The Alternative Guide to Postgraduate FUNDING
Student GRANTS from CHARITY!

Winner of numerous Awards and Prizes!

Details of over 500 sources of Funding

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2018 › 2019

Tenth Edition of the BESTSELLING Student Guide for CHARITY FUNDING

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by LUKE BLAXILL & SHUZHI ZHOU
The Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding
by Luke Blaxill and Shuzhi Zhou
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The authors are Luke Blaxill and Shuzhi Zhou, who recently graduated from King’s College London with PhDs in History and Neuroscience respectively. Between them, they have won more than 50 awards from charity and raised over £50,000 to support their studies. They use this experience to help others do the same. Hundreds already have: you can too.

The Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding is the only guidebook currently available that deals with student funding from charities. It has sold over 500,000 printed or electronic copies, been licensed at 100 universities. It has also won two major prizes: the King’s College London Graduate School Prize and the Lion’s Den Business Competition seed fund award. It has also been featured in six national newspapers, and two television channels.

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STUDYING a postgraduate course can help you learn new skills, increase employability, or kick-start an academic career.

The challenge of course, is how to pay for it. Fees for a full-time home student for 2018/19 will average around £7,500, and more than double that if you’re from overseas or doing certain taught Masters courses. Independent maintenance - housing, food, utilities, study expenses - will be at least £12,000 year. Scholarships from universities or research councils are becoming extremely rare, and fewer than one postgraduate in fourteen manages to obtain one. While the new Postgraduate Loans System is welcome, only £10,609 a year will be available for Masters (and still less for PhDs) when the true total cost of study will be much greater. Even if they are prepared to get into yet more debt, most students will continue to struggle to meet the high cost of postgraduate study.

The Alternative Guide - now celebrating its tenth edition - is designed to tackle this problem by helping current and prospective postgraduates think outside the box about funding. The Guide is all about 'alternative funding' from the voluntary sector: the thousands of charities out there which make grants to students. Charities are all around us, helping good causes where they find them. One of them might be your postgraduate study!

Charities are sometimes a bit unusual: obscure, hard to find, and funded by ‘old money’. But there will be dozens which will consider sponsoring you- whatever your course, university, nationality or background, and whether you need money for fees, maintenance, research costs, travel, or conferences.

But because charities are so different from ‘conventional’ funding sources, they require a unique approach: that’s where we can help. We’ll take you through identifying charities, to finding them, to applying strongly and correctly. Revised for 2018-19, the Guide features 158 pages and a refreshed ‘Top 500’ list of charity funding sources!

So, whether you need £3,000 to cover the cost of a research trip, or funding for full fees or maintenance for a whole PhD or Masters, this book can help! We are recent students ourselves, and won 55 charity awards between us. The Alternative Guide - as its name suggests - is a bit unusual, and a bit unconventional. But if you’re creative and determined then you’ve got a good chance of joining the hundreds of students who have taken the often overlooked alternative path to funding their studies!

Good Luck!

_Luke Blaxill and Shuzhi Zhou_
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How to fund postgraduate study is a crucial question for the vast majority of students. Securing scholarships, bursaries, or grants to cover your fees, maintenance, and research costs during your Masters or PhD can be extremely challenging, especially if you have been rejected, or are ineligible to apply for a scholarship from a public funder, such as a university or research council. This guide is designed to explore the alternatives available through the voluntary sector - from charities, trusts, foundations and independent bodies - which will consider funding your fees, maintenance, research, travel, and conference expenses. There are thousands of charities out there that give out millions of pounds in grants every year. However, relatively few students know they exist, or have much idea how to apply to them strongly. Why? Simply because - before this book - there has been very little guidance available. Few students realised this kind of funding was even a possibility. We’re happy to say that now this is changing.

You can apply to charities and trusts if you have an anticipated deficit in your funding package either for the current academic year or for one in the future. A deficit is simply where your anticipated expenditure exceeds your anticipated income. So if you are struggling to finance your PhD or Masters, fund your research or travel expenses, or budget for your fourth year of PhD study, there are almost certainly bodies out there who will be
prepared to help you whatever your subject, nationality, age, or academic record. Whether you are looking for a few hundred pounds to pay for a research trip, or are trying to raise thousands to finance a whole PhD or Masters, you will gain a great deal by looking at what the voluntary sector can offer you.

The trouble is knowing where and how to begin. This guide is intended to solve that problem: it will show you not just how to find bodies, but also outline the winning techniques we’ve developed through working with hundreds of students and dozens of charities. This will give your applications the best possible chance.

Generally, there are two types of grants you can win from the voluntary sector. The first type is general support for your fees and maintenance, and this is the main emphasis of this guide. These grants will be useful for any student who does not enjoy ‘full funding’ at research council rates (i.e. payment of fees and a stipend of £1,000 or more a month). The second type is to support travel, research expenses, and conference attendance which you can apply to even if you already have full fund-
ing. Ultimately, finding and securing either type of grant involves similar techniques, and the guidance provided in the coming chapters applies to both.

On a cautionary note, it is important to remember that although the voluntary sector is an extensive and underrated source of student funding, it does have its limitations. Charities seldom have the resources of big government bodies like research councils, and individual awards are unlikely to exceed £2000 each. If you want to use charities to fund an entire PhD or Masters, it's very unlikely that you will gain 100% of the money you need to cover the full costs of fees and living which will usually be around £15,000-20,000 per year, and much more if you're from overseas. What is possible - with determination, perseverance, and creativity - is to build up a portfolio of modest awards from a number of bodies, and you can raise a good portion of what you need. If you
supplement this with work and savings, you can finance postgraduate study without a full scholarship.

The contents of this guide are self-explanatory. In section 2, we begin by outlining public funding sources like research councils and discussing how you can maximise your chances. In section 3, we introduce the diverse world of voluntary sector funding before offering advice on finding and approaching these bodies in sections 4 and 5. Sections 6 and 7 describe how to make a strong application, and sections 8 and 9 illustrate this further by showing example personal statements, and an example financial statement. In section 10, we present a list of around 500 charities and trusts, and some other useful links, which will get you off to a great start when you begin your hunt for funders. Sections 11 and 12 briefly explore two other important allies in balancing your budget: effective cost-cutting and part-time work. Next, Section 13 considers some innovative new approaches for fundraising if you really want to push the boat out, such as crowdfunding. Finally, Sections 14 and 15 consider the wider positive impact that securing charity funding might have on your career, and deal with frequently asked questions.
Postgraduate Funding

The Alternative Approach
This section introduces the world of charities and trusts. It begins with a brief overview of publicly available funding, before moving onto alternative sources, and how they differ. We also discuss three different overarching strategies for funding: the industrial approach, the targeted approach, and the mixed approach. Decide which one is best for you!
Although this guide is principally concerned with the voluntary sector, it is useful to briefly discuss what funding is publicly available. The principal funders of postgraduate study for Home or EU students are the research councils. There are seven in the UK: the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), the Medical Research Council (MRC), the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), and the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC). These bodies award studentships which provide full funding (3-4 years for a PhD and 9-12 months for a Masters), covering your fees and maintenance, include a budget for research expenses, transferable skills training, and travel. A small number of the largest educational charities - for example the Wellcome Trust, Nuffield Foundation and Leverhulme Trust - also occasionally award studentships at the same (or better) rates, and universities often have their own internal competitions, sometimes funded by alumni donations. In the Sciences, some large companies, often in medicine or industry, also sometimes fully finance Masters and PhDs on certain topics in which they have an interest, or fund them collaboratively with a research council or university. If you are lucky enough to gain a full public scholarship, then your postgraduate funding problems will be largely solved, so it’s certainly worth exploring the possibilities.
In the past, it was necessary for students to apply directly to Research Councils to gain a scholarship, but now they give money to universities and institutions, who decide who to fund themselves. Studentships fall into two main categories: **The first type** is a quota or block grant based system (sometimes also called a 'Doctoral Training Partnership') where a university department or faculty (or occasionally a non-HEI research centre like a museum or a zoo) secures awards in advance and distributes and administers them itself. The department in question will usually have an excellent research rating, and will secure multiple funded studentships per year, and offer a good range of training facilities. **The second type** consist of dedicated PhD studentships attached to projects under named supervisors at particular universities. These projects can be larger research grants on major projects, potentially with several postdocs, PhDs, and Masters studentships attached to them. This setup is quite usual in the Sciences, and the student forms part of a research team, often working in close collaboration with others. On the other hand, these studentships can also simply be stand-alone projects, where the supervisor has secured funding from the university or research council for a single student to research a particular topic.
Whichever category of public funding you go for, you must bear in mind that the competition is likely to be extremely fierce, especially for the AHRC and ESRC, with only a small minority of applicants being successful. Indeed, hundreds of funded PhD and Masters places have been cut by research councils in the last couple of years in light of the economic climate, and many internal university competitions have been discontinued, making things tougher than ever before. Masters funding in particular has been drastically scaled back, with several (such as the BBSRC and the ESRC) now no longer supporting stand-alone Masters programmes. Instead, Masters scholarships are now combined with 4 year PhD programmes, where a student completes the Masters course in year one, before transferring to a PhD in year two. If you just want funding for a Masters on its own, and do not intend to go on to do a PhD, then your public funding options will probably be extremely limited.

Note that you cannot combine a public scholarship with a government Masters or a PhD loan.
Considering making an Application

The first thing you should do if you are considering applying for an award is to see what is available at your university department. Because decisions are being made by your university, a strong dialogue between you, your department, and your supervisor or prospective supervisor is absolutely vital. There will be a good deal of general information and advice available through your university's website on how to make your application, but you will gain most through close communication with the people who matter. Once you have asked around (if in doubt, try your departmental administrator as a first point of contact) you ought to have a far better idea of your likely chances of success, and whether you should go to the effort of putting in an application.

The strength of the competition and the ever altering and evolving strategic priorities of your department or research council mean that success can appear somewhat random, and may not necessarily correspond to your academic track record. Much will depend on how ‘fashionable’ your subject is at the moment: it's simply the reality of academic research that certain topics are ‘hotter’ at certain times than others, and this will undoubtedly affect how likely you are to win a scholarship. The research record of your supervisor, and how many PhD students he or she already has, may also be factors. All of this means that candidates with first-class degrees can be rejected, and students with 2:1s (and occasionally 2:2s) can be successful. Also, some universities have quite a lot more funding than others, and much will depend on what is available.

Also, try not to despair if you are rejected despite an excellent CV; it is bitterly disappointing but it happens to lots of
people every year. The fact that you have a good CV and have been rejected in spite of it will stand you in very good stead if you approach the voluntary sector.

**Top Tips**

The first thing to remember when you apply for a research council studentship through the quota-based competition is that it is in your supervisor’s or prospective supervisor’s interest that you are successful. Postgraduate students bring prestige and (potentially) research grants to supervisors and departments. They will be prepared to give you quite a lot of help with your application. Don’t bombard them, but do have a chat on how you will argue your case, and send them draft statements to read over. As a prospective doctoral student, it is always extremely sensible to make prior contact with a supervisor before applying to a university. Although the ‘official’ application system may not require it, in practice it will put you at a tremendous advantage.

If you’re applying for a quota-based studentship at your chosen university, it is important to bear in mind that although you can only apply once for funding from each research council per year, you are sometimes allowed to reapply in subsequent years in the middle of your PhD or part-time masters, even if you were rejected previously. The policy on this varies from place to place, but if your university allows it, it can be possible to become fully-funded after one or more years of self-financing. However, it is obviously perilously risky to begin a course unfunded and be reliant on securing a studentship later on. If you do this, a backup plan is essential.
If your area of research is on the ‘borderline’ of the remits of two research councils (as is sometimes the case, for example, with the AHRC and the ESRC in subjects such as Law, War Studies, and History) you may be able to apply to both in the same year with slightly differently presented applications, thus doubling your chances. If you intend to try this, make sure you discuss it thoroughly with the departments involved.

**Government Postgraduate Loans**

Some subjects - those which are classed as vocational - are eligible for a Career Development Loan (CDL) of £300-£10,000, which can cover fees and maintenance. Your loan is interest-free while you study, but will start to be charged when you graduate at an interest rate of 9.9% per year. You start paying back the loan one month after you leave your course. If you consider a CDL, a possible tip to consider is to take out the maximum amount possible, and put the money you don’t need in a high interest bank account while you study. You aren’t paying interest on the loan during your course, but it can still generate interest for you.
More substantively, since 2016, there’s now a general postgraduate loans system for some Home and EU students. £10,609 is available for Masters Students, and from this year onwards, £25,000 for PhD students. Repayments are 6% of annual income over £21,000 once you graduate, with interest on the loans Retail Price Index plus 3%. This new system resents amongst the biggest shakeup of the postgraduate funding system we’ve seen in a long time: a lot more money (albeit loaned money) is now available to many students.

The first question to ask is naturally whether you are eligible. There are age restrictions, nationality restrictions, and the situation if different for students ordinarily resident in Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. Also, note that you are not allowed to hold a loan if you have a research-council funded award of any type (even a partial fees-only one!) so be careful with the criteria. Read more at the Postgraduate Loans section of the Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding Online, and there is also a very useful list of eligibility criteria on the FindaMasters and FindaPhD websites which in our view is clearer than that provided on the government’s website.

So, if you can have one, do you want one? While seemingly a boon, it’s best to think before you take one out. To start with, you might ask yourself: do I want to get into any more debt than I am already in? If you are happy to take out a further loan, do also bear in mind that the loan is not enough to bankroll a whole course. A full loan of £10,000 for Master's courses will probably take care of your fees, but it will only leave (at best) a few thousand pounds for your maintenance. For a PhD, the full loan will average £8,300 a year if your doctorate takes three years, and £6,250 a year if you take four. But the cost of study overall, when maintenance is also factored in, is likely to be at least double this.
An important point to consider, then, is how to use the loans to potentially leverage more money from charities and trusts to fill the remaining gap you will still have in your funding package. One key advantage a loan gives you is that you now have a bona fide source of finance, and you are not entirely unfunded. Charities are much likelier to back a student who has another source of income (ideally from grants, savings, or part time work) but a loan from a respectable source, like this scheme, will also be acceptable. Put simply, the loan will help reduce the gap between the money you have, and the money you need, and charity will probably be more likely to offer you supplementary awards you need to bridge the remaining gap, than it might have done had your deficit been larger and beyond the charity’s ability to meet.

