



WSCF
europe



**World Student Christian
Federation
Europe Region
Fundraising Pack**





Help! I'd love to attend a WSCF conference, but I don't have enough money!

Is this you? Don't worry - money shouldn't get in the way of you attending a WSCF conference. We've put together this fundraising pack to help you raise the money you need.

By reading the Fundraising Pack you'll learn:

Handy tips and hints to raise money towards your participation fee and travel costs for WSCF conferences

Who you can ask for money

How to ask for money

How to write a fundraising letter

Creative ideas for fundraising events

What you can give back in return for the money you're given



Let's get started!

The Basics



Who can you ask for money?

Your Church

Your Student Christian Movement

Family & Friends

Your Workplace or your University

How can you ask for money?

Write a letter or email

Organise a fundraising event

Sell things you've made

Be sponsored to do something



Who can you ask for money?



Churches & Chaplaincies

Why ask churches?

Churches are keen to support young people, and have funds available to help young Christians. Your church may be willing to pay all your conference fees and travel costs.

Who to ask?

Write to the leaders of the church you attend now, and of any churches you've attended in the past.

What to say?

Explain how the conference will help you in terms of your faith journey, your leadership skills, and your ability to engage with Christians from different backgrounds.

Explain what you'll give back to the church: after the conference, will you organise a workshop, give a sermon, write an article for the church magazine, or all of these?

See our example letter on page 9 for more details

Who can you ask for money?



Your Student Christian Movement (SCM)

Why ask your SCM?

As a member of WSCF, your SCM has pledged to support students from your country attending WSCF conferences

Who to ask?

Write to the co-ordinator or WSCF representative of your SCM

What to say?

Explain what you'll give back to the SCM after the conference. Will you organise a workshop, a seminar, write an article for the SCM magazine, organise an SCM campaign, or all of these?

See our example letter on page 9 for more details



Who can you
ask for money?



Family and Friends

Why ask family & friends?

Writing to family & friends is one of the most effective ways of raising financial support.

Who to ask?

Write to everyone you know who'd be interested in WSCF or the theme of the conference.

What to say?

Explain why you're excited to attend the conference, and how the conference will help you in terms of your faith journey, your leadership skills, and your ability to engage with Christians from different backgrounds.

See our example letter on page 9 for more details



Who can you
ask for money?



Your Workplace or University

Why ask your workplace or university?

Some workplaces and universities have grants or bursaries available for staff or student development. The skills and experience you'll gain from a WSCF conference are relevant to many workplaces and university courses.

Who to ask?

Ask your manager at work, or your student union at your university.

What to say?

You'll probably need to fill in an application form. You'll need to explain how the conference will help with your professional development: what skills will you learn relevant to your job or your studies?



How to ask for money?



Top Tips for Letters & Emails

Be friendly and polite

Introduce WSCF and your SCM

Explain what you'll learn from the conference. How will you develop as a person from attending the conference? Why do you want to attend the conference?

How will you share what you learn at the conference? Will you organise a workshop, give a talk, write a sermon?

Explain that WSCF is paying most of the costs—you're just being asked to contribute some of the costs.

If you're writing to a church or a big organisation, try asking for them to sponsor you for the full amount. With family and friends, ask for smaller amounts—it all adds up quickly!

Use our sample letter on page 9 as a template.



How to ask for money?

Sample Fundraising Letter

Dear [name],

As a member of [name of SCM] I've been invited to take part in an international event called [name of conference] organised by the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF).

WSCF is an international organisation for Christian students, with member movements (including [name of SCM]) in over 100 countries. They organise international conferences so Christians from different back-grounds and denominations can meet one another for fellowship, conversation and dialogue. They train young people from all Christian backgrounds to be Christian leaders. They also campaign internationally on issues of social justice.

[You can write a short paragraph on your SCM here, and how you are involved in your SCM]

At the WSCF conference, there will be more than 40 young people from all over Europe. We'll be given in-depth training on [conference theme] and intercultural dialogue in a Christian context. When I return from this conference I'm planning to share what I learn with my church and in my SCM. I will do this by writing an article on gender for [SCM magazine], and leading workshops on gender justice in my SCM and at my church. Furthermore, while I'm at the conference, I will be sharing what I'm learning on a blog, [blog URL].

For me, this conference is an excellent opportunity to meet Christians from other backgrounds, to learn more about my Christian faith, to develop my leadership skills, and to practice intercultural communication.

The total cost of the conference is over €600 per participant. This includes all training expenses, accommodation, and food. WSCF is paying most of this. I have been asked to contribute €200 towards the cost, as well as pay my travel expenses, which are [insert amount].

I would be grateful if you could contribute towards my conference fees and travel expenses. Any amount is greatly appreciated.

I will of course send you an update after the conference on my experience and learning.

Any money I raise above my €200 participation fee and travel expenses will be donated to WSCF to support students from disadvantaged backgrounds to take part in their events.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

[signature]



How to ask for money?

Creative Fundraising Ideas

Sponsored Walk/Haircut/Marathon

Cake Sale—at church or university

Intercultural Party—sharing music & food from different cultures

Matched Giving—ask your church or employer to match the money you've already raised.

Film night—organise a film night related to the theme of the conference

Quiz night—put together a quiz (with prizes!) & charge a small fee to take part

Talent show—let your friends show off their talents

If you need a free venue for a fundraising event, why not ask your church? Remember to tell everyone who comes to the event what you're raising money for.