



# British Caving Association

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## GRANT AID FOR TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT FOR VOLUNTARY YOUTH SECTOR CAVING LEADERS

The British Caving Association believes that it is essential to make arrangements for encouraging under 18s to become involved in caving as early as possible. The following is part of an overall policy to actively encourage younger fresh entrants to the activity.

A considerable amount of introduction to caving is already done by voluntary youth groups, the Scout Association in particular, although others may be active. There is concern among some about the quality / safety of some of this work, although much is exemplary. For voluntary workers there are enormous implications in time and cost in obtaining NGB qualifications, these being, over and above their training commitments in their own voluntary organisation, and training and assessment in other activities. These are;

LCMLA Registration:-		Cost:-	£40	to BCA
LCMLA Level 1 training	Time:- 2 Days	Cost:-	£100	to Trainer
Level 1 assessment	Time:- 2 Days	Cost:-	£250	to Assessor
LCMLA Level 2 training	Time:- 2 Days	Cost:-	£120	to Trainer
Level 2 Assessment	Time:- 2 Days	Cost:-	£250	to Assessor

(The fees charged by Trainer Assessors are a matter for negotiation between the candidate and the Trainer/Assessors. Those quoted above are approximate)

Obviously BCA can do nothing to reduce the time factor, however, if this work is encouraged financially, it is hoped to achieve the following results:-

1. An improvement in the numbers of the young people coming from the voluntary youth sector into mainstream recreational caving.
2. An improvement in the quality of the introduction of the young people's safety and experience. (We all hear from time to time bad reports about the conduct of some of these groups).
3. A vast improvement in the image of BCA amongst the voluntary youth sector where, currently BCA is seen as at best disinterested, at worst actively putting obstacles in the way of people engaged in this work.
4. A strengthening of the LCMLA & CIC schemes with more people being involved.
5. An introduction into the ranks of Award Holders of more persons from a wider range of backgrounds and a general improvement in the relationship between the professional caver and the recreational caver.
6. A small increase in members to Caving Clubs and the formation of more Voluntary Youth Sector Caving Clubs affiliating to BCA.

The scheme exists; therefore, to encourage voluntary youth groups to have BCA qualified leaders and instructors.

For candidates who can prove an adult membership of a voluntary youth movement and either direct membership of BCA or membership of a BCA affiliated organization, that;

1. The LCMLA registration fee is refunded on completion of training.
2. Each time a candidate achieves an Award at Level 1 or 2 BCA gives a grant to this individual of £50.

In order to apply for this assistance please contact the Training Officer with proof of your membership of a recognised national voluntary youth organisation and your Local Cave and Mine Leader registration no.