While the loan might put you in a stronger position to gain charity funding, and indeed might encourage you to apply for a postgraduate course you otherwise might not have done (Masters applications are up nearly a third since the loans were introduced in 2016) do be mindful, as you always should be when beginning a course with a deficit, that you are taking a risk. There is no guarantee other funding will emerge to supplement the loan.
International Students

International students from outside the EU have it tough when it comes to public sources of funding. The Overseas Research Students Award Scheme (ORSAS) which used to exist has now been discontinued, and so the main options for full scholarships from large bodies come from three main sources. The first is, fairly obviously, funding from your own government’s research councils, which will vary from country to country in their availability and scope (in particular, whether you can hold them in the UK). The second are large international bodies such as the Fulbright Commission, Commonwealth Scholarships, Gates Foundation, and Rhodes Scholarship which fund students from a particular country, or group of countries. The third are scholarships from large UK organizations designed to fund exceptional international students to study here, such as Chevening Scholarships, which are funded by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO), or various scholarships administered through the British Council. But in general, while an international student should definitely check out all of the above sources, the academic calibre and luck required to gain funding by one of these routes (especially the second and third) is extremely high, and the competition uniquely fierce.
The Voluntary Sector

The world of Alternative Funding

Historically, Britain has a strong tradition of philanthropy, and there are many thousands of charities, trusts, and foundations which are active today. Some of these voluntary bodies are huge multi-million pound organisations like Oxfam, but most are quite small. They are usually run by volunteers: members of the general public who act as the trustees in their spare time. The charity might be connected to a utilities company like British Gas, a local church, a school, an old merchant’s guild, an academic society, or more or less anything. A large number of charities distribute funds for education, and some of these are prepared to consider postgraduate student applicants. These are the bodies for you.

A number of the better known voluntary bodies may be listed on your university’s funding webpage, but the majority are fairly obscure, difficult to find, and based on quite specific and occasionally somewhat eccentric eligibility criteria. Many are pots of ‘old money’ and make grants by interpreting the wishes of their often long-deceased patrons. In practical terms, this may involve you showing that you are of a certain religion, have resided in a certain part of the country, or have a family link to a particular trade. Some charities look to allocate funds to applicants of a certain nationality, others are exclusive to particular age groups, and some are only available to women. The bottom line is that charities are completely different from public funding sources, and you must treat them entirely differently to have a good chance.
A glance at section 10 of this guide will show you just how diverse charities are. The *Vegetarian Charity*, for example, will only support students with histories of vegetarianism or veganism, and the *Leverhulme Trades Charities Trust* will only make awards to the sons and daughters of grocers, chemists, or commercial travellers.

### Public Funders versus Charities: the main differences

**Public Funders** *(Research Councils, University Scholarships)*

- Usually heavily academic: your research project and/or your academic record are critical.

- Grants are large (fees plus a maintenance grant of £1,000 a month). They are not means-tested. You get the same scholarship regardless of your financial situation.

- Very formal, rigid application process where you must stick to word-limits and cannot provide extra documents/information.

- Extremely competitive. Only a very small number of students gain public funding.

- Slow. You have to apply many months in advance. Decisions are also slow.

- One deadline per year.

- Eligibility criteria is usually not an issue, except in a couple of areas. Awards usually available to all students.

- Well-known, well advertised funds with clear information widely available.

- The seniority of your referees, and their academic profile, can be critical to your success.

- Often will not fund vocational Masters Courses, fourth year PhDs, or research costs.

- There are few bodies: seven research councils, plus universities themselves.
Overall, although there are also many general bodies which will consider any student, the majority of your potential funders will be fairly specific to you, your background, and your studies. Your list of 'target bodies' will therefore probably be quite different from someone else’s, and this is why it's essential to do your own research.

**Charities and Trusts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Charities and Trusts</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Usually much less academic. Your research project and/or your record are much less important.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smaller grants of £500-2,000. Need to win multiple awards (plus yearly renewals) to raise larger sums. Grants are usually means tested: you must show you have a deficit in your funding package for your course (does not apply for research and travel costs.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually informal. You can include extra documents, there are no word limits, and you can be quite creative in your approach. You can even phone them up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competitiveness varies: some are, but others are much less so. The reason few students are funded by charities isn't due to stiff competition, but simply because few know about them!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fast: charities will usually reply in a month, sometimes less.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually multiple deadlines per year: 4, 6, sometimes even 12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility criteria are common. They can sometimes be complex, unusual, or idiosyncratic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Often small, obscure organisations which are quite hard to find out about (they often do not have a website or email address) and which are sometimes a little 'old fashioned'.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who your referees are is much less important.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will fund anything: you just need to make the argument.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tens of thousands of bodies of all kinds and sizes.</td>
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One of the biggest differences between charities and conventional academic scholarships is that charities are often not particularly interested in your subject of research. They are usually not set up with students specifically in mind, and are often simply concerned with helping eligible people who are facing hardship realise their potential in life - especially in relation to training or education. What 'hardship' means is nothing dramatic or extreme: it simply refers to an applicant facing financial difficulties.

In the case of a postgraduate student, hardship will mean that they face a deficit or an anticipated deficit in their funding package in a given academic year. This might be due to fees, living costs, or essential research expenses. If you're reading this, it almost certainly applies to you.

Individual awards are unlikely to exceed £2,000, and most will be £1,000 or less. However, few bodies make contributions of less than £500. The trick is to secure backing from multiple sources and thereby accumulate a more sizeable sum, especially because most bodies will renew the awards each year. This might sound like a lot of work, but once you have assembled an application to one charity, you will probably be able to re-use substantial parts of it in your applications to others. Once you've done a couple of applications, others are quite quick!

The final big difference between charities and public scholarships is speed. Charities often have 4, 6, or even 12 deadlines a year. They also usually reply within a month, so they are perfect for quick fundraising, even for a Master's course with a few months remaining.

The table on the previous page summarises the main differences between charities and public scholarships. If this all seems a little unusual, don't worry! The rest of the Guide will go through each stage of the charity funding process, and they will soon seem a lot less mysterious!
Funding from Charities: Determining your Overall Strategy

To begin your hunt for funding, you must firstly ask yourself what kind of a student fundraiser you are. This will depend on what your current funding situation is, and whether you are a current or a prospective student. Consult the flow chart below:

**Student A:** Has full funding (tuition fees and maintenance covered), and needs a small amount of funding (less than £4,000 per annum) for conferences, fieldwork, research costs etc. They may also require fourth year PhD writing-up costs, which are fees and maintenance for up to a year. The strength of student A’s starting position means his/her hunt for funding will be easier than for Student B and C. We therefore recommend adopting the targeted approach (see below) and cherry-picking a selection of the most promising charities. Avoid charities with any emphasis on 'hardship' (unless circumstances are exceptional) as you already have a full stipend. However, learned societies will probably be a particularly useful source.

**Student B:** Has partial funding (e.g. fees-only scholarship) and
requires additional money (perhaps between £4,000 and £8,000 per annum) to top-up his or her funding to the equivalent of a full scholarship at research-council levels. The extra money needed might be for fees, maintenance, research, conference and writing-up costs. Student B faces a stiffer challenge than A, but still has the key advantage of starting with some funding, which will make it easier to unlock further sponsorship from charity. We advise employing the **mixed approach** outlined below. Also, consider supplementing your income with part-time work, and do not be afraid to also consider your university’s Hardship Fund (formally the ‘Access to Learning Funding’) if you feel this might be appropriate. This scheme can be useful for postgraduates who have secured the majority of their funding, but need additional help to alleviate unexpected financial difficulties.

**Student C:** Is entirely self-funding, might be relying on part-work, savings, winning grants, and could be studying part-time. He or she needs substantial funding (more than £8,000 per annum) for fees, maintenance, conferences and research costs. Clearly, Student C faces the toughest challenge of all, and it may be that he or she has exhausted all conventional public funding routes. If you are Student C, you must be disciplined, imaginative, and determined, even though it may feel you are swimming against the tide. We recommend adopting the **industrial approach** outlined below, and applying to as many charities as possible. Look and see what opportunities are available at your university at departmental, school, and faculty level, even if you can only raise a small amount for research expenses- this might get you going! Also, consider other imaginative ways of supplementing your income, such as through crowdfunding. The 'Innovative New Approaches' section later in this Guide might give you some pointers here if you want to go the extra mile. Overall, be pragmatic, and, crucially, have a backup plan for if the funding you hope to gain does not emerge: for example, switching to part-time status.
Funding from Charities: Implementing the Strategy

Once you have decided whether you are Student A, B, or C, you are then in a position to consider what your overall strategy as a fundraiser should consist of. This is important, because it determines how much time and effort you want to devote to gaining funding. Naturally, the more time you put in, the more money you will probably get! If you need a lot of funding - like Student B and C above - and are prepared to invest a lot of time to fundraising, then the industrial approach - where you leave no stone unturned - might be the best option, or perhaps the mixed approach. However, if you are Student A and you only require research expenses (or you simply have little time available) then a more targeted and selective approach might suit you better. Three main overarching funding 'strategies' are suggested below. Decide which one will suit you!

1. Industrial Approach
The industrial approach is for a student who wants to maximise the amount of funding he or she gains from charities. It involves spreading the net far and wide, finding as many charities as possible and applying to dozens of them, literally turning yourself into a funding factory! You can start trying to get funding in advance of your course, and continue applying throughout. This approach is for the highly determined, adventurous, and creative student. The main drawback is naturally the considerable commitment of time and effort, and the disappointment of inevitably hitting numerous dead-ends.
Who it will suit: Students who want to use charities to fund their entire course, or a substantial portion of it, and who can spare time amounting to at least a couple of weeks per academic year. In a nutshell, you must be prepared to make applying to charities an important part of your life before and/or during your course. This is a complex, long-term, sustainable strategy, and thus perhaps suits PhD students or part-time Masters students best.

Potential Yield: £4,000-10,000 per year
(Occasionally more than £10,000, but this is rare)

Pros: Maximise funding, maximise opportunities, minimises the effort needed on each individual application. Makes it easy to react to new opportunities.

Cons: Time, effort, expense of postage, printing etc. Frequent rejections and disappointment.

2. Targeted approach

The targeted approach is the most time-efficient method of obtaining funding from charities. It involves using targeted searching via a small set of the key websites, books, and the list in Section 10. Your strategy is to cherry-pick the bodies which are most likely to offer funding, avoiding the wasted time and dead ends which are an inevitable part of the two other more adventurous approaches. Because you only approach the most likely bodies, your success-rate to application ratio is likely to be high.

The major downside is naturally that you limit yourself only to a small number of potential funders, and decrease the opportunity of stumbling upon the obscure and the unexpected.

Who it will suit: Students who want to use charities to raise a small amount of extra funding. Funded students looking for conference, research, or travel expenses are an excellent example, as are those who are partially funded and who need a ‘top-up’. The targeted approach can also suit busy students who can spare little time to finding funding. This makes it ideal for one-year Masters, fourth-year PhD students, and students who work part-time.
Potential Yield: £500-3,000 per year

Pros: Easy and fast, high per-application success rate, much less effort required, less wasted time and dead ends.
Cons: Limited financial returns, unlikely to secure funding from unexpected sources.

3. Mixed approach
The mixed approach sits in-between the industrial and targeted approaches and essentially attempts to get the best of both worlds. You start your hunt for funding by targeting the most obvious bodies, and cast the net wider as and when it is needed. For example, you might set aside a week where you make a lot of applications, and then not bother thinking about charities until the next academic year, rather than making them a permanent part of your life as you do with the industrial approach. Alternatively, you might put in a lot of effort at the start of your course or in advance of it to secure some funders, and then simply reapply to those same bodies in subsequent years. The advantage of the mixed approach might be that you get perhaps 75% of the funding you would have managed with an industrial approach, while spending only 40% of the time.

Who it will suit: Students who want top-up funding, students looking for fourth year PhD funding, Masters Students, students who prefer to put a lot of effort into alternative funding for a few weeks and then forget about it and concentrate on their course.

Potential Yield: £1,000-£7,000

Pros: Tries to get the best of both worlds - potentially gaining great returns for limited effort.
Cons: Difficult to get the balance right, makes it harder to react to new funding opportunities that appear.
FINDING ALTERNATIVE FUNDING

One of the greatest challenges in the funding process is finding funders! Many charities are obscure, and not listed online. This section gives invaluable advice on finding charities using the internet, printed directories, and asking specialist bodies for guidance. It also shows you how to initially approach bodies once you’ve found them—vital but often overlooked first step.
Hunting for Alternative Funding Sources

Searching on the internet, in the library, and asking for advice

Finding the charities and trusts that will consider making you a grant is probably the most challenging aspect of voluntary sector postgraduate fundraising. There are tens of thousands of active charitable bodies in the UK, but only a small minority will be applicable to you. Given that there are no definitive (or even particularly comprehensive) charity search engines, add to that the fact that many bodies have no website or email address, and you might be forgiven for thinking that you were hunting for a needle in a haystack. Finding bodies is certainly a challenge, but you will soon get somewhere if you adopt a systematic and targeted hunting strategy: you’d be surprised by what you can find with a few internet searches. That said, you must be prepared to spend a good number of hours searching if you are to achieve the best results.

