

Getting started with Bond – A Quick Reference Guide

We're delighted to have you aboard! This document will help you to get started with your Bond membership. If you have a question, no matter how big or small, please reach out to us at membership@bond.org.uk – we're always here to help!

Here are just a few tips about how to get started.

How do I register for an account?

To access all your benefits, you'll need access to the Bond community. You can register by [creating an account](#). You will simply need to provide your name, email address and organisation name. Here, you will also have the opportunity to sign up to [Network News](#). This is our weekly newsletter and is a great way to keep on top of what's on – we'd recommend checking "yes" on that box. You can unsubscribe at any time. Once registered you can join groups, book events and post job adverts.

You manage your own individual Bond account to access the platform – there is no organisational level account. This means you can choose to hear about the items that most interest you, manage your own preferences and sign up to the events that are most relevant for you.

If you previously worked at a Bond member organisation and had an account with us, please get in touch membership@bond.org.uk We can edit the details on your existing account and you'll keep your access to the working groups you previously joined and your mail preferences will remain the same.

How do I know what's on?

Our [website](#) is continually refreshed with events, working groups meetings, new resources and information.

A nominated contact at your organisation will receive a monthly email giving a run down for the month ahead including special events, chances to give your views, news, training and networking opportunities and working group updates. Please check with your organisation who receives this and make sure you're on the distribution list.

You can also sign up to receive our weekly Network News newsletter for a snapshot of what's upcoming and choose to join mailing lists specific to your area of work by creating an account and then completing [this form](#).

How do I join a group?

Bond groups are all members only, so you know you'll be in the company of like-minded peers. Select the [group](#) you want to join and click "Ask to join" You will receive an email notification as soon as your request has been approved and you'll be able to interact with the group – ask questions, join events and see files shared by group members. You'll receive email notifications when there is activity in the group so you don't miss a thing!

There is no minimum and no maximum number of groups you can join – please join as many as you'd like. Some groups restrict access to particular role levels and others are private to provide a safe environment for participants. If you'd like to join these groups, the process is the same although you may be asked a couple of quick confirmation questions by email before your access can be approved.

How do I register for an event?

Once you have found an [event](#) you want to attend, click on the Book button on the right-hand side.

You are able to register for multiple participants or alternative participants (i.e. not yourself) on each event, so please do bring a colleague along! A selection of our events are open to all whether a Bond member or not – if you know someone who may be interested in the topic, save them a space!

If the event is fully booked, you will not see the Book button, however for certain events there may be a waitlist available which you can sign up for and be notified if any spaces become available.

Where can I find resources to support my work?

You'll find a comprehensive set of [resources](#) designed to support your work whatever your role on our resources page. Often designed with our working groups, there are reports, webinar recordings, briefings and toolkits. You can filter by topic and resource type to narrow your search. You may also find our [funding](#) page useful – a regularly updated list of funding opportunities. Whilst Bond does not provide funding, we have a range of support available including a number of working groups with this focus.

How do I register for training?

Our training partner INTRAC offers a range of courses. Bond members are entitled to a 10% discount on the published prices. Keep a close eye on the [INTRAC website](#) for all available courses - they are regularly updated with new opportunities being added all the time. Fill in the [application form](#) to get the discount.

I'm changing jobs – what should I do?

Congratulations on your new role! Please let us know if you're changing role. If the organisation you're joining is also a Bond member, we can alter your account so you can access your Bond profile straight away.

If you have any questions (and there's no such thing as a silly question, only silly answers) please do just get in touch membership@bond.org.uk We're always happy to help!