

# COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAMME

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## GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

### WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION?

The Halifax Foundation for Northern Ireland is a grant-giving Foundation whose income is derived from a shareholding in Lloyds Banking Group. The Foundation is independent from the Group. Its policies are determined by a Board of Trustees, which meets on 5 occasions throughout the year, agrees on the Foundation's strategic priorities and distributes the funding.

### WHERE DO THE FOUNDATION'S INTERESTS LIE?

The overall aim of the Foundation is to support charitable organisations within Northern Ireland to enable people, who are disadvantaged or with special needs, to participate actively in their communities.

## WHAT ARE THE FOUNDATION'S GUIDELINES?

The Foundation has two main target areas to which it seeks to allocate funds:

### 1. SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

A wide range of activities are supported and the following are meant as a guide only:

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

Family centres, youth clubs, older people's clubs, after schools clubs, self-help groups, childcare provision preschools and playgroups.

#### ADVICE SERVICES

Homelessness, addictions, bereavement, family guidance, money advice, helplines and suicide awareness.

#### PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Residences, day centres, transport, carers, information, advice, and advocacy.

#### PROMOTION OF HEALTH

Information and advice, mental health, hospices, day care, home nursing, independent living for older people.

#### CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

Young people at risk, crime prevention, promotion of volunteering, victim support, mediation, rehabilitation of offenders.

#### CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Improving access and skills development in the arts and national heritage for disadvantaged people and those with special needs.

## 2. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The objective is to enhance educational opportunities for disadvantaged people and those with special needs:

#### EMPLOYMENT

Projects which help disadvantaged people develop their potential and secure employment.

#### LIFE SKILLS

Promotion of life skills, independent living skills for people with special needs.

#### TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Accredited, vocational or personal development training.

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## HALIFAX FOUNDATION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

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Registered in Northern Ireland Number 19019  
Company Limited by Guarantee Charity Registration NIC101763

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### WHAT LIES OUTSIDE THE GUIDELINES?

The main areas of concern normally considered outside the Foundation's guidelines are:

- Organisations which have an income of more than £1 million in the previous year's accounts.
- Organisations which are insolvent.
- Organisations who have over 12 months reserves would not be seen as a priority.
- Individuals, including students.
- Animal welfare.
- The environment.
- Hospitals and Medical Centres.
- Schools, universities and colleges (*except for projects specifically to benefit pupils with special needs*)
- Sponsorship or fundraising events either for your own organisation or another.
- Promotion of religion.
- Endowment funds.
- Activities that are normally the responsibility of central or local government.
- Loans and business finance.
- Travel or activities outside of Northern Ireland.
- Capital build (*except in the case of disabled access*).

### WHO CAN APPLY?

The Community Grant Programme is open to any organisation who is registered as a charity and has an income of less than £1 million in the previous year's accounts. For registered charities with a headquarters based outside of Northern Ireland, the income of their Northern Ireland operation, shown in their management accounts, will be the figure used to assess the eligibility.

### WHAT WE FUND?

The average grant awarded within the Community Grant Programme is in the region of £3,000- £4,000 and grants are awarded for one year only. To apply for funding, you need to complete the online Community Grant application form.

The following list is a guide to the key areas the Foundation supports.

- Core costs
- Materials and equipment
- Salary costs
- Volunteer expenses
- Project costs
- Refurbishment
- Activities
- Training
- Disabled access
- Transport Costs

### HOW TO APPLY?

You can access the online application form on the Foundation website. A step by step guide on completing the form can be found in the Advice Document.

### WHEN TO APPLY?

- The Foundation operates a rolling grant programme, therefore an application can be submitted at anytime. Please leave enough time for the decision process to take place. You should receive a decision within 17 weeks from the date your application was submitted.
- Applicants are required to leave one year between applications whether they are successful or unsuccessful.
- Organisations who have received three years consecutive funding must leave two years before reapplying.
- The Foundation cannot cover expenditure retrospectively. Please ensure spend is not incurred prior to receiving confirmation of a grant.

**Unfortunately, demands made on the Foundation always out-strip the funds available, and this means that many good applications, whilst meeting the criteria, will still be unsuccessful.**

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