Your mission, initially, should be to produce a long list of the postal (and email, if possible) addresses of potential funders. Section 10 of this guide provides an excellent starting point. However, if you want to raise larger amounts of money, it is essential you spread the net much wider and hunt yourself. In general, do not discount a charity unless you can see that it is inappro-
appropriate, or obviously rules you out, because many are quite flexible on how they distribute their funds and occasionally will make exceptions to their own rules. One condition you must be especially mindful of, however, is whether a charity says that it makes **awards to individuals**, because the majority only grant money to organisations or other charities, and are thus not a viable option.

### Looking online

The first place to look is on the internet. This will require many hours of tedious trawling, but persevere. Googling is all very well, but you are unlikely to find anything much beyond the obvious low-lying fruit. You will get a lot further with funding databases and lists. Your university's funding webpage is a good starting point. Regardless of how much you find here, it's also well worth checking out the equivalent pages of other universities because some are quite extensive. Always make sure, however, that any new funders you do find are not limited only to students from that institution.

Next, pay a visit to **Scholarship Search**. This site contains a great deal of information, but tends to omit a lot of potentially useful leads if you use the search feature. Instead, just browse the lists of ‘Hardship Funds’ and ‘Graduate Funds’ and any other categories that look promising. You will have to sift through a great deal of useless text to derive anything useful. **Postgraduatescholarships.co.uk** will probably be more useful, particularly the ‘General Funders’ section. **Postgraduatefunding.com** also has a useful database. Just remember that although some of these sites have good searching facilities, it can be safer to simply browse the lists manually. This approach is tedious, but avoids missing anything out!
Researchprofessional.com is also an excellent resource for finding funding specifically for conferences, research costs, and travel if you are a research student, or even a postdoc. This resource isn't free, but your university probably subscribes to it. Login from a campus PC.

The last of the student funding databases you should look at is Unigrants.co.uk. This site is particularly useful for finding charities which make awards based on where you live (or have lived in the past) and also has a long list of voluntary bodies with a more academic emphasis, subdivided by subject area.

You should also consult some more general charity search engines as well. By far the most useful for postgraduates is turn2us which focuses on bodies which make grants to individuals to help with things like living expenses, rent, bills, and childcare. Many of the bodies listed are benevolent societies which will support those with a family link to a particular trade or profession from doctors, bankers, builders, engineers, or lecturers. Whatever your background, it's highly likely you'll find one or two of these societies for you. There are even charities listed here connected with utilities companies which may help you pay particular bills- for example the Anglia Water Trust and the EDF Energy Trust.
Looking in the Library

The second important place to look is your local library (i.e. a good library close to where you live and in the same local authority). There will be several enormous tomes - in particular the *Grants Register* and the *Directory of Grant Making Trusts* - which will probably be stacked together on the same shelf. These books are like telephone directories for charities. Each book will have a dedicated section for educational grants or educational charities and this will contain many hundreds of bodies. You should also check out the *Guide to Grants for Individuals in Need* which, although not aimed at funding for education, is an excellent source for bodies which are often not listed anywhere else.

Looking in these books is important because many of the bodies you will find are not listed anywhere online. It is often easy in this day and age to view the internet as definitive, but with the voluntary sector this could not be further from the truth. Many charities are quite ‘traditional’ in the way they operate, and the more obscure ones often do not have any online presence. This will doubtless change in the future, but for the time being it is essential to investigate these library directories if you want to extend your hunt beyond the better known bodies.

It will probably take you a couple of days of solid reading to trawl through all of the useful books, but persevere. This may be quite a valuable exercise if you are an international student, as these books also list a very large number of charities and trusts from overseas which are only available to students of a certain nationality. Always make sure the books you are reading are the most recent versions, because information on deadlines and application procedures is very ephemeral and
subject to change. Note down any useful sounding bodies, along with their contact details. By now your list of potential funders ought to be getting quite long!

Your final port of call at the library should be to ask a librarian to show you any local books about charities. These contain information which will apply only to residents of your local authority. Local charities and trusts will probably be the most obscure and little-known of any you will encounter and may well sound rather old-fashioned or slightly bizarre. However, you may discover a body that has almost been forgotten, and has few competing demands on its funds. As a rule, these small local charities tend to have somewhat looser eligibility criterias and protocols than the larger national ones, and may well consider anybody so long as they are local. If you have a second address (perhaps with your parents or guardians) you could try looking at these local books in a library there as well.

**Learned Societies and Associations**

Each scholarly discipline will be represented by learned societies, for example the Royal Historical Society, Royal Geographical Society, the Biochemical Society, and the Society for Neuroscience. They are easy to find, and you can gain a lot just by Googling for the words ‘society’ or ‘association’ with the name of your subject and ‘funding’. Also, just ask around at your department, and you will
quickly establish which the best-known learned societies are, and probably a few hints and tips along the way.

Learned societies are principally concerned with the general promotion and support of their discipline at a graduate and post-doctoral level. Many of them hold research seminars, organise conferences, and maintain libraries or collections. If you’re looking to fund extra research expenses, international research travel or conference attendance, these societies may well be your most promising initial port of call. Some societies will only support eligible members, so, you may have to pay a small fee to join (often at a special student rate). It’s also worth remembering that many of them give prizes for the best student paper delivered at their seminars or conferences, or the best student contribution to any journals they administer.

For research trips, it is also worth remembering that museums, collections, and the conferences themselves often run internal competitions for bursaries to support attendance or visits, so it is always worth asking them. This funding may be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, so planning ahead is advantageous.

If your university subscribes to it, Research Professional a very helpful tool for finding learned society funding, and in locating internal bursaries administered by conferences and collections. Just visit Research Professional from a campus computer to be automatically logged-on.
Seeking Advice

Finally, it is well-worth simply asking around for advice on where to find funding. The first place to try should be your school, faculty, or department—probably the administrator. They may have knowledge of certain subject-specific bodies which have funded their graduates in the past. Many academic departments have long-established links with subject-specific learned societies, and may know quite a bit about any student funding they might offer. Another good place to try is your university’s careers service. They may also have a few charity directories available, such as the Grants Register.

More substantively, universities often have small pots of funding which exist at departmental, school, and faculty level—usually for conference and research expenses. Check each of these out as soon as you can to scope out your options. These small awards can be an excellent way to ‘get the ball rolling’ with your fundraising more generally. If you win an award from your university, you can say that when you apply to charity, which makes it look like you already have a backer when you otherwise would be entirely unfunded. This helps give you credibility, and makes it more likely that the charity will support you. Indeed, this also works in reverse. University schemes for research, travel, and conferences will be more likely to back candidates who plan to raise some of the required funding from elsewhere, rather than simply asking the university to pay for it all.

It is also an excellent idea to contact the education division of your local council to ask if they have any funds for postgraduate study (you can find the contact details on Direct.gov.uk). Councils occasionally act as the trustees of local charities, and often have information about philanthropic local community groups. A lot will depend on speaking to the right person (councils get a lot of
Hunting for Alternative Funding Sources

funding-related calls from undergraduate students, as you might imagine!) but if you mention you are interested in local charities that support postgraduates, they ought to be able to help.

In fact, you might also consider approaching local libraries, societies, town halls, and any organisation which has links to municipal affairs. There are often people who work or volunteer there who are very knowledgeable on local lore, and can sometimes act as invaluable sources of advice and information on local philanthropic associations. Indeed, the same can often also be said for charities, who may themselves know of other bodies similar to them, or who make grants in the local area.

A further place you could try is your local Parish Council. Parish Councils cover about 35% of the postcodes in England (especially in more rural areas) and form the most basic tier of local government. They sometimes administer local charities, and are often very responsive to student applicants, even though they might not have much money to give away. To find out what funding may be available, you should contact the clerk by letter or email. To find the clerk’s contact details, ask your local council (i.e. your local authority) and they will be able to put you in touch. You can try contacting the Parish Councils that apply to you term time address and your permanent address, thus doubling your chances of potentially striking lucky.

It is also well worth checking and posting on the forums at sites like thestudentroom.co.uk, prospects.co.uk, postgraduateforum.com, moneysavingexpert.com, all of which often feature topics on graduate funding. You may well pick up some more good recommendations from other students.

"Get advice from
• Your department
• Your local Council
• Local Associations
• On forums"
Initially Approaching Funding Bodies

Making sure you're eligible to apply

Once you have basic information on potential funders - hopefully a fairly long list of contact details - the next step is to see how many you are actually eligible to apply to. Many charities, as we have seen, have quite specific eligibility criteria which are not listed upfront, so expect many promising-sounding bodies to fall by the wayside when you investigate them further. But with luck, you will get a few positive and friendly responses, and from these, you can begin to make some applications. Once you have even got this far, your chances of eventually securing an award are very reasonable indeed!

It is essential to approach a promising-looking body with a brief initial letter or email, stating your name,
your course, year of study, nationality, some brief details about your research (if appropriate), and what exactly you need funding for. Very often, students simply apply without contacting the charity first, only to find that they were ineligible, thus wasting all their effort.

This letter is **not** the place to forward any major arguments- save them for when you actually apply! Simply say that you are looking to overcome a deficit in your funding package for your postgraduate course. Ask them if they think you are eligible, and if so, to send you application forms or instructions on how to apply. If you have an email address for your charity, you can use that, but if not, post a letter and include a stamped self-addressed envelope for them to reply. Letters in the post are often treated more seriously than emails, which are easy to simply delete or forget about. If you do use email, but do not receive a reply within a week or so, you should then try a letter in the post.

The letters are best produced en masse, using a neat and professional-looking template where you simply change a few words each time you write to a different body. Some examples are provided overleaf. Post them, and await results. Some charities will respond in a few days, others in a few weeks, but if you haven’t heard anything within a month, you probably never will.

**Example Enquiry Letters**
The type of enquiry letter you need to write will depend on your circumstances, although they all will have a large amount in common. Here are four examples from students from a variety of backgrounds to give you an idea of how to lay your letter out. However - to make yourself look authentic - please don’t copy these letters!
EXAMPLE 1: Prospective Masters Student

Note how the candidate makes his decision to embark on a Masters appear set in stone, and how, even in a short letter, he gives the impression of having planned out his funding package.

HUGH CLARK
BA (Hons)

46 Astraiopolis House,
Druid Lane,
Cambridge CB24 5QW

Russell and Sinead Charitable Settlement

13/07/2019

telephone: 0004 234 8909
mobile: 07098 642424
email: hugh.clark@gmail.com

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am starting a Master’s Course in Architecture at the University of Swanage at the end of September. I need this qualification in order to realise my ambition of working in Construction, ideally in Project Management. I’m from the Republic of Ireland, and am 22 years old.

I have already raised most of the money I need to fund the course, but I am still looking to overcome a small deficit in my funding package to ensure I am able to complete it. From my research, I believe I may be eligible to apply to you for financial support. I would be very grateful if you could send me information on:

1.) Your eligibility criteria
2.) Deadlines
3.) How I might go about applying, including an application form (if applicable)

I have enclosed a self addressed envelope, although you are welcome to email or telephone me if you feel that is more appropriate.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Hugh Clark

Hugh Clark
EXAMPLE 2: Current Masters Student
This student's letter is broadly similar, although the tone can be slightly more forceful as she has already started her course. Note that it is good to mention your career goal, even if in reality you still aren't sure!

LENAD HAYNES  
BA (Hons.)

Lamb Endowment Trust
13/11/2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a current Masters student studying Media Studies at the University of Milton. I'm 21 years old, am British, and my goal is to work in Television, ideally in Production. This MA is an essential entrance qualification.

Although I have raised most of the money I need to fund the course, I am looking to overcome a small deficit in my funding package to ensure I am able to complete it. From my research, I believe I may be eligible to apply to you for financial support. I would be very grateful if you could send me information on:

1.) Your eligibility criteria
2.) Deadlines
3.) How I might go about applying, including an application form (if applicable)

I have enclosed a self addressed envelope, although you are welcome to email or telephone me if you feel that is more appropriate.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Lena Haynes

Lena Haynes
EXAMPLE 3: Prospective Postgraduate Research Student

The student does not go into the detail of her research in this letter, as this is unnecessary at this stage. Include only basic information on what the research is about, and how it will get you a job.

SIHUA LING
BA (Hons.), MA

14 One-Eyed Lane,
Lynnminster,
L4 2J

Brewers’ and Distillers’ Benevolent Fund

18/07/2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am starting a PhD in Linguistics at the University of Arundel at the end of September. My goal is to lecture Linguistics and go into computer-based corpus linguistics research, for which my PhD is essential. I’m a British National and am 25 years old.

I have already raised most of the money I need to fund the course, but I am still looking to overcome a small deficit in my funding package to ensure I am able to complete it. From my research, I believe I may be eligible to apply to you for financial support. I would be very grateful if you could send me information on:

1.) Your eligibility criteria
2.) Deadlines
3.) How I might go about applying, including an application form (if applicable)

I have enclosed a self addressed envelope, although you are welcome to email or telephone me if you feel that is more appropriate.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours faithfully,

SIHUA LING

Sihua Ling
EXAMPLE 4: Current Postgraduate Research Student

This student has already embarked on a PhD, and so he can say that he has already come a long way - having invested a lot of time and money - and that he needs a grant to help him 'get over the line'.

MEDION PERIVAL
BA (Hons.), MA

46 Destonia Street,
Worksop,
S3 8YH

New Harmony Foundation

09/03/2019

telephone: 0514 284 3888
mobile: 07700 464241
email: medion.perival@bassetlaw.ac.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a current PhD student researching War Studies at the University of Bassetlaw, and am currently in the final year of my course, and aim to finish in 6 months. My goal is to lecture History and War Studies and work at the cutting edge of research, for which my PhD is an essential qualification. I'm from the USA, and am 28 years old, and have lived in Britain for two and a half years.

