



Winter 2014

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.

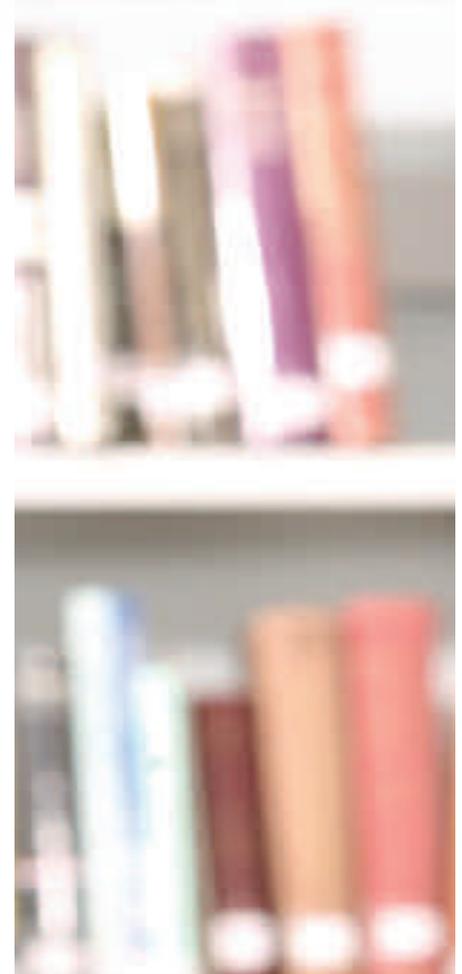
Scholarship Grants are open to young people who are under 25 and are about to start or are currently enrolled on an Undergraduate Degree course at a UK university.

Funding can be sought for up to £5,000 per year for the duration of the course, however, amounts applied for and awarded are normally far lower. Grants are awarded to assist with general living expenses, travel costs, books and course costs whilst at university.

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. Applicants must either live in Swindon or Wiltshire, or be in education funded by one of these councils, and need financial support for costs to support their education.

In the past we have funded IT equipment to enable study at home; paid for specialist courses; school trips and vocational items.



Important Dates

January Education Panel

16th January 2015.

Closing date for application forms Friday 12th December 2014.

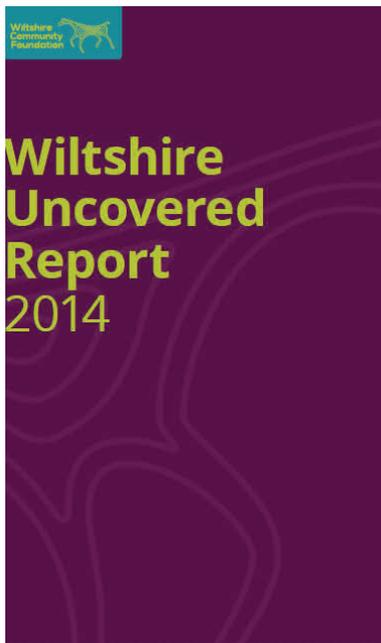
April Education Panel

17th April 2015

Closing date for Expressions of Interest Friday 20th March 2015.

Completed application forms must be received by Friday 3rd April 2015.

*Future Panels will be held in ...
July 2015 (includes Scholarship)
and October 2015*



HAVE YOU SEEN THE WILTSHIRE UNCOVERED REPORT?

This is available on our website <https://wiltshirecf.org.uk/node/154>

We believe it is the first report to give a comprehensive view of issues facing local communities across the county of Wiltshire, including.....

- “Raising the aspirations of our young people to achieve their academic and working potential is the key to a thriving economy. Our median academic performance, which is significantly lower in deprived areas, remains a challenge for the future wealth and prosperity of our county”
- “Deprived people do not necessarily live in deprived areas. The majority of people claiming benefits do not live in areas identified as disadvantaged. Pockets of serious deprivation exist within apparently wealthy communities, but are statistically invisible and therefore services and facilities are not provided for them”

“4 wards in Swindon and 2 in Wiltshire are in the top 5% most deprived wards in the country”. Wiltshire Uncovered

Some facts and figures

- * We have supported over 200 young people with our grants
- * ..including over 100 at university

- * In July 2014 we committed to support 19 students going up to university for the duration of their studies — totalling over £125,000

The UCAS Application Report for 2013 indicated that

- * nationally, 40% of 18 & 19 year olds progress on to university
- * the South West is one of the lowest regions for progression at age 18 to university (at 26.8%) — along with Wales, the North East and Scotland
- * the South East, East, London and North West regions all have over 30% progression at age 18 to university

OCTOBER EDUCATION PANEL

The education panel in October awarded grants for Personal Support and Vocational costs, including—

Vanessa is 22 years old and lives in Swindon applied for a grant to help her to attend Pennyhooks Farm for work experience. She will attend 13 fortnightly sessions at the Farm and buy a printer to print off her photography work for her portfolio. The Panel wanted to support her travel costs and awarded an additional amount for this purpose.

Hannah is 10 years old, lives with her family in Swindon and receives Disability Living Allowance. She is at Junior School and the grant would be used for a laptop and Clicker 6 software to help support her education.

Kate, 16, received a grant to contribute towards fees for a specialist dance course: she has ambition (and talent) and hopes to work in musical theatre

Phoenix, 9, was given a grant for a laptop to help her do homework when she is not well enough to attend school. This has helped immensely and she is now working up towards age-related levels and feeling that she ‘fits-in’ much more



We have made

grants for

- *Tools and equipment for vocational courses*
- *Specialist IT equipment and/or software*
- *Course fees, course trips*
- *as well as supporting living and course related costs at university*



HOW WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER

We need you to help us reach those in need

- If you know of a young person at school who would benefit from some financial support to purchase items, equipment or pay for costs for education purposes, then please let us know
- We are happy to attend parent evenings, for example Higher Education finance events, Post-16 evenings, or meet with tutors and support staff in school and college to alert them to the grants available.
- We were invited recently to a Wiltshire Young Adult Carers event, organised by Carer Support, Wiltshire. One of the young carers who attended was very worried about the idea of going on to university and felt that it would be beyond her financially. The Scholarship Grant and application process was explained to her and she was also put in contact with an existing recipient who is also a young carer. She will now be applying for a grant to support her studies at university and is much clearer about the financial aspects of going away to university and support available.

Updates on past graduates

Supported by a Scholarship Grant, Henry studied Biology at Bristol University, graduating in 2013.

He went on to complete a masters in Research in Cancer Sciences at the University of Birmingham, and is now taking a PhD at the Medical School at the University of Southampton.



Rebecca graduated in 2013 with a first in Social Work and is now working as a Social Worker in Somerset.



Natasha received a Scholarship Grant through the Shuker fund. She studied for a BSc in Food Science at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff and is now working as a Process Development Technologist for a large Wiltshire food manufacturing/processing company



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

Thank You's

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

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

Contact details

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