

FAQs

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We know that taking on a marathon is not easy, let alone the world's largest! So we've gathered some FAQs about our places as well as the main event to give you a helping hand.

Kidney Care UK charity places will be offered to runners following our application process and every application will be looked at on an ongoing basis. If you have any further questions please email fundraising@kidneycareuk.org.

Kidney Care UK places

Is there a cost to applying?

No, applying for a place is free. However, if you are offered a place, there is a £50 registration fee and a minimum fundraising target of £2,500, per place.

How many places do Kidney Care UK have for 2024?

We have 75 places to offer for 2024. To give you an idea, we receive over 200 applications each year, so make sure you share as much information as you can, to help us understand what the place would mean to you.

Why should I apply for a charity place?

As well as raising money and supporting a cause that means a lot, charity places are guaranteed spots in the race which aren't impacted by the public ballot places (see details below).

As well as this, you will get all the below support as well from our fundraising team:

- FREE Kidney Care UK technical running vest or t-shirt
- Facebook group to meet other runners and find all the latest event updates
- Invitation to our Strava club and Whatsapp group
- Fundraising pack with tons of fundraising materials
- Access to our Training hub and webinar with London Marathon experts
- Cheer points on route for family and friends to join
- Extra goodies along the way!

How do I apply for a place with Kidney Care UK?

You must submit an application via our website to be considered and all applications are looked at on a rolling basis. We offer places purely based on the strength of the application, so make sure you take your time to share with us why you want to take on the challenge for us.

When will I know whether I've got a place or not?

We will offer places on an ongoing basis, but will let everyone know the outcome of their application by October 2023.

Why is the minimum sponsorship target so high?

All charities purchase their places in the London Marathon, so our £2,500 target is set to make sure that your donations and fundraising efforts, have the biggest impact for kidney patients, and not simply covering the cost of your place.

What if I can't raise the target?

Our fundraising team are here to support you throughout your fundraising journey, so we would first recommend staying in touch and sharing any concerns you have. Fundraising is hard – and we appreciate the target can be daunting, but we are happy to offer extra time and support to help you reach it.

You don't need to have raised the full amount before race day (we know 20% of your total can be raised after the day itself!) so don't focus on race day as the fundraising finish line.

As in our T&Cs, if no funds have been raised by 1 February 2024 the charity have the right to withdraw your place. We will be in touch ahead of this to try and support you in making the most of your fundraising first.

If I apply for a charity place, can I also enter the public ballot?

Yes, double your chances and enter both. There's no harm in that!

If I get a charity place but are no longer able to run, what are my options?

Please let us know if you are no longer able to take part. As the place belongs to Kidney Care UK, we have to withdraw/swap any places. Empty charity places can be rolled into the following year, but are decided on case by case basis and cannot be guaranteed. So get in touch and we will do what we can.

Can I run for Kidney Care UK and another charity with my place?

If you are offered one of our charity places, all fundraising and donations MUST be raised for Kidney Care UK only. If you gain a place through the public ballot, you can support whichever charities you wish.

The Event

What date is the TCS London Marathon 2024?

Sunday 21 April 2024 (tbc)

How far is the TCS London Marathon?

26.2 miles

What is the public ballot?

There are around 18,000 general public places each year, offered via a ballot.

Those wanting to enter the ballot can do so from race day 2023 (Sunday 23 April) until Friday 28 April. There are more than 400,000 people applying each year, so places are very difficult to get your hands on!

When is the 2024 public ballot open?

The public ballot is due to be open from Sunday 23 April – Friday 28 April 2023.

Is the course flat?

The terrain of the marathon is closed-off roads and pavements and has a total elevation gain of between 119m and 138m, making it a mostly flat course with only one small rise.

Thank you!