Although I have funded the vast majority of my course successfully so far, I require a small amount of support to help me complete the PhD's final stages and 'get me over the line'. From my research, I believe I may be eligible to apply to you for financial support. I would be very grateful if you could send me information on:

1.) Your eligibility criteria
2.) Deadlines
3.) How I might go about applying, including an application form (if applicable)

I have enclosed a self addressed envelope, although you are welcome to email or telephone me if you feel that is more appropriate.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours faithfully,

Medion Perival

Medion Perival
You've been invited to apply to a charity you've contacted. Great! Now you need to prepare the application to give yourself the best chance. Charity applications are entirely different from applications to university scholarships or research councils. This section advises you on how to argue your case to them, present your application correctly, and deal with financial statements.
Making your Application

How to win your grant

Hopefully, you will now have heard back from some bodies and been invited to apply. You will have received instructions on what to do, and probably have been given a form. Now you must prepare the application to give yourself the best chance of success. It is worth stressing once again that bodies have different primary focuses—be they awards for high achievers, support for students in financial difficulty, or funding for research, travel, and conference expenses. It is important to gauge the priorities of the body, and make your application as relevant to them as you are able.

Always fill in each section very carefully, and pay special attention to all the instructions they give you. Unless they say otherwise, you can assume that it is permissible to attach extra sheets to your application. You can use—
fully include your CV, an additional information sheet to expand on any sections of the form where there is insufficient space for your answer, and a personal statement for support if there is not a section for it on the form. Most charities will also either ask you to provide a financial statement, or have included space for one on the form.

**Writing your Personal Statement**

The personal statement is the most important part of your application, and it should be between 500-800 words in length. In it, you need to make your case convincingly and tell your potential funder why you are a deserving applicant. In particular, you need to show why you have a deficit of funds. The reason for this will vary from person to person, but it will be far more convincing if it is due to some factor beyond your control, even if this is simply something general like the rising cost of education, housing, or not being able to make enough to support yourself through poorly-paid part-time work. It might equally be that your research costs ended up being higher than you anticipated, and that you need to raise money to finance an essential trip, project, or conference visit that you weren't aware of at the beginning of your course. Point out that borrowing money isn't really an option in the current financial climate. You could also mention that you have a student loan still outstanding, and that you are not eligible for a Career Development Loan if your subject is not deemed vocational. If you have been rejected for a university or research council scholarship despite excellent grades, now is the time to point this out.

If you are looking to raise money before your course has started, you must be especially careful in the way you present this statement. Avoid arguments which sound like you are thinking about doing a graduate course and are looking for money to pay for it - a charity’s response
may simply be to tell you not to do it. It is better simply to say that you’re going to be doing a PhD or a Masters and have a deficit in your funding package for the coming year. Although both descriptions are entirely accurate and truthful, the first sounds vague and flaky whereas the second sounds confident and well-planned. On the other hand, if you are seeking funding at a late point in your course (perhaps in the last year of your PhD or in the last 6 months of a Masters) be sure to flag up the fact that you have already done most of the hard work and just need helping over the finish line. See page 53 for more in-depth advice on funding fourth year PhD study.

If you are doing a research Masters or PhD, it can be hard to gauge how much you should talk about your research. It is important to remember that charities are usually not run by academics but well-informed and intelligent members of the public, and you must take this into account when you describe your studies. Generally, if it is a non-educational charity, a paragraph ought to be sufficient. Describe your research simply, avoid jargon, and highlight the parts which are of the most ‘general interest’, just as you would if you were describing it to a fellow graduate from a different discipline. If you can envisage any potential wider societal benefit or scholarly contribution from your work beyond your field, be sure to mention it. If your target body is an educational trust, you can safely include a longer description of your research. In this case, you may wish to include a summary on a separate piece of paper- this enables them to read about it if they are interested, but avoids it cluttering up the main statement. Do not go into too much detail or technicality, however, and keep it to 500 words or less.

Show that this course of study is really what you want to do, and how it is essential for your future career plans, rather than just an indulgence. Many bodies will
The Purpose of the Guide

Want to believe that they are helping you advance your career, so it is important to stress this. Talk about what you plan to do after your course, and how your PhD or Masters will help you the experience and training necessary to allow you to fulfil that dream.

Show also that you have sought out part-time work, are living frugally, and have made applications to other bodies—and list them on your Finance Sheet in a table, as shown in the example statement in section 9. Understandably, charities appreciate evidence that you are not simply extending your cap to them, but are doing all you can to be thrifty and innovative in coping with your situation, and see them as a potential partner, not as a sole provider. If you get support from one charity, make use of that in your applications to others. Charities dislike being the only funder of something, and many may be emboldened by the presence of other sponsors. As a rule, the more bodies you get to support you, the easier it will be to persuade others to do the same. Even if you’ve won funding from charities in previous academic years, it is still worth pointing this out because you will look like an applicant who has a good track record of winning grants and who has an overall plan for funding their studies. They won’t think you are greedy, but will see you as sensible, innovative, and forward-planning.

We will discuss more advanced and tailored tips on how to fine-tune your application in section 7.

Writing your Financial Statement

All charities will ask you to provide a financial statement for the academic year for which you are applying. They will ask you how much money you’ve got (‘anticipated income’) and how much that you think you’ll need...
('anticipated expenditure') for that year, and then ask you to request an amount based on your shortfall. They will want you to itemise your budgets- usually in terms of payment from work, grants, savings, and other sources (for income) and in terms of fees, rent, subsistence, travel, research, and other costs (for expenditure). In general, it is quite reasonable for a single person with no children to budget for costs (exclusive of fees) of around £1,000-£1,100 a month, and more if you live somewhere that is known to be expensive like London. Obviously, if your living costs seem too high, or if your budget includes a large amount of nonessential expenditure (on leisure activities, for example) charities are likely to simply reject you. If - when you have completed the statement for both income and expenditure - you have a substantial deficit remaining (i.e. above £3,000) they will want to see you have made applications to other bodies, and that you have at least thought of how to fund subsequent years, to be convinced.

Note that if you are including savings in your anticipated income, that it is perfectly permissible to allocate them across multiple years of your course and give a per-year amount, just as you would for payment for a job. This is important, because you might easily have enough to fund a single year, but you have got to make it last several if you are doing a PhD or part-time Masters. Be honest at all times, but try to present your financial statements prudently, in a way that shows your studies to be a seaworthy ship which is struggling through troubled waters, not one which is almost certainly going to sink. Finally, when you request an amount of money, you should always write - next to it or in your statement - that any award the charity might make, even if it is less than your requested amount, would still be an invaluable contribution. For further guidance on financial statements, take a look at the model example in section 9.
References
Most bodies will want one reference, very occasionally two. One should probably be from your supervisor, but might conceivably be from other academics or perhaps ex-employers. It obviously helps enormously if your referee is familiar with your studies and is sympathetic to your financial situation. You may well apply to a lot of charities, and so may need a lot of references! While an individually addressed reference from your supervisor to each charity is always best, your referee may find it easier simply to write you an open reference with his or her contact details attached. This is fine, as charities very seldom, if ever, require confidential sealed references.

Presenting your application
You must take care to be diligent and pedantic. Make sure there are no typos, and everything is assembled neatly together in an A4 envelope. If you have been given an application form, it is often an excellent idea - especially if your handwriting is not perfect - to scan it as an image file, then use software to complete the form in type. This will immediately differentiate your form from others. When you post it, it is also sensible to use special or recorded delivery to ensure it is not lost. If you happen to live nearby, hand delivering it always looks impressive.

Maintaining good relations with bodies
If you get a chance, speak to a representative of the body on the phone. If you can develop rapport, even over something trivial like the minutiae of application procedure, you will probably improve your chances.

If, during the time your application is being reviewed, you hear positively from another body, you should write to tell them. Charities will be impressed by this and be more likely to make you an award.
If you win a grant, write to the charity to thank them for their generosity. Also, at the end of the year, write to them and tell them briefly how your studies are going, and show them their money has been well spent. This is not only courteous, but will help you when it comes to renewing awards in subsequent years.

**Renewing awards in subsequent years**
Some charities may make an award that you can claim for each year of your course. Most, though, will make you a one-off award and invite you to reapply. Although it is not guaranteed, if you have gained an award once, your chances of gaining it again in the next academic year with a very similar application are extremely good.

**Research, travel, and conference expenses**
Writing an application to fund research, travel, or conference expenses requires a slightly different approach, although most of the above advice is still applicable. Unlike postgraduates hunting for grants to support fees and maintenance, students looking for research, travel, and conference awards are often already in possession of full studentships, and are simply looking for an extra £100-£1,000 to cover the costs of conference attendance, domestic or international research trips, or perhaps some equipment or training. Whatever your overall funding situation, you will still be applying in order to overcome a deficit in your funding package.

Unfortunately, it is the case that some charities and trusts simply will not fund research, travel, and conference expenses, so it’s doubly important to make sure you’re eligible before you apply. For those that do, such funding may be regarded as a relatively low priority because at
At first glance it seems less ‘essential’ than support for fees and maintenance. In reality of course, these costs are indeed often vital—perhaps to collect essential research material, to implement a part of your methodology, or to share your work with others at an important conference. You will therefore need to hammer home exactly why this extra cost is so crucial for your course and your future rather than just something you’re doing because it might be nice. Be very clear about the benefits.

In terms of a financial statement, make sure your estimates of costs are authoritative and well-evidenced because charities (who are unfamiliar with your research) may not understand how much certain things cost, and are highly unlikely to fund something they don’t fully comprehend. Once again, charities will be looking for evidence that you have applied to other sources, so always make sure you flag up anything you can that will show them there are other potential funders.

As we’ve discussed, amongst the best sources of funding for research, travel, and conference expenses are learned societies and professional bodies rather than charities.
One potential difficulty with these bodies is that their competitions are sometimes open to both postgraduates and more experienced post-doctoral research fellows. Although many of these bodies will reserve a number of awards for postgraduates, or positively discriminate in their favour, you may be competing against applicants who almost certainly have more research experience than you do. Given this, you should (as far as possible) stress the overall potential benefit that attending this conference or completing this research may deliver to both yourself and to your wider research community. If you are young, and have not done a great deal of research or given many papers before, play this up, because all bodies will be more likely to be generous to what they regard as an up-and-coming young researcher.

One very obvious thing you can do to improve your chances with learned societies is also simply to attend their meetings, talks and receptions, and join them (if you can). This will be a lot easier to do if you’re based
close to London or another big city, but if you’re a regular attendee at the Institute of Historical Research seminars, or the lectures of the Royal Geographical Society (for example), you can use this opportunity to network with the other members and make yourself known, perhaps by asking questions at lectures or seminars and by attending social events. You can then easily show a commitment to the society in your application form, and it may even be that your assessors will know who you are, which will always be an advantage.

**Fourth year PhD Study**

In the past, PhDs normally took three years. Nowadays, with ever more complex projects being attempted in all disciplines, four year PhDs are becoming increasingly common. Some of the science research councils now offer support for four-year PhDs as standard, but the majority of studentships remain fixed at three. This means most PhD students, fully-funded or not, are likely to run into difficulty in their final year. Fortunately, charities are generally sympathetic to this problem, and there are a number of bodies (e.g. the Allan and Nesta Ferguson Trust and the Gilchrist Educational Trust) which specifically exist to help with the completion of postgraduate courses. Indeed, there are often subject-specific awards which will provide full-funding for final-year PhDs. Overall, it’s usually easier to persuade charities to sponsor you to get you 'over the finish line' at the end of your PhD than when you’re at the beginning or halfway through.
When writing your application, the most crucial thing is your justification for going into a fourth year. Charities will want to know - when others took three years - why it has taken you four. Reasons for this will vary, but often it’s simply that nowadays, PhDs often take four years due to their complexity. However, be careful in how you present this argument. Don’t be too technical, but try to show why your PhD was particularly ambitious, and that other researchers pursuing similar projects have also taken four years.

An even stronger argument is to show why the last three years were less than straightforward for you. If you’ve not held a studentship, this is an excellent reason in itself. Quite obviously, a student without full-funding will have had to work under a great deal more financial difficulty, and will have spent a large amount of time doing part-time work and/or fundraising, both of which will have had negative effects on his or her PhD’s progress, and will delay its submission.

The final thing to bear in mind is that some charities state upfront that they do not fund students during writing-up periods. Rather than automatically discounting these bodies, you can (if it is the case, of course!) show them that your fourth year will actually contain some important extra research, so is not purely a writing-up year. Also, if you’re going into your fourth year and have spent any time registered part-time, these periods will only count for half of what they would were you full-time. So a student who has spent two years full-time and one year part-time will actually be the equivalent of two and a half (1+1+1/2) years through his or her course at the beginning of his or her fourth year of studying.
Rejection

Rejection from a charity is always disappointing, but rather than simply removing it from your list of potential funders, there may be things you can find out which will improve your chances considerably if you re-approach them. You may be able to reapply quickly—perhaps in time for their next meeting of trustees in a few months.

First, try to find out the reason for rejection. Write them a polite email or a letter to ask why they’ve come to this decision, and whether it would be worth you reapplying in the future. Never complain, or argue with any decision, even if you feel the charity has made an obvious mistake. You will gain nothing, and almost certainly put them off sponsoring you in the future.

Assuming there is not an obvious reason they turned you down (e.g. you were ineligible to apply) then they may be reluctant to say very much, or anything. In that case, accept that you won’t get direct feedback on this application, but instead ask whether they might consider sponsoring you in the future if you reapply, especially if you also gain funding from other bodies. If the answer to this is ‘yes’ then the chances are that you were unsuccessful because they viewed your application as a risky investment—perhaps because you did not have any other backers. This means that if you can gain other funders, you will have a much better chance if you reapply.

Finding out why they rejected you is actually only part of the reason for getting in touch. The other is simply that by asking for feedback, you demonstrate determination and persistence, and become a name they recognise in a small office. If they agree that you should apply again, you will have gained a big advantage. Persistence doesn’t always work, but it’s amazing what it can achieve! Just always be polite.
Applying: Advanced Techniques

Fine-tune your application

The purpose of this section is to outline some more advanced, tailored arguments and techniques which can be used by different groups of postgraduates. The vast majority of the advice in The Alternative Guide is general - and applies to everyone - but there are a few different issues, approaches and strategies that particularly matter to one group of students and less so to others. This tailored information is not as ‘essential’ as the advice in the previous section, but being mindful of these hints and tips will help fine-tune your statement, and turn a strong application into an outstanding one.

