Society Grants: Category Briefs

GRANT CATEGORIES

1. Education grant

"advance the education of Students at the University of Cambridge… and promote … success at the University of Cambridge and its affiliated institutions"

Explainer:

This category of grant is for activities that **advance the education of students** at the University, by providing opportunities for academic and intellectual enrichment, directly related to academic courses of study at the University.

Examples:

- Reimbursing a speaker's travel costs to attend and speak at a subject society's event
- Hiring a room to host an academic workshop or talk, where that event would advance students' education
- Purchasing small capital items (i.e., non-consumable items) for an ongoing series of educational activities, such as small science equipment, an inexpensive screen for projecting, etc. These must be items that can be used repeatedly at the society's events.
- Purchasing small single-use/time-limited items, such as printed texts for a reading group

Specific eligibility:

- To be eligible for this grant, the grant request must be to fund something that would either be necessary for, or would enhance, an activity that would advance students' education; this also means that the activity proposed itself would need to self-evidently advance students' education

2. Community building grant

"providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities … for the personal development of Students"

Explainer:

> This category of grant is for activities that **facilitate communal and/or community activities** to further students' 'personal development'; these activities might be primarily social/recreational, cultural, or sporting, but should have as their central purpose building community among students.

Examples:

- Hiring a venue for a cultural/activity-based society to host an event for students
- Purchasing small capital items (i.e., non-consumable items) for an ongoing series of activities, such as board games, a rounders bat, a frisbee, etc. These must be items that can be used repeatedly at the society's events.
- Purchasing small single-use/time-limited items, such as crafts supplies for an arts & crafts event, printed music for a music group's performance, etc.

:

- Specific eligibility:

  - To be eligible for this grant, the grant request must be to fund something that would either be necessary for, or would enhance, an activity that would build community among students and directly lead to their 'personal development'. This also means that the activity proposed itself would need to self-evidently build community among students and directly lead to their 'personal development'.

3. Liberation & social causes grant

"providing … activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of Students"

Explainer:

This category of grant is for facilitating activities and forums for **discussions and debate that further students' personal development**; these activities and forums should facilitate students discussing social and liberation issues, and engaging intellectually with each other, in a way distinct from advancing their academic education, but still conducive to their personal development more broadly.

Examples:

- Hiring a venue for an event for students to discuss social and liberation issues.
- Purchasing small capital items (i.e., non-consumable items) for an ongoing series of discussion-based events, such as a flipchart, a screen for projecting, etc. These must be items that can be used repeatedly at the society's events.
- Purchasing small single-use/time-limited items, such as voting slips, paper for mind maps, etc.

Eligibility:

- To be eligible for this grant, the grant request must be to fund something that would either be necessary for, or would enhance, an activity in which students can discuss and debate social and liberation issues. This also means that the activity proposed itself would need to self-evidently present opportunities for discussions and debate in a way directly conducive to students' 'personal development'.

Overall eligibility criteria

- In order to make a grant application:
    - Your society must be registered with the SU
    - You must be a current committee member of the society
    - Your society must be open to students from any college
- The SU cannot give grants for:
    - Purchasing any illegal items (note though that otherwise, requests *are* assessed on a case-by-case basis)
    - Purchasing anything or paying for services from the SU itself (e.g., a Freshers' Fair stall booking)
    - Any expenditure over £250
    - Any money or resources to be donated to other organisations, including charities
- Each society can only be awarded one grant each term

Approval/rejection process

1) Society committee member submits the grant application on behalf of their society via the online form
2) The application is anonymised by the Activities Team, and passed to the Society Grant panel
3) The Society Grant panel reviews the application, and will either:
    a) Award 75 - 100% of the amount requested, if the application is eligible and is for something strictly necessary for the activity proposed to take place; or
    b) Award 50 - 100% of the amount requested, if the application is eligible and is for something that would significantly enhance the activity taking place; or
    c) Award 10 - 50% of the amount requested, if the application is eligible and is for something that would enhance the activity taking place by a relatively insignificant amount; or
    d) Refuse the application, if the application is ineligible (either overall or for the specific grant category - i.e., the proposed activity doesn't advance the education of students, or facilitate communal / community activities to further students 'personal development', etc)
    e) Refer the applying society to the Societies Syndicate instead, if appropriate, or any other available SU funding (e.g. Student Led Outreach Grant)
4) The Activities Team communicates the panel's decision to the society committee member who submitted the grant application and copies in the society's President/Chair, and Junior Treasurer, within 14 days of the grant application.
5) If awarded, the grant amount will be made available for the society to claim back via the SU's finance system on request.

Society grant panel

- Composed of:
    - Activities Manager
    - A Sabbatical Officer (who also sits on the Societies Syndicate)