



Spring 2015

ONE DEGREE MORE GRANTS

Wiltshire Community Foundation, through the **One Degree More** Grants Programme, awards grants to children and young people to support their education. In all cases applicants must be Wiltshire or Swindon residents and either they or their families must be claiming a means-tested benefit. See eligibility criteria on the website.

Scholarship Grants are open to young people who are under 25 and are about to start or are currently enrolled on an Undergraduate Degree course at a UK university. Grants are awarded to assist with general living expenses, travel costs, books and course costs whilst at university for the duration of the course.

Scholarship grant applications are now open, see www.odm.wiltshirecf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant

Vocational Grants are open to individuals aged between 16 and 25 and can be awarded for course related costs and equipment, travel and field trips or other costs related to a course at college, 6th form or training through an apprenticeship. Applications are for up to £1,000.

Personal Support Grants are open to individuals up to the age of 25 who have a disability or additional learning need, or who have been in the care of the local authority. In the past we have funded IT equipment to enable study at home; paid for specialist courses; school trips and vocational items.



IMPORTANT DATES

April Education Panel

17th April 2015

Closing date for Expressions of Interest - Friday 20th March 2015. Completed application forms to be received by 3rd April 2015.

Further Panels will be held in July 2015 and October 2015

****Scholarship Applications****

These are now open. Please complete the Expression of Interest at <https://odm.wiltshirecf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant>

Closing date for Eols—17th April. Completed applications by 15th May. Panel date 3rd July

JANUARY EDUCATION PANEL

The **Education Panel in January** awarded grants for Personal Support and Vocational costs, including —

- * An award for a MacBook Pro for home use for a young person in KS4 who, through a debilitating illness, is not able to attend school regularly. This will help with their GCSE studies, especially music and graphics
- * An award for IT equipment and related software to enable a young person in year 11 complete homework and study at home instead of staying late at school to use facilities there. Their situation was also complicated by disabilities and caring responsibilities.
- * An award to contribute towards travel to a college out of county that is meeting this young person needs in terms of educational needs and sporting prowess. They have had a similar grant previously and have now progressed onto a vocational course to complement their sports activities; this will provide more opportunities for employment in the future.

ABOUT US

Wiltshire Community Foundation has made a significant contribution to local communities by making grants of £10 million since 1991.

In 2013/2014 Wiltshire Community Foundation awarded grants of £800,000 to 157 local groups and 387 individuals across the county.

Giving money and support where Wiltshire people need it most, from Tidworth to Trowbridge; Swindon to Salisbury

So far in this financial year 2014-15, we have awarded over £8,000 in Vocational grants and £4,000 in Personal Support Grants to young people

We have a current grant commitment for students at university of over £200,000. This will be paid in stages over the duration of their degree courses. This is helping 50 local students achieve at university

THANKYOU & HELLO THERE!

Along with acknowledging 'thank you' notes from grant recipients, we would like to thank those who help us (to help young people)

- staff in schools who alert young people to our grants
- Advisers and support workers in various organisations who share the information on our grants
- Panel members who give their time voluntarily to consider applications and determine the awards

We need you to help us reach those in need...

A presentation was given recently to year 13 students in a school about Scholarship Grants—this has resulted in applications for Scholarships for September 2015 university entry

Recent meetings with SEN teams and other teams of professionals that work with young people have resulted in further enquiries and applications.

CONTACT DETAILS

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UPDATES ON PAST GRANT

RECIPIENTS

As well as the success stories of some of the university graduates, we can also show that our grants make many small degrees of change to a young person's education and progression—

- * A year 6 pupil with SEN (grant for IT and specialist software for use at home) has been observed by the SENCO of their future secondary school and it was noted how much their confidence in using IT has increased, to the point that they can now do certain work on their own.
- * An A level student (living independently and awarded a grant for IT and related resources) reported improving their grades by being able to work flexibly and more efficiently at home (and without school network/IT restrictions). This will greatly aid their progression to university.
- * A 22 year old in supported living and taking life-skills based courses has improved greatly in their confidence and personal growth (and has been able to record this through photographic evidence and see it for themselves). They had a grant to pay for a specialist course, including the transport to access it and IT kit to print photographs as a record of achievement.

These are some of the many success stories we hear when we follow up the awards we have made.