideas and experiences, we will support you throughout your time on the Young Advisory Board.

### **What are you looking for in applicants?**

We are looking for young people who can bring different lived and learned experiences to the Board.

This may include an interest in:

- Improving outcomes for disadvantaged young people
- Education and access to opportunity
- Youth voice and participation in decision-making
- Charity governance and grant making
- Social impact and systems change
- Leadership, communication, or community work

You might have personal experience of barriers or inequalities, or you may already be involved in community work, campaigning, education, or supporting others.

Your insight, ideas, and motivation, is what matters.

## **What will I be doing as a Young Advisory Board member?**

As a member of the JLF Young Advisory Board, you will help shape the Foundation's work and ensure young people's perspectives are reflected in decision-making.

You can expect to:

- Take part in quarterly Board meetings and discussions
- Contribute ideas, feedback, and constructive challenge
- Help review and shape grant making decisions
- Work with other members to develop recommendations for Trustees
- Participate in learning sessions about governance and strategy
- Occasionally attend additional workshops, visits, or development activities
- Engage with real-time issues affecting the Foundation's work

You will be supported to understand the Foundation's work and how your input can influence decisions.

## **What is the time commitment?**

We estimate a commitment of around 5–8 hours per quarter on average, although this may vary depending on activities.

Core commitments include:

- Quarterly Young Advisory Board meetings (4 per year)
- Bi-monthly advisory sessions or check-ins
- Optional involvement in grant making or development activities
- Occasional training or learning sessions

We will always aim to plan activities in advance.

## **I have work, study, or caring responsibilities. Can I still apply?**

Yes. We understand that everyone has different responsibilities and schedules.

We will work with you to ensure participation is flexible and manageable. Sessions are planned in advance, and we will try to accommodate different availability where possible.

We will also discuss any access needs or scheduling requirements with you once appointed.

## **What does the application process involve?**

The application process is simple and accessible.

- 1.** Complete an [online application form](#) (written, audio, or video responses accepted)
- 2.** Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a 30-minute online interview
- 3.** Interviews will take place in September 2026
- 4.** Final recommendations will be made to Trustees in October 2026
- 5.** Successful applicants will be confirmed in October 2026

We aim to make the process as fair and supportive as possible.

## **How many Young Advisory Board members are you recruiting?**

We are recruiting up to nine Young Advisory Board members.

## **Do I need any qualifications?**

No. There are no formal qualification requirements.

We are interested in your lived experience, perspective, and willingness to contribute.

## **What support will I receive?**

You will be supported throughout your time on the Young Advisory Board.

This includes:

- An induction and onboarding process
- Support from the JLF team
- Training on governance, grant making, and strategy
- One-to-one development conversations with the Executive Director every six months
- Opportunities to attend workshops, visits, and learning sessions
- Clear guidance on your role and responsibilities

We will also provide reasonable adjustments to ensure full participation.

## **Can you tell me about accessibility?**

We are committed to making the Young Advisory Board accessible and inclusive.

If you require any adjustments during the application process or your time on the Board, we encourage you to tell us. We will work with you to put appropriate support in place.

If you need help completing your application, you can contact us: [info@jlf.org.uk](mailto:info@jlf.org.uk)

## **Will I be paid?**

Yes. Young Advisory Board members receive an annual honorarium of £700 in recognition of their time, expertise, and contribution.

Members are not employees of the Foundation, but freelance, this will be clearly outlined in appointment letters.

## **Will I need to travel?**

Most activities will take place online.

However, some in-person meetings, workshops, or events may take place in London. Travel expenses will be covered, prebooked/paid for you.

We aim to ensure in-person activities are accessible and planned well in advance.

## **I am 17. Can I apply?**

Yes, you can apply if you are 17 at the time of application, as long as you will be 18 by the start of the term.

Applicants under 18 will require consent from a parent or guardian.

## **I am 25. Can I apply?**

Yes, you can apply if you are 25 at the start of the term.

You must be between 18 and 25 when your term begins.

## **Why is the Young Advisory Board UK-based?**

At present, the Foundation's work and governance structure are primarily UK-focused. This means we are looking for members who are based in the UK and able to participate in meetings and activities.

## What is the impact of the Young Advisory Board?

The Young Advisory Board plays a central role in shaping the Foundation's direction.

Members will:

- Provide insight and challenge to the Foundation's strategy
- Influence grant making recommendations
- Strengthen how the Foundation understands impact
- Ensure young people's voices are embedded in decision-making

The Young Advisory Board will oversee an annual ring-fenced grant making budget. During our first year 2026/2027, Trustees retain final decision responsibility for this budget. This initial period is designed to provide YAB members with practical experience and support. From 2028 onwards the YAB will assume final decision-making responsibility for grants awarded through its allocated budget.

## What happens after my term ends?

After your two-year term, you will be invited to join the JLF Alumni Network, where you can stay connected, access future opportunities, and continue contributing in different ways.

### Still have questions?

You can contact us at:  
[info@jlf.org.uk](mailto:info@jlf.org.uk)