How Youth policy is funded

National youth policy is funded within the central government budget.

Local youth policy is funded by respective municipality. Sweden has 290 municipalities with local governments. The municipalities have a considerable degree of autonomy and finance largely their own activities, due to independent powers of taxation. The municipalities are responsible (partly in some policy areas) for youth policy issues such as schools, employment and training, health care, social care and services, culture and leisure.

It is important to note that in Sweden municipalities have considerable autonomy on how different policies, including youth policy, is implemented. The national youth policy is compulsory for ministries and central government agencies, but only advisory at the local level.

What is funded

Of the year 2019 central government budget [1] for the youth policy area, 23.5 million euros (243 million Swedish kronor) were deposited as a state grant to youth organisations and 7.4 million euros (77 million Swedish kronor, of which 35 million Swedish kronor are for special contributions within the youth policy field and 42 million Swedish kronor are for administrative expenditures and duties according to the ordinance) for the disposal of the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society.

Besides that, the situation of young people is affected by a wide range of policy areas in the
government’s budget, such as education, employment, culture, health, social care and services etc.

**Financial accountability**

The activities and results of all government agencies are annually followed up and evaluated. Each agency submits an annual report to the Government containing information about, inter alia, expenses, revenue and results. On the basis of the reports the Government can follow up and evaluate agencies' operations, for instance in the youth policy field. The annual reports together with budget data submitted by agencies are also the basis for work on next year's national budget and appropriation directives.

**Use of EU Funds**

Funds from the European Social Fund have been used since 2009, by the Agency for Youth and Civil Society in cooperation with other national agencies and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions. The project funded by ESF, Theme Group Youth ([Temagruppen unga i arbetslivet](#)), gathered and disseminated knowledge and experiences from labour market projects (ESF projects) directed at young people that have been conducted using funds from the European Social Fund, during 2009-2017.