Specific Advice: Masters Students

Students pursue Masters courses for all kinds of reasons. They may be academic: an opportunity to study a subject at a deeper level, or to prepare for potentially doing an MPhil or PhD in the future. Increasingly though, more students are turning to Masters study for vocational reasons: to learn new skills, and to gain a qualification which will give them an extra edge in a competitive job market. This growth in more vocational Masters courses is reflected in the range now offered by universities, with many highly specific and technical qualifications available at some institutions, from MAs in Social Work through to Boat Design and Ergonomics.
Whether your reason for studying a Masters is mainly academic or vocational will determine the way you present yourself to a charity. If it is academic, then many of the points we explore overleaf in the PhD subsection - on describing your research and its potential benefits - will also apply to you. However, you must be especially mindful of the ‘why?’ question: i.e. 'why are you doing this course?'.

If you do not present a clear reason or goal, charities are unlikely to grant you funding. With vocational Masters courses, it’s easy to simply argue that you are doing it to make you more employable, but this is not immediately obvious with an academic course. Your Masters might easily be seen as the worst of both worlds: lacking a vocational purpose, and without the research benefits of a PhD. You must therefore be especially clear about the advantages: why you’re doing the course, and how the qualification and experience will help you in the future. If you are considering doing a PhD after your Masters, then it is sensible to present your course as a stepping stone to the future: essential preparation for your PhD. This gives you a clear purpose, and shows the charity that your Masters is a vital piece in a larger jigsaw.

If your Masters is more clearly vocational then this can be advantageous. Some bodies - such as Lawrence Atwell’s Charity - will only fund students whose course points to
a clear vocational goal, and is not purely academic. You should present your Masters as essential training for your chosen career, and describe the skills you will acquire and the experiences you will gain. It is important to spell this out because charities might take the view that you could reasonably have embarked upon your chosen career with just your Bachelors degree. Clearly describe where your Masters goes above and beyond your BA or BSc, highlight what is new, and explain why it will make the difference.

One thing which is common to both academic and vocational Masters is that they are short: usually one year full time, or two years part-time. If you are already studying, you might reasonably think that taking time out to apply to charities is unlikely to be worth the effort if you only have a few months remaining. We say that it is: charities usually make decisions in a matter of months, and have four, six, or even twelve deadlines a year when the trustees meet. They are thus perfect for quick fundraising. Furthermore, the fact that you have almost finished your course, and need some extra funding to get you ‘over the line’ makes your application more persuasive, because it means - from a charity’s perspective - that their money is more likely to make a difference. An extra £1,000 to help a student finish her Masters will be seen as a safer bet than £1,000 spent on someone beginning a PhD.

Specific Advice: PhD Students
PhD students perhaps face slightly greater challenges convincing charities to fund them than Masters students do, but the rewards can be higher. Grants are often larger, and can usually be renewed in each academic year, allowing a student to potentially treble or even quadruple a one-off grant.
To people who have attended university and spent some years in an academic environment, PhD study might not seem anything particularly special. But it is important to realise that they are often seen by the public - and by most charities - as something quite special and exceptional. To a charity, the benefits of a PhD will be twofold: a substantial original piece of research with implications for the scholarly world and human understanding, and the training of an expert who has achieved the very highest scholarly accolade, and who will go on to hopefully contribute to society in a big way. An application from a PhD student may be a very rare event to trustees of a charity who are used to dealing with rather more ‘down to earth’ requests such as someone wanting assistance to do an NVQ in bricklaying, or a resident’s association applying to renovate a playground in a local park.

While this ‘wow factor’ can certainly help you, it also presents its own challenges. The first is communication. When you describe your research, you must be careful not to alienate the charity by being too academic and esoteric. Describe your research simply, and avoid jargon. If you can relate it to something they may have heard of - a well-known historical event, a famous person, a scientific phenomenon, an aspect of society or the world around us - then this will help bring the research down from the academic stratosphere, and make it understandable and interesting to a member of the public. Around a paragraph in your personal statement will be sufficient for non-educational charities: a little goes a long way, and the trustees will appreciate your effort.

A second challenge is to convince a charity why your PhD is an essential endeavour, rather than just an interesting indulgence. Stress how it is a vital to your future career. If you want to go into academia, then having a PhD is an essential qualification. Be sure to point this out, as
it is not universally known! When writing about your research, stress any potential ‘real world’ impact as far as possible. If you can see a way in which your PhD might one day contribute to making the world a better place, understanding an important phenomenon, or promoting a social good, then be sure to say so. You can be quite speculative: you naturally don’t know at this stage what broader impact your research might have, but you can provide an optimistic forecast!

Another potentially effective - if difficult - strategy is to try to relate your research to the aims of the charity, its background, its past, or its geographical bias. This isn’t a huge factor, and is only occasionally possible, but can be extremely impressive because it shows you have made the effort to understand the charity a little. For example, many charities have a long and proud history, and a historian might be able to manufacture a link - even if tenuous - between it and his or her research: perhaps through the study of a certain place, community, event, or time period. For a charity with roots in manufacturing (such as an old livery guild or merchant company) an engineer might be able to capitalise, and for a charity with some kind of
religious foundation (which is quite common) a literary or religious scholar might have an extra opportunity to impress. Most substantially, if a charity has aims relating to education or training, you can capitalise by stressing that your academic career will feature lecturing and teaching. The trick is to try and make them feel a little special!

Finally, you can offer to include the charity in the special thanks section of your thesis. This may not sound like much, but it can buy a lot of goodwill.

**Specific Advice: Part-Time Students**

It’s often assumed that it’s only possible to gain funding as a full-time student. While this might be true for academic scholarships, it is certainly not true for charities. While a handful of more academic charities do exclude part-time students, the vast majority do not. Indeed, being a part-time student may well give you some advantages if you present it properly.

A common reason for studying part time is because you need to work to afford it. This can help because you can show you are a responsible person with a plan, who will be a safe investment. Remember, charities universally dislike being the sole funders of things: they prefer to be thought of as a helper or a partner in a larger funding package which might include part-time work, savings, and other grants. You should clearly point out how many days you spend working and how many studying per week. You can then argue that your problem is your work-to-study balance: that you are unable to make sufficient progress in your course due to the demands of working, and that you want to reduce the amount you do, or avoid taking on more. This looks much more responsible, planned, and convincing than a student studying full-time who is

”Being a part-time student can be an advantage if you present it in the right way”
not doing any work, and is simply asking for help. The charity knows that if they don’t fund you, it won’t mean you will drop out of your course, but that their decision will make things tougher for someone who already has their hands full. This might be less dramatic, but it’s a lot more persuasive. If a charity invests in you, they’ll have a much better guarantee their money will really make a difference.

If you are studying part-time due to family, then charities will undoubtedly be sympathetic. If you have children, then you can use a similar argument to the one above: that you are struggling to balance caring for your family with making reasonable progress on your course. Charities - who deal with family issues all the time - will understand and appreciate these extra burdens, and will take this into account when they assess your application. Again, a good way of making yourself especially clear would be to give an idea of the number of hours you devote to family and to study respectively.

**Specific Advice: Overseas Students**

Overseas students face the greatest funding challenges of all. Their fees are at least three times higher, and there are many charities which appear - on the face of it - to fund only UK students. Charities also often sometimes have a traditional and quite ‘British’ feel about them which can make them feel a little inaccessible. If you’re from overseas, it’s easy to be put off.

We say that you shouldn’t be. To begin with, there are charities which will only fund overseas students such as *Churches Together* and *The Sir Ernest Cassel Education Trust*. There are also a wealth of charities based overseas which can help. Obviously a lot will depend on how strong the voluntary sector is in your home country, but for some students, such as those from America, Cana-
da, or Commonwealth countries, there are a surprisingly large number of potential bodies. The *Grants Register* has a long list, but for really authoritative information, you should seek advice at home using the internet, libraries, and other techniques if appropriate. Although there are no hard and fast rules, the voluntary sector generally operates in a similar manner in other countries to the way it does in the UK, and you will probably find the general advice on finding bodies in section 4 to be largely transferable.

The second critical factor is residency requirements. Many charities don’t have them, but some do. The usual criteria is students who are ‘resident in the UK’. This is not the same as being a UK national or citizen! If you are studying in the UK, you are resident here, and are thus eligible to apply. Sometimes, charities may attach a minimum time-limit to your UK residency: this might be one, or possibly two years. This may well present some difficulty if you have just arrived in the UK, but remember that if you are doing a Masters or a PhD, these courses have a fixed length: i.e. you will be staying in the UK for one year, three years, or maybe more. Make sure to point this out, because it proves that you will be in Britain for a while. This is quite different to someone who is only here for a very short time, and many charities that have residency criteria will be sufficiently flexible to appreciate this.

There are also two things you might mention in your personal statement. The first is to try to show a contribution to the UK, if appropriate. Some charities will not be concerned about this, but there are some who will prefer an overseas student if they feel he or she will contribute to Britain’s economy, society, or academic community.

"Most charities will fund students who are 'resident in the UK'. You usually do not have to be a UK national."
If you are a research student, mention that your thesis will be deposited in your university’s library for future scholars to consult, and if you attend UK postgraduate seminars or conferences - especially if you have given a paper or presented a poster - then point this out too. More substantially, if it is your ambition to work or study here after your course, it is important to mention this because it displays commitment, and indicates that Britain will benefit from your expertise in the future.

The second thing to mention is the extra expense of studying compared to a home student. Charities may not be aware of the discrepancy in fees, so be sure to point this out! You might also want to say that there are fewer funding opportunities available to you: you are probably ineligible for a Career Development Loan, and the old Overseas Research Students Award Scheme (ORSAS) has been discontinued. If you are from a developing country, you can reasonably point out that funding opportunities back home are very limited, and that you have little choice but to look for funding in the UK.
Specific Advice: Mature Students

Mature students (35 years of age or more) sometimes assume that charities will be much less likely to fund them. It is true that there are a large number of charities with maximum age limits such as 25 or 30. However, there are also some (although less) bodies with minimum age limits such as the Sir Richard Stapley Educational Trust. You may find your options somewhat restricted, but not so much so that charities cease to be worth the effort.

One of the most important things to pay special attention to is your financial statement. With age, personal finances inevitably tend to become more complicated—mortgages, family, pension contributions etc can make your financial situation much more complex than a 22 year old just beginning his or her Masters! You thus need to be careful how you present your financial statement to avoid making it seem that you do not need the money! If there are parts of your savings that are committed to loan repayments, mortgage, or family, then do not feel obliged to include these on a financial statement unless they are asked for, and if you do put them down, you can write a short paragraph underneath your financial statement explaining why they cannot be included as part of course budgeting. Overall, just be mindful that charities will always want to see a shortfall in your funding package identified, and why this shortfall cannot be met by other means.

There are also three ways in which you can use your age to your advantage. The first is to point out that your funding options are limited. As well as the fact that many charities have age restrictions which debar you, you could draw attention to the fact that public funding options are also...
in practice more limited. Although there are no technical age limits on research council awards, the vast majority are awarded to applicants younger than 35, with far lower success rates amongst older applicants (the breakdowns by age are publicly available at the respective websites of the research councils). This is unlikely to be a huge advantage, but if the charity believes your other options are limited, then they will be more likely to help you.

The second is to present your postgraduate course as representing a new direction in your life - a break from what you have done before. Reasons for doing postgraduate courses as a mature student vary, but most likely you intend to use it to help you embark on something new, or change direction in some way. If so, you should be mindful that charities will always be receptive to the idea of a ‘second chance’: someone who has pursued one path, but wishes to renew and reinvent themselves on another. Be clear to the charity why you have chosen to pursue postgraduate study as a mature student, and particularly how your qualification will improve your life in the future from what it was before.

Finally, if you have dependants, be sure to point this out, as charities will always look sympathetically on someone trying to juggle study with family commitments.
Example Statements

Here are example personal statements from three applicants, along with feedback from a charity trustee. While there is no ‘master formula’ for writing statements, these examples will give you a clearer idea of good tone and style. The first example (Opal) is a 'model' statement, whereas the other two demonstrate common pitfalls.

**EXAMPLE PERSONAL STATEMENT 1: Opal**

"I am applying to you to overcome a deficit in my funding package for the coming academic year. I believe I am a strong and deserving applicant- I have a 2:1 in History and Politics from the University of Stowmarket, and a Masters in Historical Studies (graded 'Merit') from the University of Humberside. My career goal has always been to lecture History, and I am about to begin the second year of my PhD at Prince’s College London- a qualification which will enable me to fulfil that dream. Unfortunately, I do not hold a scholarship- I was rejected by my research council despite them describing my application as ‘excellent’ and my university has been unable to help. However, with my savings (which I have spent the last two years building up through work), my part-time job, and some modest awards from charities and trusts, I believe I can generate enough income to pay my course fees and maintenance. I have already been awarded grants totalling £3,000 for the next academic year from the Vaughan Memorial Trust and the Empire Foundation, and have applied to several other bodies, as indicated in my Financial Statement."

"I believe that my PhD is on an important subject. I am investigating political language in the Victorian and Edwardian era- in particular the orations of party
candidates at the grassroots. In particular, I am looking to analyse the ways in which these politicians presented themselves, their parties, and their policies—through language. In a nutshell, I am looking to understand the origins of ‘spin’—a concept that we take for granted in our analysis of politics today. I recently delivered a well-attended paper on my work to Prince’s College London History Seminar, and the Humberside Politics Association has requested a copy of my thesis for its library (when it is completed) and have invited me to give a lecture to its members titled ‘The origins of spin in Politics’.

