

Guidelines

Pursuit of Excellence - Arts



1. Eligibility

The Pursuit of Excellence scheme awards grants of up to £1,000 for young people aged 8-24 who are resident in the unitary authorities of Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland, Middlesbrough and Stockton-on-Tees, and who are excelling in their chosen speciality and who are in need of financial assistance to achieve their aims.

Excellence - The Foundation looks for those who are likely to reach a graded, accredited or recognised standard in their chosen artistic endeavour and if appropriate compete at county, regional, national and/or international levels, and in doing so bring credit to their home town. Furthermore, there should be clear signs from either the level of experience gained or from a reference from a relevant artistic professional of the potential to progress to a higher professional level.

Disadvantage - One of the prime objectives of the fund is to address the needs of disadvantages young people in the area; this forms a major theme in the Scheme.

2. How much can you apply for?

The maximum grant you can apply for in any 12 month period is £1,000; but the maximum is not frequently awarded. You can only make one successful application in any 12-month period. You can apply again in future years, leading to a maximum of £5,000 during the lifetime of the programme.

3. General exclusions

We cannot fund retrospectively, e.g. activities or expenses that have already taken place, or costs already incurred.

Only residents of the Boroughs of Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees are eligible for funding.

4. How to apply

Please read this information carefully and ensure you send us all the information we ask for on the application form, as we are unable to process incomplete applications.

- Complete the application form using the notes beside each question on the application form.
- Once completed, the form should be signed by the applicant or a parent / guardian (if under 18).
- Attach an independent reference from an accredited coach, teacher or professional who can evidence your achievement and potential.
- **Check you have completed and signed the application form then copy it and any required materials, keeping the copy for your own records.**

**** IMPORTANT****

Make sure you attach all the required materials, as failure to supply the right information will delay the processing of your application.

- Return your completed form, independent reference and any other supporting documentation to: Tees Valley Community Foundation, Wallace House, Falcon Court, Preston Farm, Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 3TX

A Grants Assessor will normally contact applicants to obtain further information to assist with assessment.

If you have any queries about your application, please contact Tees Valley Community Foundation office on **01642 260860** or e-mail us at **info@teesvalleyfoundation.org**