

quest overseas

Top tips for fundraising *you can do it...*

#1: Start early! No matter when you confirm your place on Quest Overseas, you will no doubt have a busy schedule: the more efficient you are with your planning, the closer you will get to your target.

#2: Get creative! There are 100s of different ways to raise money ...so don't put all your eggs in one basket. This is only a guide - you will have plenty of your own ideas, so don't be afraid to use these! And if you need help turning a flash of inspiration into a solid plan, just give us a call on 01273 777206.

#3: Know your facts! It sounds obvious but you need to have a clear idea of what you are fundraising for. We will give you as much information and support as you need to help with this. The more passionate about your project or expedition you are, the more impressive you will sound to outside sponsors.

Before you start...

*You need to have a clear idea of exactly **HOW MUCH** money you need to raise, **WHEN** you need to raise it by, and exactly **WHAT** you are raising money for. The latter may seem obvious but you need to make sure you are not caught out by questions from people you are asking for donations.*

*Make sure you know whether the money is intended for your own **COSTS** for food, activities and so on (i.e. the payment to Quest Overseas), or whether it will go to your **PROJECT DONATION**. If holding public events, you'll find more people are willing to donate money to a good cause than to a stranger's holiday!*

Donations from...

COMPANIES:

Target those which may have a direct interest in you, such as companies you or your parents have worked for. Let them know exactly how they can help you & how you can help them, i.e. through promotion in the local press or at an event.

CHARITABLE & GRANT MAKING TRUSTS:

Applications are competitive and most trusts have specific guidelines. You need to research their criteria in detail; local charities are likely to be more accessible. Charitable bodies such as **Lions Clubs** or **Rotary Clubs** often support individuals doing charitable work, so talk to your local groups.

Specify what the grant will support. You may want to highlight voluntary work when applying to certain Trusts or an expedition when applying to organisations interested in exploration. [Ask us](#) for a list of Charitable Trusts to get started...

SCHOOL & UNIVERSITIES:

Many schools, colleges & universities have travel bursaries but they are generally not advertised, so it's up to students to ask about them. Most will require you to write a report or similar on your return.

FAMILY & FRIENDS:

Although it may be embarrassing to ask, few friends would say no to sponsoring you to do a parachute jump! They may also be willing to help out in other ways, e.g. selling tickets for events or baking cakes to sell.

Events...

PUT ON AN EVENT:

Some of the most successful fundraisers in the past have been **pub quizzes** and **bake sales**. Other ideas could be **raffles** (check legal conditions), **busking** (needs council permission), **bag packing** in your local supermarket, and **car boot sales**.

Why not try something weird and wonderful – how about an **old-school sports day** with sack-races and egg-and-spoon?

One idea is to **theme** your event – perhaps Africa/South America, or tie your events into Christmas, Easter, Pancake Day.

and make a success of it...

Get as many family members and friends involved as possible...from selling tickets to organising raffle prizes!

Try to find a **free venue** and keep down other costs. Make the point that all proceeds will go to the project.

Publicise events using social media, local newspapers and radio stations.

Include a brief presentation about what you will be doing... Remember people will be unwilling to pay for you to experience the nightlife of South America!

SPONSORED CHALLENGES:

Challenge yourself with a run, bike ride or parachute jump – **contact us** if you'd like a list of events taking place around the UK. Generally the more bizarre the idea, the more **publicity** you'll get, though any challenges are good.

Set up an **online fundraising page** using www.mydonate.bt.com. An easy way to collect and keep track of sponsorship for your charitable project donation. People donate online and the money goes direct to the charity; MyDonate passes on 100% of all donations (except card charges), and fundraisers and sponsors don't pay a penny.

Quick & easy fundraisers...

Think of these as ways to **top-up** your fundraising total, rather than major money-makers in their own right.

FILL UP A TIN: hand out Smarties or Pringles tubes to your friends and family and ask them to fill them up with loose change... or perhaps make it a **swear box** for any of your potty-mouthed friends.

UNWANTED GIFT AUCTION: ask guests at a party to wrap up an unwanted present. Each guest then has to 'sell' the item in an auction without giving away what it is and the other guests bid on the item depending on how much they think it's worth. You may pay £1 for a bottle of vintage whisky or £10 for shampoo!

Paid Work:

This is the most effective and reliable form of fundraising and potentially a good way of gaining useful work experience. Generally bars, pubs, shops and restaurants are on the lookout for additional staff in the run up to Christmas holidays.

Sign up as a **temp** with a **catering agency** – or join more than one! You can fill as much time as you want, but fit it around other obligations. **Promo companies** offer high-paid opportunities for the more extrovert, but it's normally on an ad hoc basis. Beware of **commission-only** jobs – you rarely earn as much as they promise.

And most importantly, remember always to **THANK** those who have helped you!