“I knew my PhD was going to be financially challenging, but the recent recession has made things unexpectedly difficult. The company which I previously worked for (for two days a week, as an administrator) has been forced to shed its part-time staff, and I have found it close to impossible to find similar work elsewhere as employers seem to be reluctant to take on new staff in the current conditions. I have taken another job (as a waitress in a café) but it - and other similar jobs - do not pay enough for me to support myself in London and study at the same time. I am already £15,000 in debt to the Student Loans Company, and am ineligible for a Career Development Loan because the Government do not class History as vocational. I am from a poor background and my family is unable to help me. If I cannot overcome my deficit for this year, I will be forced to take another job (probably in a bar) which I am afraid will jeopardise my PhD and stall its progress.”

“I am living frugally and believe I am doing all that I can to make my PhD financially viable. An award from your trust would give me a degree of financial security and would allow me to continue to make good progress with my studies. I appreciate that any award you make may not be able to cover all of my deficit, but any support would be invaluable.”

Yours Faithfully,

Opal Worthing
Statement 1: The Trustee's Opinion

“This candidate does not have a first-class academic record, but delivers a very strong statement. She shows that:

- She is well prepared, and her plan is well thought out. She is doing part-time work, has applied for other awards, and has a backup plan if we were to reject her application. She gives the impression of thinking about funding in an organised and systematic way, and shows us that this application is part of an overarching master plan, not an isolated and ad hoc appeal for help.

- Her subject is clearly described using everyday language, in a way nonspecialists can understand. She also makes what would at first glance seem to be academic and obscure research (old political speeches) seem relevant and potentially useful to modern society.

- Her reasons for financial difficulty sound as though they could not have been reasonably anticipated. She presents them in a dignified, understated way, and is clearly trying her best to overcome them.

- The tone is modest and reasonable, yet confident and determined. Every opportunity is taken to persuade us that our money will not be wasted.”
EXAMPLE PERSONAL STATEMENT 2: Lawrence

"I have a strong academic record: I hold a first class BA from the London School of Neuroscience, a starred first class MPhil from Teignbridge with distinction, have two publications, have won several prizes, and completed a research assistantship. I believe I was extremely unlucky not to receive full scholarship from the BBSRC- Professor Bob Evans (my supervisor) described it as an ‘outrage’. Many other applicants with vastly weaker CVs were successful. It would scarcely be an exaggeration to suggest I was one of the unluckiest students in the country to not receive a PhD bursary."

"My PhD is an ambitious multidisciplinary project which combines integrative neuroscience with zoology. I investigate the neurological pathways of marmosets, looking for Adrenaline staining to the cerebral cortex and the hypothalamus to attempt to ascertain whether the findings of Steel et al. (2003) might have a broader species application than previously believed. When I started my PhD in 2007 at Blaenau Gwent University I did so with very little in the way of savings. I worked extremely hard at a café and performing part-time teaching but the pay is poor and I can scarcely pay the bills. The rents in the area I live are very high so I have to get some help or I shall be forced to leave my home."

"My family is extremely poor, and I was brought up in a single-parent family on a council estate in poverty. Unlike some of my peers, I did not have the privilege of a private education, and I was only able to attend the London School of Neuroscience as a result of winning the prestigious Shayle and Hart scholarship for students from poor backgrounds."

"I would use any award you might make me to help to pay the bills. I believe my PhD research will be very beneficial to the scholarly world, and I may publish it one day. As you can see from my financial statement, I am in urgent need of assistance, so please help me. I look forward to your response."

Lawrence Grey
Statement 2: The Trustee’s Opinion

"His academic record is extremely strong, However, the statement is let down by its presentation and argumentation:

- The way he describes his research is obscure, esoteric, and overly academic. An informed member of the general public will not understand what his research is, or why it might be useful. We do not know who ‘Professor Bob Evans’ or ‘Steel et al.’ even are. This sounds as though it is designed for a research council, not a charity.

- There is no specific reason why the money is needed, other than pointing to the general costs of his course which he could and should have anticipated before embarking on it. There is no clear indication of what he would do with the money, and he does little to reassure us that it would not be wasted.

- Drawing attention to his initial disadvantages in life has some relevance, but he overdoes it.

- A sense of entitlement runs through the statement. The candidate is basing his application entirely on the strength of his CV and his previous ‘bad luck’ in not securing funding elsewhere.

- There is no sense of an overall plan. We do not know how big his shortfall is, where else he is applying, or what he will do if he is not able to raise what he needs.

- There is no sense of what career he wishes to pursue, or why this qualification will help him pursue it. "
EXAMPLE PERSONAL STATEMENT 3: Julian

"I am applying to you because I am struggling on my course. I am trying to do an MA and it’s very expensive. I asked the university funding centre and they didn’t want to give me any money. I don’t know what to do so I’m writing to you for help."

"I decided I wanted to do an MA because my lecturer advised me to. He said that the scholarly neglect of the study of Saxon Burial Mounds is outrageous and urgently needs to be rectified. I got a first in my BA thesis so I consider myself to be an excellent applicant. The customs of the Saxons, in particular the Raedwald tribe, are fascinating, especially since the discovery of the tomb of the King of Wessex at Sutton in 1988. Smith et al. (1989) entirely failed to appreciate the nuances of the king’s parade helmet— particularly the metal working techniques used on it. I hope that my thesis will mean that people more properly understand the customs of the Saxon Kings."

"I was going to apply to the AHRC, but I missed the deadline because they brought it forwards two weeks and didn’t tell me. I want to start my MA now so I hope that you are able to grant me some funds so I can do it. I did have some money saved but unfortunately I was involved in an accident and lost a lot of it."

Julian Dodds
Statement 3: The Trustee’s Opinion

"This statement is almost a model of how you should not write a statement to a charity:

• There are several spelling mistakes.

• The research is described in a distant, academic way. It is not clear why the scholarly community, let alone the general public, should be concerned about the intricacies of metal working techniques on a Saxon helmet. He needs to present this a lot better.

• This application does not sound as though it is part of any overarching plan, but looks as though it has been put together quickly and without much thought.

• The applicant draws attention to his own weaknesses. He missed a research council deadline which is his own responsibility to find out about.

• He says he lost money due to an accident. This might be a persuasive reason why circumstances beyond his control caused him to be in financial difficulty. Unfortunately, he does not explain it.

• He shows a lack of originality and drive. He is doing this project not to help him forward a career-plan, but because it was suggested by a lecturer.

• There is no sense of what he wants the money for, where else he has applied, or that the money would not simply be wasted."
## Current Funding for Academic Year 2018-19

This year, I am applying, or have applied to, the following:

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<th>BODY</th>
<th>DATE OF DECISION</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>SUCCESSFUL?</th>
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<td>£1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Empire Foundation</td>
<td>Done</td>
<td>£2,000</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baccarat Trust</td>
<td>Done</td>
<td>£500</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sir Campbell Fund for Excellence</td>
<td>Done</td>
<td>£1,000</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Roses Charity</td>
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<td>Runefaust Support Group</td>
<td>Jan '19</td>
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<td>The Irani Catholic Foundation</td>
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<td>The Krell Travel Fund</td>
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<td>Prince's College London Bursary</td>
<td>Apr '19</td>
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Projected Income and Expenditure for Academic Year 2018-19

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<td>£2,900 (Working as a Waitress)</td>
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<td>£7,000 (Rent: I live in Ealing)</td>
<td>£3,000 Charities and Trusts (see above)</td>
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<td>£600 (Utility Charges: light, heat, water)</td>
<td>£1,000 University Research Grant</td>
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<td>£400 (Telephone: landline and mobile)</td>
<td>£4,600 Savings</td>
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<td>£2,000 (Food)</td>
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<td>£400 (Clothing)</td>
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<td>£400 (Household Miscellaneous: TV licence, internet, contents insurance)</td>
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<td>£800 (Travel into university)</td>
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<td>£500 (Essential research trips)</td>
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<td>£100 (Photocopying and Printing)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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</tr>
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<td><strong>£17,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>£11,500</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Amount Requested**
I would like to request a sum of £1,500 - the maximum your trust permits, although I appreciate that any award made may be at a lower level.

*Note that all persons and organisations in sections 8 and 9 are entirely fictitious.*
Postgraduate Funding from Charities: Ten Golden Rules of Success

1. Don’t neglect the books in the library because the internet is easier: they are amongst the best sources.

2. Always contact charities before you apply to touch base and make sure you’re eligible.

3. Understand a charity’s priorities and try to tailor your application to them. You needn’t go overboard: just the odd line or two.

4. Don’t go into too much detail about your research. When you do mention it, make it easy to understand, and show how it might benefit scholarship and society.

5. Stress the vocational aspect of your course: how it is essential in getting your desired job.
6. Show the charity that you have a master plan, even if only speculative. Say what you will do if you don’t get funding and how you will fund your course in subsequent years.

7. *Think of the charity as a partner, not a sole provider. The charity wants to work with you and other bodies to fund your course. Make them feel part of a bigger plan.*

8. Show that you have been thrifty and innovative in coping with your financial situation.

9. *If you are applying for research expenses, or in the final stages of a course, you can argue that you only need a small amount of money to get you over the line. This will make you seem like a safe investment.*

10. Never give up! Luck plays an enormous role in everything. Each application you make is a gamble: a roll of the proverbial dice. The more bodies you contact - and the more applications you make - the better your chances of striking lucky. If you keep trying, you will eventually succeed!
TOP 500 CHARITIES & TRUSTS

This section lists approximately 500 Charities and Trusts, handpicked by us. This will get you off to a great start when you hunt for funders! If you’re looking to raise a smaller amount for research costs, travel, or conferences, then this list alone might be all you need.
Top 500 Charities & Trusts

This list gives short summaries of approximately 500 charities based on our own experience and research. Because charities all work by their own unique rules, and have different deadlines each year, we have not tried to provide comprehensive descriptions. The intention is to give you enough information to decide whether to contact the charity to make an initial enquiry, as described in section 5. While every care is taken to ensure accuracy, charities often change their eligibility criteria and deadlines. This makes it doubly important that you contact them before you apply.

NOTE also that this is far from a definitive list. There are thousands of charities out there, but we present here 500 of the best ones, many of which us - or students we have worked with - have had experience in dealing with. To find more charities yourself, please consult the advice in section 4.

Special: University Hardship Fund (Previously the Access to Learning Fund)
Contact your university funding office
This body is not a charity, but is a government hardship fund for postgraduate and undergraduate students experiencing unexpected or unforeseen financial difficulty. Grants (usually up to £2500) are awarded on the basis of need. Note that notional figures will be used for your living expenses, and your income, rather than the actual ones. In practice, this fund is most helpful for postgraduates who have secured the majority of their funding, but also need to alleviate unexpected financial difficulties. Apply early in the year as funds may become exhausted. The fund is not intended to provide for graduate students who were underfunded at the start of their course, or to be used to cover fees. In assessing applications, a formula is used that takes into account an assumed minimum income level per week, and existing bank statements. See your university funding office for details.

Aberdeenshire Educational Trust
http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/funding/EducationalTrusts.asp
Promotes education in visual art, music and drama for students living in Aberdeenshire.

Acton (Middlesex) Charities
http://actoncharities.co.uk/
Students whose home residence is in the former ancient parish of Acton. Applicants up to 18-25 years of age, who have entered a full-time course, which will lead to a recognised qualification. Grants of £200 per year to assist with equipment/ study cost.

Adam Smith Institute John Blundell Studentships  NEW!
https://www.adamsmith.org/john-blundell-studentships/
The Institute offers single grants of between £3,000 and £5,000 towards fees and/or living expenses are available to prospective or current postgraduate students who have made a tangible contribution to personal and economic freedom; are currently applying for or undertaking postgraduate courses or research work in the humanities and social sciences (particularly economics, history, philosophy and political science) at a recognised UK university; can show need and do not have sufficient other funding in place to cover tuition fees and basic living costs.
Africa Education Trust (and Kenneth Kirkwood Fund)
http://www.africaeducationaltrust.org/
Assists African students in the UK. Students can apply for small emergency grants or to the Kenneth Kirkwood Fund. Especially interested in assisting with financial difficulties during the final months of a course.

Aga Khan Foundation
http://www.akdn.org/akf_scholarships.asp
Grants made to students of excellent potential and track record. Usually made to support Masters study (although will consider PhD applicants) and made on a 50% grant 50% loan basis. Funds also available to support travel and research expenses.

Akrill, Wilson and Kenrick Trust Fund & West Bromwich Educational Foundation
Sandwell MBC, Young Peoples’ Services, Shaftsbury House, 402 High Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B70 9LT Email: matthew_driver@sandwell.gov.uk
Students under 25 years of age, who are in need and live in West Bromwich.

Alderman Newton’s Educational Foundation
http://www.charity-link.org/alderman-newton
Students under 25 years of age who live (or people who have one parent who lives) in Leicester.

Alderman Newton’s Educational Foundation (Bedford branch)
Students up to 25 who live in the town of Bedford. Grants given include those for equipment/instruments/study costs, and childcare.

Alderman Newton’s Educational Foundation (Leicester branch)
http://anef.org.uk/
Students under 25 years of age who live (or people who have one parent who lives) in the city of Leicester.

Aldgate & Allhallows Barking Exhibition Foundation
http://www.aldgateallhallows.org.uk/
For students under 25 who are permanently resident in London Borough of Tower Hamlets or the City of London for at least the past three years, from a low income background, and studying full-time. Grants for fees, maintenance, and books/equipment/travelling costs.

Alice McCosh Trust
http://www.thealicemccoshtrust.org.uk/
Offers one-off grants of £300 to £1,000 for work and study related to natural history and/or the environment. Applicants can be any age and any nationality, but preference will be given to individuals from Scotland, England or Turkey.

Altajir Trust
http://www.altajirtrust.org.uk/
Gives grants to postgraduates who can demonstrate that the chosen course of study promotes Islamic culture and benefits the wider Arab world. They should normally be of Arab nationality.

