



## Check you are eligible to apply

What sort of organisations can we fund?	
<p>We <b>can</b> award grants to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Registered charities and CIOs</li> <li>✓ Community/voluntary groups that have a constitution</li> <li>✓ Social enterprises (CICs, companies limited by guarantee) that are registered with the appropriate body.</li> </ul> <p><i>Please check programme details for exceptions.</i></p>	<p>We <b>normally can't</b> award grants to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Schools, or colleges (including those registered as charities)</li> <li>✗ Parish or Town Councils</li> <li>✗ Companies limited by shares</li> <li>✗ Sports clubs with an annual income above £5,000 unless they have registered as a charity, CIO, Company (limited by guarantee) or CASC.</li> </ul>

What governance and financial practices need to be in place?	
<p><b>Governance</b>, all groups must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Have charitable aims</li> <li>✓ Have a min. of 4 trustees listed with the Charity Commission, or a management committee of 4 people for community groups,</li> <li>✓ Have a min. of 3 unrelated directors listed on Companies House if you are a company</li> <li>✓ Have a dissolution clause (charities/groups) or an asset-lock clause (social enterprises) in the governing document</li> </ul>	<p><b>Finance</b>, all groups must</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Have a bank account in the same name of the group (and matching the group name on your governing document)</li> <li>✓ Have two unrelated people authorising payments</li> <li>✓ Be registered with the appropriate body if your income is above £5,000 per year (eg Charity Commission, Companies House, CASC)</li> </ul> <p><i>The supporting documents submitted with an application must show evidence of good governance practices and sound financial management.</i></p>
<p><b>Policies</b>, all <b>relevant</b> policies should be in place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Safeguarding children / vulnerable adults, including procedures for DBS checks</li> <li>✓ Equality, diversity and inclusion</li> <li>✓ Public Liability Insurance</li> <li>✓ Employer's Liability Insurance</li> <li>✓ Relevant planning permissions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Social enterprises</b>, extra information</p> <p>All social enterprises, including CICs must demonstrate a reasonable percentage of their income has been earned through trading (usually 50% or more will be considered a reasonable percentage). Social enterprises will be asked to provide a breakdown of their income streams, quantifying the income from grants and the income from trade, to verify this. Social enterprises must have been registered with Companies House for a <b>minimum of 12 months</b> before applying.</p>
<p>As a model it is expected that <b>all forms of social enterprise should have a tradable service or product</b> that generates funds for social benefit. Grant funding will only be available to support this social benefit element. Social enterprises applying to the Foundation must clearly demonstrate the activity for which they are seeking funding not a tradable asset or service ie not an activity that would ordinarily generate income for the business.</p>	



## What can't we fund?

<p>We cannot fund groups that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ Have outstanding monitoring forms</li><li>✗ Are subject to investigations by the police, Charity Commission or others</li><li>✗ Are connected to a donor unless assessment shows no conflicts of interest</li><li>✗ Have restricted membership other than that necessary for wellbeing, associated with the objects of the group</li></ul>	<p>We do not normally fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ national or regional charities (unless a local branch independently managed)</li><li>✗ organisations whose free reserves include more than 12 months of running costs,</li><li>✗ medical research and equipment,</li><li>✗ organisations that do not have their own bank account (except in exceptional circumstances)</li><li>✗ annual or one-off events</li></ul>
<p>We cannot fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ unspecified contributions to general fund-raising appeals or large projects,</li><li>✗ for profit or commercial elements of charitable organisations,</li><li>✗ public bodies to carry out their statutory obligations,</li><li>✗ direct replacement of statutory or public funding,</li><li>✗ party political activity and campaigning,</li><li>✗ contingency funding,</li><li>✗ building or buying premises or land rights,</li><li>✗ projects that solely support animal welfare,</li><li>✗ purchase of vehicles (running costs will be considered),</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ feasibility studies or initial community consultations,</li><li>✗ fundraising activities,</li><li>✗ deficit or retrospective funding,</li><li>✗ sponsored events, multiple trophies or prizes</li><li>✗ onward awarding of grants except in exceptional circumstances</li><li>✗ CIC start-ups</li><li>✗ profit making or business ventures, including start-up costs</li><li>✗ activities that are primarily about proselytization or supporting worship activities (faith organisations may apply for funding towards a project/activity that is open to the whole community and has wider social benefits)</li></ul>

For more information, read our [full General Grant Criteria](#).