SU SOCIETY GRANTS APPLICANT INFORMATION

GRANT CATEGORIES

Cambridge SU offers 4 different grant types detailed below with their maximum fund available for each grant:

- Education Grant: £350
- Community Building Grant: £350
- Liberation & Social Causes Grant: £350
- Society Start-Up Grant: £250

Education Grant (£350)

"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.
- Purchasing small single-use/time-limited items, such as printed texts for a reading group

This would not include:

- Reimbursement of a speaker's international/air travel costs

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 and directly lead to their 'personal development

Community Building Grant (£350)

"providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities [as well as] discussions and debate … for the personal development of Students"

Explainer:

This category of grant is for the facilitating of **communal and/or community activities.** These activities might be primarily cultural, social, recreational, or sporting, but they 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.
- Purchasing small single-use/time-limited items, such as crafts supplies for an arts & crafts event, printed music for a music group's performance, specific cultural food items etc.
- Food/drink integral for the event

This would not include:

- Privately catered meals such as formal tickets or group restaurant meals
- Cambridge SU products (e.g. Freshers' stalls)

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.

Liberation & Representative Groups Grant (£350)

"The Union will seek at all times to… pursue equal opportunities by taking positive action within the law to facilitate the participation of groups discriminated against by society."

Explainer:

This grant category is for facilitating activities related to, or to the benefit of liberation groups or causes. This should directly benefit BME students, disabled students, LGBTQ+ students, women students, or any students who identify as having experienced misogyny, students who identify as experiencing or having experienced social, educational, or economic disadvantage; and international students.

Examples:

- Booking rooms to be used as safe spaces, memorial days, or running activities relating to liberation and/or social causes
- Purchasing supplies for campaigning activities such as banner making, placard making, or buying ingredients for bake sales to sell for a charity or external organisation

This would not include:

- Direct donations to a charity or external organisation
- Items purchased for resale
- To create a publication without prior agreement from the SU

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 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'.

Society Start-Up Grant (£250)

Explainer:

This is for any new student group to apply for to cover start-up costs. When applying for this grant, please ensure that you detail any projects, events, or items that you would spend this funding on. Please note that this grant is only for societies that have registered with the SU within the last term.

Examples:

- Room booking for a society launch event
- Supplies to start up the society e.g. craft supplies if an arts-related society

This would not include:

- Direct donations to a charity or external organisation
- Items purchased for resale
- To create a publication without prior agreement from the SU
- Used to purchase anything or pay for services from the SU itself (e.g., a Freshers' Fair stall booking)

Specific eligibility:

To be eligible for this grant, the grant request must be to fund something that would be necessary for any costs that may incur with the start-up of a society.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. A society committee member submits the grant application on behalf of their society via the online society grant application form
    a. Society committee members can request an application help writing session with an SU member of staff. Please note this does not guarantee that your application will be approved.
    b. It can take up to 2 weeks for a grant application decision to be made and sent back to the applicant, so please consider this when submitting a grant application.
2. The application is processed by the Activities Team and passed onto the SU Society Grant Panel.
3. The panel will review the application based on the following criteria

    a. How much the application based on the following criteria e.g. does it benefit a community and/or is it educational to the members of the society
    b. If the item(s) are essential to the running of the event
    c. Whether specific details relating to the event or project have been included
    d. Application results are either approved, partially approved, denied, and referred to the Societies Syndicate or additional SU funding (e.g. Student-Led Outreach Grant)
    e. Please note, grant amounts are awarded at the discretion of the panel based on the factors above
4. The Activities Team then communicates the panel's decision to the society committee member who submitted the grant application
5. If awarded, the grant amount will be made available for the society to claim via the SU's finance system. This must be claimed by the end of the term

TIMELINE

Application result received - up to 7 working days

Payment approval - up to 14 days to be approved post application result received

Payment made - up to one month after management approval to be made

Check the SU website here for specific deadline dates.

- The panel is unable to accommodate reimbursements made after the deadline.
- Email the Activities Team (activities@cambridgesu.co.uk) if your society is unable to claim reimbursement before the deadline.

SOCIETY GRANT PANEL

Decision process:

Grants Panel meetings are held once a week, while grant applications are open.

The society grant panel is made up of:

- Activities Manager
- 2 Sabbatical Officers

If a member of the panel is not available another member of SU staff shall be appointed.

If you're not happy with a decision of the grants panel, you may make a complaint to the SU. Please head to our complaints page, where you will find all the necessary information.