Al Qasimi Foundation’s Doctoral Research Grants
The Al Qasimi Foundation’s Doctoral Research Grants encourage scholars from a wide range of disciplines and professional fields to undertake research toward informing policy making in the United Arab Emirates. The Grants are open to PhD students from all nationalities studying at an accredited university in the United Arab Emirates or abroad. The Grant covers all student expenses associated with their field research in the United Arab Emirates, including return airfares, furnished accommodation for up to 12 months, a stipend to cover living costs, and research support.
All Saints Educational Trust
http://wwwASET.org.uk/
Makes awards to students who are planning a career as a teacher. Sympathetic to students undertaking PGCEs, and religious studies. A history of practising any faith is an advantage.

Allan & Nesta Ferguson Charitable Trust
http://www.fergusontrust.co.uk/
UK and Overseas students. Substantial one-off grants to meet course fees in the final year of a PhD.

Alumni Bursaries
Contact your Departmental Office or Graduate School for details.
Some university departments operate a scheme where postgraduates who did their first degree at that institution are eligible to apply for a scholarship that will cover 20% of their fees.

Anglian Water Trust Fund
http://www.awtf.org.uk/
Provides grants for people in need whose main home is within the Anglian or Hartlepool Water regions.

Anglo-Czech Educational Fund
Moon Bever Solicitors, 24-25 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1A 2PL
Students from the Czech Republic who wish to study primarily in the UK, USA and European countries.

Anglo-Danish Society
www.anglo-danishsociety.org.uk/
The Anglo-Danish Society is a charity whose main purpose is to offer support to British postgraduate students to study in Denmark and Danish postgraduate to study in the UK. Our grants are for one year and are generally for £2,000. Closing date for the return of completed applications is early March.

Anglo-Jewish Association
http://www.anglojewish.org.uk/
Grants of £500 a year for Jewish students studying at a UK university.

Anglo-Norse Society NEW!
http://www.anglo-norse.org.uk/bursaries.html
Scholarship of £1,000 is intended to help towards the cost of one-year of postgraduate study in Norway in the field of Norwegian literature, history, music or translation studies. Eligibility to apply is restricted to British subjects who have graduated with a good Honours degree or equivalent.

Anglo-Swedish Literary Foundation
Swedish Embassy, 11 Montagu Place, London W1H 2AL Tel: 020 7917 6400
Individuals wishing to participate in study visits connected to research on Swedish art and literature. Grants may be spent on study visits connected with research on Swedish literature.

Anguish’s Educational Foundation
1 Woolgate Court, St. Benedicts Street, Norwich, NR2 4AP Email: david.walker@nch-charities.co.uk
Grants for young people resident in the City of Norwich.

Ann Driver Trust
Administrator, Ann Driver Trust, PO Box 2761, London, W1A 5HD
Grants for study of the arts, especially music. Block grants are given to different institutions, changing each year. Ask your department whether grants are available at your institution.

Ann Johnson’s Educational Foundation
The Administrator, 156 Wood Street, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8BN Tel: 07870 150777
Students living or educated in Chelmsford and the surrounding parishes, who are under 25. Grants available for books, equipment, instruments, travel, accommodation.
Annie Bettmann Foundation
Clerk to the Trustees, c/o Kelley Alsters Solicitors, 1 Manor Terrace, Fairs Road, Coventry CV1 2NU
Gives grants of £1,000 to students who live in Warwickshire in financial need.

Aquarius Trust Ltd.
The Secretary, Sanson Seal, Dualla Road, Cashel, County Tipperary, Eire
One of and recurrent grants for Artists.

Arab-British Chamber of Commerce
http://www.abcc.org.uk/Charitable-Foundation/
The Arab-British Chamber of Commerce provides grants for Arab postgraduate students in financial need. The funds are intended to go towards tuition fees, maintenance costs and study-related expenses. Awards range from £500 – £2,000.

Archibald Dawnay Scholarships
Assistant Education Officer, Corporation of London PO Box 270, Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ
Grants of up to £400 for inner London Borough residents who are studying engineering. Preference is given to civil engineering or structural engineering as applied to building, surveying and allied fields.

Aristotelian Society
https://www.aristoteliansociety.org.uk/
The society offers grants of up to £1,000 for philosophy conferences in the UK.

Ashley, Churchill & Thorner Educational Trust
The Clerk’s Office, Whetstone’s, West Walks, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1AW Tel: 01305 262662
Students under 25 who live either within five miles of the county hall in Dorchester, or in the civil parish of Crossways. One-off grants for books, equipment and instruments, fees, domestic and international travel.

Association for German Studies in Great Britain and Ireland Travel Scholarships
http://ags.ac.uk/prizes.html
The Association for German Studies invites applications for travel scholarships of up to £300, intended to assist postgraduate members in travelling abroad to carry out research for their thesis or give a paper directly related to their area of study. The scholarships are intended to contribute to the costs of reasonable and necessary travel and/or accommodation. The deadlines for applications are August and January.

Association of Art Historians Travel Grant
http://www.aah.org.uk/page/2879
Open to all undergraduate and postgraduate students studying art, art history or architecture. JFTA enables students to travel as a means of assisting or furthering their research. The award aims to encourage a better understanding and exploration of the arts from around the world. The grant is around £2000.

Association of Dental Groups Postgraduate Bursary Scheme NEW!
http://www.dentalgroups.co.uk/dentists/postgrad_award.html
A £1,500 bursary is available to post-graduate dental students and dentists undertaking postgraduate training as part of the Association of Dental Groups’ (ADG) award for the best voluntary scheme to promote & deliver improvements in oral health.

Assyrian Charity and Relief Fund of UK
Revd Henry Shaheen, 277 Rush Green Road, Romford, RM7 0JL
Gives general grants to people of Assyrian descent living in the UK.

Audrey Harrison Heron Memorial Fund
Natwest Trust Services, 5th Floor, Trinity Quay 2, Avon Street, Bristol BS2 0PT Tel: 0117 940 3283
Women who live in the city of Nottingham and are under 25. Grants up to £2,000 for equipment, travel, fees. Grants can be one-off or recurrent.
Aziz Foundation Scholarship **NEW!**
http://azizfoundation.org.uk/scholarships/
The Aziz Foundation is an independent grant-making body dedicated to supporting the most disadvantaged communities in Britain. It offers scholarships for masters and PhD students exceptional students active in British Muslim communities.

**Bakers Benevolent Society**
The Mill House, 23 Bakers Lane, Epping, Essex, CM16 5DQ
If you, your parent, or spouse is (or was) involved in the baking trade, you may be eligible for a grant.

**Banbury Charities – Banbury Arts & Educational Charity**
36 West Bar, Banbury, Oxfordshire OX16 9RU Tel: 01295 251234
People under 25 who live in the Banbury area of Oxfordshire. Grants to promote the study of literature, the arts and sciences.

**Banffshire Educational Trust**
http://www.moray.gov.uk/
Residents of the former county of Banffshire. One-off grants of up to £200 given towards postgraduate scholarships. Funds also available for travel outside Scotland. Deadline is 30 September, for consideration in November/December.

**Barry Amiel & Norman Melburn Trust**
http://www.amielandmelburn.org.uk/
Grants for History, Philosophy, Sociology, Economics, and other subjects whose studies will increase our knowledge of the philosophy of Marxism, the history of Socialism, or the working class movement. For research expenses only- not conferences, fees, or maintenance.

**Bartlett Taylor Charitable Trust**
c/o John Welch and Stammers, 24 Church Green, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 4AT Tel: 01993 703941
Students from Oxfordshire. Grants of £250 to £650 for general educational needs.

**BBC Performing Arts Fund**
http://www.bbc.co.uk/performingartsfund/
Gives bursaries for music and the performing arts.

**Belfast Association for the Blind**
R Gillespie, Hon. Secretary, 30 Glenwell Crescent, Newtownabbey, County Antrim BT36 7TF
Educational grants of £250-£350 for people in Northern Ireland who are registered blind.

**Benjamin Winegarten Charitable Trust**
25 St Andrew's Grove, London, N16 5NF Tel: 020 8800 6669
Students whose work involves the advancement of the Jewish religion and/or religious education.

**Bernard Butler Trust Fund**
http://www.bernardbutlertrust.org/application.php
Grants usually of at least £1,000 to students studying engineering, or those who can show that they will help promote the subject in some way.

**Berridge Trust**
Small grants to support the training of teachers of cookery or nutrition.

**Bestazy ** **NEW!**
https://bestazy.com/bestazy-inspiring-innovation-scholarship/
Offers a chance to win a $2000 scholarship for students. To enter, students need to write a 800-word essay detailing a product they find easy to use for people of all skill levels, that’s safe and durable.
**Bestway Foundation**  
http://www.bestwaygroup.co.uk/responsibility/bestway-foundation  
Gives grants for tuition fees to students of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi or Sri Lankan origin.

**Betty Martin Charity**  
46 Guillards Oak, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 9JZ Tel: 01730 813769  
People who live in Sussex, with a preference for those who live within a 15 mile radius of the Parish Church in Midhurst, West Sussex. Grants towards the cost of books, fees, living expenses, study and travel overseas, childcare. Grants up to £500.

**Bexley United Charities**  
13 High Street, Bexley, Kent DA5 1AB Tel: 07831 838 054  
Students under 25 who live in the borough of Bexley. Small grants (up to £500) given towards equipment.

**Billericay Educational Trust**  
http://billericayeducationaltrust.co.uk/  
Gives grants to students under 25 (on the 1st September of the academic year of application) who live within 6 miles of the centre of Billericay.

**Biochemical Society**  
http://www.biochemistry.org/  
Grants awarded for research expenses, travel, and conferences for postgraduates studying molecular and cellular biosciences.

**The Biosocial Society**  
http://www.biosocsoc.org/bursaries  
The Biosocial Society awards small grants to postgraduate student members of the society. Awards of up to £750 are available to help with costs associated with fieldwork or data collection. Awards of up to £250 are available towards the cost of participation in conferences.

**Bishop Laney’s Charity**  
Whiting & Partners, 41 St Mary’s Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 4HF Tel: 01353 662595 or 01353 666119  
People in need under 25 who live in the parishes of Soham and Ely. Consideration will be given to people under 25 who live in other parts of Cambridgeshire where funds permit. Grants of up to £250 for books, equipment/instruments, study or travel abroad, and maintenance.

**Black Family Charitable Trust**  
http://www.bfct.org.uk/  
Awards (means-tested) for students on the grounds of assessed merit, distinction or proficiency in studies, or sport accolades. Also funds the promotion and publication of research.

**Blatchington Court Trust**  
http://www.blatchington-court.co.uk/  
Students aged under 30 living in the Sussex area who are visually impaired.

**Bowler’s Educational Foundation**  
Clerk to the Trustees, c/o Legal Services, Shropshire County Council, The Shire Hall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury SY2 6ND  
Grants of up to £200 for students under 25 living in the county of Shropshire.

**Bridge Educational Trust**  
http://bridgeeducationaltrust.org.uk/  
The education of students drawn primarily from the parishes of Piddletrenthide with Plush, Piddlehinton and Alton Pancras, and secondarily from those born or having their main residence in the County of Dorset.
British Academy Elisabeth Barker Fund NEW!
http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/intl/ebf.cfm
It is intended to support studies in recent European history, particularly the history of Central and Eastern Europe. Grants may be made for individual, or collaborative projects and may support British scholars, or scholars from other European countries. Grants are for up to £1,000.

British Association for American Studies
http://www.baas.ac.uk/
Fellowships, research travel awards and conference organisation for study of American History, politics, society, literature, art or culture.

British Association for Victorian Studies
http://www.bavs.ac.uk/funding/
Art history, cultural studies, history, literary studies, performance studies and the history of science of the 19th Century. Supports projects, events and conferences.

British Cotton Growing Association Workpeople’s Collection Fund
http://www.campus.manchester.ac.uk/researchoffice/finding/cotton/
Grants to anyone undertaking study/research of a medical, nursing or social nature which will benefit workers in the UK textile industry. Will consider fees, maintenance, and foreign students living and studying in the UK.

British Council Award Schemes
http://www.educationuk.org/
A variety of scholarships for overseas students wishing to study in the UK.

British Ecological Society
http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/grants/
Offers a range of grants to individuals to promote all aspects of ecological research and survey. Closing dates and method of application vary for the different awards.

British Institute at Ankara
http://www.biaa.ac.uk/
Gives grants to students whose research is focused on Turkey and the Black Sea region within the arts, humanities and social sciences.

British Institute in Eastern Africa
http://www.biea.ac.uk/study-with-us/research-grants/
This funding supports original research in the humanities and social sciences. Grants are normally between £500 and £1,000. Priority is given to researchers based in the UK or eastern Africa. Closing date at the beginning of January.

British Foundation for Women Graduates UPDATED!
http://bfwg.org.uk
Gives grants to women who will be in their third year of doctoral studies or part time equivalent at the time when the awards are given out (the autumn of each year). The awards are given on the basis of evidence of academic excellence with the average award being around £3000.

British Occupational Hygiene Society
http://www.bohs.org/
The bursaries support students who are registered on, or have been offered a place on, any UK-based postgraduate course approved by the Faculty of Occupational Hygiene. Up to five awards are available annually of up to £4,000 each to cover the costs of academic fees.

British Pharmacological Society
http://www.bps.ac.uk/
Grants awarded for research expenses, travel, and conferences for postgraduates studying pharmacology.
British Society for Eighteenth Century Studies
http://www.bsecs.org.uk/
Supports a one-month residence in Oxford for research in the Bodleian on any topic in the study of the 18th Century.

British Society for Neuroendocrinology
http://www.neuroendo.org.uk/Members/Grants.aspx
Awards of around £500 each enables members to present their work at international conferences.

