



Talented Young People in Sport - Fund Guidelines

About the Fund

This fund provides grants (typically up to £1,000) to inspirational young people (**aged under 21**) from disadvantaged backgrounds, who excel in a particular sport and there is a clear potential to make the grade at an international level.

Eligibility

- Under 21 and currently living in County Durham or Darlington.
- Currently high ranking at a national level.
- Have the potential reach the grade at an international or Olympic level.
- Low household/family income or relevant means tested benefits.

Who can apply?

Grant applications must be completed by a parent or guardian where the young person is under 18.

You must have the support of an independent referee (coach, trainer, mentor etc) who knows you and can comment on your talent. Section one of the application form will need to be completed by your referee. Please note your referee **must not** be a friend or family member.

What can you apply for?

- Training costs (tutor fees, coaching fees, course costs).
- Competitions costs (travel, accommodation, competition entry fees).
- Essential equipment and clothing.
- Health and nutrition – (physiotherapy, nutrition, sports psychology sessions).

We will not fund

- Items that have already been purchased and activities that have already taken place.
- Term fees for specialist educational establishments.
- Specialist training or education overseas.
- College fees.
- Higher education costs.
- Academy fees that exceed £4,000 per annum.
- Applicants with outstanding grant monitoring.

About you

In your application you will need to tell us about how you excel in your sport, include your achievements to date and future aspirations. Tell us what receiving this funding would enable you to do that you cannot do now. You will need to tell us what other funding sources you have approached.

We expect specific evidence around the family financial circumstances, including a list of benefits the family is claiming and savings.

We need to understand and how funding will help and make a difference to you. You must provide as much information as you can; applications without sufficient information will not be considered.

How to apply online?

The link to apply online to the Fund is available on our website. When you apply online please read the registration instructions carefully, tick to say you agree and have understood the criteria for applying, enter your e-mail address and click on the "Send e-mail and continue" button. Once you have done this you will be sent an e-mail with a link to complete your online application form.

You should receive the email within a couple of minutes (if you do not, please check your spam folder).

Completing the on-line application form

- To begin your application, please click on the link within the email that you have received from us.
- Ask your referee to complete Section One (the link can be emailed to them)
- There are help notes available as you go through the online application form and you can save your application at any point and come back to complete it at any time before the closing date.
- Text boxes/fields marked with a red line need to be completed – without an answer you will not be able to submit your form.
- It is a good idea to draft your responses before completing the online questions.
- Once completed the online application can be submitted.
- Once submitted you will receive a confirmation email, usually within 30 minutes with a PDF copy of your application form attached.
- Your application is now complete.

Application deadlines

Please check www.cdcf.org.uk for any application deadlines. We recommend that you complete your application as soon as possible. **Do not book or pay for anything before you get a decision.**

What will happen next?

Your application will be reviewed and checked to make sure it meets the eligibility criteria. We will assess your application in line with the fund criteria and make a recommendation to the grant decision making panel. Once a decision has been made you will receive notification via email. If approved, you will receive a grant offer letter by email with terms and conditions attached, which you will need to sign and return to us. These documents will explain how any funding awarded will be released.

If your application is not successful you will receive confirmation by email explaining the reasons for rejection.

Grant offers and the right to appeal

- Grant offer or rejection email/letters are sent within 5 working days of a decision being taken. Please do not ring the office to find out if your application has been successful.
- Offer letters include any additional conditions required by the decision-maker.
- A grant offer letter will be sent by email and will include our standard Terms and Conditions, which must be signed, returned to us before payment is made.
- You MUST NOT commit any money before you have received your grant offer letter and Terms and Conditions.

If you feel you have been treated unfairly (i.e., you perceive that we have failed to take account of submitted information or have based our assessment on inaccurate information), you can appeal in writing to County Durham Community Foundation, and we will consider your request. You must include evidence to back up your appeal. If necessary, the application may be referred to the original donor that declined the application. You cannot appeal just because you do not agree with the donor's decision.

If, following this process, the application is still declined then you can appeal in writing to the Chief Executive who will review the decisions taken. If following this process, the application is still declined then there is no further right to appeal.

Monitoring

You will be asked to complete an Impact Report (feedback form). This is sent to you automatically and completed online. This should not take more than 15-20 minutes. Completing this form is a requirement of receiving the funding from us. Feedback helps us to understand and improve what we do and to demonstrate the benefits of our work: we cannot function without it. Failure to complete feedback will affect whether or not we accept applications from you in the future.

Need more help?

Please email County Durham Community Foundation if you need help with your application or have any queries about the programme.

E-mail: info@cdcf.org.uk