

Guidelines for Grant applicants

We operate two grant making programmes: small grant and large grant programmes. The focus of both programmes is to bring positive benefits to improve the lives of people who live in North Southwark, Bermondsey and the areas close by.

Small grants:

These tend to be one off projects and range from equipment for a playscheme to Christmas parties for the elderly, day trips or cultural activities for children, and help towards capital projects.

Applications may be submitted at any time but will be considered 4 times a year and applicants are advised to refer to our website or the Director for specific dates.

Applications from an organisation within 18 months of a previous grant being made are unlikely to be successful.

How much?

Grants of up to £5000 but which are on average approximately £3000 each are made from a budget of £50,000 each year.

Large grants:

The key focus for the large grants programme will be reviewed every 3 to 5 years and may change. For the period 2008-2012 the focus of this scheme is to improve the lives of vulnerable children and young people who are suffering economic, social, or cultural deprivation. We are particularly interested in projects that inspire and enable children and young people to participate in community life and fulfil their potential. In exceptional circumstances the Charity will consider applications for projects running for more than 1 year.

Applications for Large Grants will be considered once a year with applications being submitted in January. Applicants are advised to consult our website or contact the Director for specific dates.

How much?

We aim to award grants between the values of £25,000 to £100,000 to a total of about £250,000 each year, but the Charity may occasionally award a greater amount in exceptional circumstances.

Who is eligible?

The project for which you seek funding must benefit people who live and work in North Southwark, Bermondsey and the areas close by. The majority of users must be “in need”; that is to say, suffering economic and social deprivation. Where the project is open to other people, there must be evidence that the majority of users of the funded projects are from the area of benefit.

We cannot fund:

- Political parties
- Political lobbying
- Non-charitable activities (eg, where there is no public benefit)
- Work which does not benefit the people residing in the area of benefit.

We do not fund

- Individuals
- Grant-making bodies to make grants on our behalf
- Schools, universities or other educational establishments (except where they are undertaking charitable activities specifically directed towards one of the agreed priority areas)
- Churches or other religious bodies where the monies will be used for religious purposes
- Medical or academic research
- Projects which have already taken place or building work which has already been completed
- Statutory duties

How to apply:

Read through these guidelines carefully to ensure that you are eligible. Complete the application form obtainable on our website (www.ustsc.org.uk). If you are seeking a small grant, you may apply at any time for consideration 4 times a year. If you are applying for a large grant, the deadline for applications is 1 May 2009 but applicants may refer to the website or phone the Director for submission dates and further information.

Process and Timescales:

Advertisements inviting applications for large grants will appear on our website and in the local press in early January of each year with a deadline for submission 8 weeks later. All applications will be acknowledged. All submissions will be considered by the Grants sub committee and in some cases requests for further information or a presentation may be made. We expect to inform you of the outcome of your application by the early June following consideration by the Board of Trustees.

Outcome reporting - monitoring and evaluation:

If your application is successful any requirements for on-going monitoring reports to the Charity will be agreed with you upon acceptance. We will send you a report and evaluation form 2 months before the completion of your project. Completion of this form will be a requirement of grant acceptance.

Publicising the Charity's donation:

We expect all grant recipients to acknowledge our donation both in their annual report, and in other appropriate ways. If you would like to use the Charity's seal as seen on this guidance document, please contact us and we will send it to you electronically. Where you refer to the Charity, we would also like you to include our website address.