British Society for the History of Science Research Grants
http://www.bshs.org.uk/grants/research-grants
A proportion of the BSHS grants fund will be set aside each year for small grants for research, such as archival visits, research trips, photography or microfilming, temporary research assistance costs. Funding will be allocated twice a year, with applications to be received by 30 September or 31 March each year.

British Society for Middle Eastern Studies
http://www.brismes.ac.uk/
BRISMES offers awards for postgraduate students studying for taught and research degrees in a British university, working on a topic related to the Middle East. The awards range in value from £1000 to £2000.

Bromfield’s Educational Foundation
http://www.standrewsholborn.org.uk/
People under 25 who live (or whose parents or guardians live) in the Holborn area of the London borough of Camden. One-off and termly grants of £600 for books, equipment/instruments, computers and maintenance/living expenses. Cannot be used for fees.

Broncel Trust
371 Uxbridge Road, London, W3 9RH
People working in the fields of Polish history, literature or art. Scholarships, research and grants for publishing Polish works of literature.

Busenhart Morgan-Evans Foundation
Busenhart Morgan-Evans Foundation, Brambletye, 455 Woodham Lane, Woodham Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 3QQ
For musicians. Provides grants for equipment, instruments and course fees. Applications made through the college, but best to contact the charity in the first instance for application instructions/form.

Campden Charities
http://www.campdencharities.org.uk/
Gives financial aid to individuals who have been continuously residing in Kensington for at least 2 years, UK or EU citizen, in rented accommodation and low paid work.

Canadian Centennial Scholarship Fund
http://www.canadianscholarshipfund.co.uk/
Gives grants to Canadians who are enrolled in postgraduate studies in the UK.

Cancer Research UK
http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/
Grants for students involved in any aspect of the study of cancer. Also offer a number of full PhD scholarships.

Canterbury United Municipal Charities
Aaron Spencer, Furley and Page, 39 St.Margaret’s Street, Canterbury, Kent CT1 2TX Tel: 01227 763939
Email: aas@furleypage.co.uk
One-off and recurrent grants made to students in need who have lived in Canterbury for at least two years.
Captain F G Boot Scholarships
http://www.cutlerslondon.co.uk/BOOTINFO.PDF
These scholarships are awarded to students up to (and including) 25 who are planning to spend at least six consecutive months in a foreign country to 'increase their understanding of the language and culture of that country'. Grants are £500-£1000.

Carlisle Educational Charity
http://www.carlisle.gov.uk/education_and_learning/carlisle_educational_charity.aspx
Grants for students in need living in the Carlisle area. Grants for fees, maintenance, equipment and travel.

Carnegie Trust
http://www.carnegie-trust.org/
Carnegie Scholarships available to graduates of a Scottish University who hold first class honours. May be held at any UK university. Awards are for fees and a full stipend equivalent to a research council award.

Caterham-Whyteleafe Trust
grants.enquiry@family-action.co.uk
The Trust can make small grants to help students who are facing financial difficulty who are in the final year of their course, or the final term of a one-year course.

Catherine Mackichan Trust
N D Mackichan, Aros, Whittingham, Alnwick, Northumberland NE6 4RF. neil.mackichan@care4free.net
Grants of up to £500 to students who are researching various aspects of Scottish history, including archaeology, genealogy and language studies.

Charities Administered by Scottish Borders Council
The Trustees, Education and Lifelong Learning, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose, Roxburghshire TD6 0SA Tel: 01835 824000 ext. 5833
One-off and recurrent grants of up to £250 for students living in the Scottish Borders.

Charity of Doctor Jones
Gwaun Derw, Norgans Hill, Pembroke SA71 5EP Tel: 01646 682257
People up to 25 who live in Pembroke. Help towards the cost of education, training, apprenticeship or equipment.

Charity of Jane Wright
P E Baines, Clerk, 18 St Saviourgate, York, YO1 8NS
Gives grants to students, who are in need, and who live in York.

Charity of Joanna Scott & Others
Hansells, 13 Cathedral Close, Norwich NR1 4DS Tel: 01603 615731
People under the age of 25 who are being educated or live within five miles of Norwich City Hall. Grants given towards the costs of books, equipment/instruments, fees, maintenance/living expenses, childcare, and study or travel abroad. Grants up to £2,000, and interest-free loans also available.

Charity of John Land for Widows & Children (Apprenticing Branch)
32 Westminster Palace Gardens, London, SW1P 1RR Tel: 0207 222 3604
People up to the age of 25, who are children of Freemen of the City of London. Also, people in need under the age of 25 whose parents have lived in the City of London for at least five years. Applicants must be in need, and grants (towards living expenses) must be linked to training for a profession or vocation.

Charity of Sir Thomas White, Warwick
http://www.sirthomaswhite.org.uk/
Provides interest-free loans for ‘young people’ establishing a business, or undertaking university courses.
Charles Wallace India Trust  
*UPDATED!*
http://www.wallace-trusts.org.uk/cwt_india.html
Gives grants to Indians in the early or middle stages of their careers who are living in India and working or studying in the arts, heritage conservation or the humanities. The grants enable successful applicants to achieve their artistic, academic or professional ambitions through spending time in the United Kingdom. The categories of grants available include: fully-funded awards; visiting fellowships in agreed subjects at specific institutions; grants for research and professional visits; grants for doctoral study; and grants to attend the Scottish Universities Summer School.

Chelmsford Educational Foundation
19 Rushleydale, Chelmsford, CM1 6JX
People who live, and those educated in, the borough and rural district of Chelmsford. Grants of up to £500 given to students of any age to help with books, equipment, travel, university fees; or to supplement existing grants. Travel grants also available.

Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation
http://www.cckf.org.tw/e-donation.htm
Doctoral candidates who are non-Chinese citizens and who are completing the last stage of their PhD research at an accredited university in Europe may apply for fellowships for the completion of dissertations in the field of Chinese Studies in the humanities and social sciences.

Chizel Educational Trust
Haydn House, 309-329 Haydn Road, Nottingham, NG5 1HG
Educational grants towards equipment, instruments, books, travel, bursaries and maintenance for people under 25 and resident in the UK.

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland
http://www.ctbi.org.uk/CCBA/116
One-off grants of £500-£800 for overseas students from developing countries.

City & Diocese of London Voluntary Schools Fund  
*UPDATED!*
Dee Thomas, Finance Manager, London Diocesan Board for Schools, 36 Causton Street, London, SW1P 4AU Tel: 020 7932 1168 Email: dee.thomas@london.anglican.org Website: www.ldbs.co.uk
One-off grants of up to £500 for students under 25 who has attended a Church of England school in the diocese of London.

City of Dundee Educational Trust
J Hope, Miller Hendry, 13 Ward Road, Dundee, DD1 1LU
One-off grants of £300 for students who have a strong connection with Dundee.

City of Oxford Charities
http://www.oxfordcitycharities.org/
Grants for students who have been resident in the City of Oxford for a minimum of 3 years and who are under the age of 25.

Claas Foundation
http://www.claas-stiftung.com/
The Helmut Claas-Scholarship makes grants to engineering, agricultural studies or economics students whose studies are linked to agriculture. Full details are on the website. Deadline in June.

Clan Forsyth Family Trust
The Cottage, Knock Farm, Bathgate, EH48 4NP Tel: 01506 676 877
Grants to people who have the surname 'Forsyth'.
Clan Trust  
*c/o Brown & Co Market Chambers, 25 - 26 Tuesday Market Place, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1JJ Tel: 01553 770771*  
Students of agriculture or horticulture who live or study in Norfolk and the neighbouring counties. One-off and recurrent grants according to need.

Clingan’s Trust  
*http://www.clinganstrust.co.uk/*  
Applicants must be under 25. Their family's home must be in the Trust area, and they must have at one time been educated in that area. The area is: Christchurch, Highcliffe and Bournemouth.

Cole Anderson Charitable Foundation  
*Rawlins Davy, Rowlands House, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, BH1 2EG Tel: 01202 558 844 Email: martin.davies@rawlinsdavy.com*  
Students studying medicine, architecture or music who live in Bournemouth and Poole.

Colonel MacLean Trust Scheme  
*Dorothy Mullen, Education Services, Nye Bevan House, 20 India Street, Glasgow G2 4PF*  
One-off grants for students living in the Strathclyde region.

Commercial Travellers Benevolent Institution  
*http://www.ctbti.org/*  
If you, your parent, or spouse works (or worked for at least 5 years) as a commercial traveller (i.e. a travelling salesman) then you may be eligible for a grant.

Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol  
*http://www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/funding/*  
The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol offers scholarships up to the value of £3,000 to students who wish to undertake a masters degree that is delivered either partially or fully in Welsh.

Company of Actuaries Charitable Trust Fund  
*G H Lockwood, 34 Howe Drive, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, HP9 2BD Tel: 01494 673451*  
Grants for those working towards actuarial qualifications or careers. Typical grants are £600. Trustees meet in October, January, April and July.

Costume Society  
*http://www.costumesociety.org.uk/*  
The Society offers four awards each year and a student bursary for students studying textiles and fashion. Open to UK full-time and part-time students at postgraduate level. Grants also available for attendances of symposiums and museum placements. Full details of each award available on the website.

Council for British Research in the Levant  
*http://www.cbrl.org.uk/*  
Grants for research into the humanities and social sciences in the Levant.

Countess of Munster Musical Trust  
*http://www.munstertrust.org.uk/*  
Major musical charity which will support young musicians, i.e. instrumentalists, singers, conductors and composers of exceptional ability. Instrumentalists, conductors and composers must be 18-25, and singers 18-28. British and Commonwealth students considered.

County Alderman Worsley JP Scholarships  
*Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, Education Leisure and Cultural Services, PO Box 228, Municipal Buildings, Church Road, Stockton-on-Tees TS18 1XE Tel: 01642 524971*  
Students at university who live in the former borough of Thornaby-on-Tees. Recurrent grants of £150 towards books, fees and equipment. Applications to be returned by 31 August.
Craft Pottery Charitable Trust
http://www.cpaceramics.co.uk/
Grants for students who study ceramics.

Cross Trust
http://www.thecrosstrust.org.uk/
Students of Scottish descent (you, or a parent, must have been born in Scotland) under the age of 30.

Culham Educational Foundation
http://www.culham.ac.uk/cefinfo.html
The Trust gives personal grants not exceeding £1,500 to practising Anglicans who are pursuing personal study, or undertaking research primarily relating to religious education in schools. Consideration will be given only to applicants who live or work in the Diocese of Oxford.

David Hyman Charitable Trust
101 Flood Street, London, SW3 5TD
University students, under 25 years of age, who are disabled. One-off grants of up to £200, depending on circumstances. Grants can be towards university fees, books and equipment.

Deakin Charitable Trust
Herbert Parnell, Kingsway House, 123–125 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 1LR Tel: 01483 885700
Students studying music who are living in the immediate Woking area.

Design History Society
http://www.designhistorysociety.org/
Offers financial aid for postgraduate students undertaking a MPhil or PhD degree in design history of any period. No application should exceed £1,500.

Diabetes UK
http://www.diabetes.org.uk/
Grants for students involved in any aspect of the study of diabetes. Also offers a number of full PhD scholarships.

Dick Harrison Trust
http://www.dickharrisontrust.org.uk/
Applications for students whose education provides training for livestock auctioneering and/or rural estate management. Applicants must have been born in Scotland or the counties of Cumbria or Northumberland. Alternatively, the applicant (or his/her parents or guardians) must be resident in any of these places during the tenure of the award.

Dorothy Johnson Charitable Trust
Miss Z B Silins, Clerk, DNG Dove Naish, Eagle House, 28 Billing Road, Northampton, NN1 5AJ Tel: 01604 657200 Email: zinaida@silins@midu.co.uk
Grants for people under 25 who were born and are living or have lived in Northamptonshire. One-off and recurrent grants of up to £500. Grants made towards fees, study/travel abroad, books, equipment/instruments, maintenance/living expenses.

Douglas Bomford Trust
http://www.dbt.org.uk/
Grants for EU students who are studying the engineering or science of agricultural industries.

Dowson Trust and Peter Green Endowment Trust Fund
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council, Room 223, Council Offices, Wellington Road, Ashton Under Lyne OL6 6DL Tel: 0161 342 2878 or 0161 342 2619
Students aged under 25 who live in the former borough of Hyde. Grants for university or teacher training courses. Applications should be submitted by the individual by 30 September for consideration in October.
Dr John Calder’s Fund
Clive Phillips, Ledingham Chalmers LLP, Johnstone House, 52-54 Rose Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1HA Tel: 01224 408408
Grants of up to £500 for people in need who live in the parish of Machar, or within the city of Aberdeen.

Dudley Stamp Memorial Fund
http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Grants/
Small grants (up to £500) for PhD students to assist them in research in the field of geography. Applications are particularly welcome for projects which will strengthen links between geographers in the United Kingdom and those overseas. Applicants must be under 30 years of age, but can be of any nationality.

Dyke Exhibition Foundation
The Clerk, c/o Messrs Bevan Ashford, 41 St James Street, Taunton, Somerset TA1 1JR Tel 01823 285030
Grants of £300 per year for up to three years for students under 25 years who were born in Somerset, Devon or Cornwall, and who have lived or been educated within the area for the past three years

East Africa Women’s League Benevolent Fund
http://www.eawl.org.uk/
Grants to women of UK origin who have previously lived and worked in East Africa.

East Lothian Educational Trust
http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/
People in education who live in the former county of East Lothian. One-off grants up to £700 are given for fees, study/travel abroad, books, equipment/instruments, maintenance/living expenses, research, accommodation and excursions.

Economic History Society
http://www.ehs.org.uk/
Will consider applications for grants – normally of up to £500 – to assist postgraduate students and universities with travel expenses incurred in the undertaking of research into any aspect of economic and social history.

EDF Energy Trust
http://www.edfenergytrust.org.uk/
Grants for customers of EDF Energy including the brands formerly known as London Energy, SWEB Energy and Seeboard Energy. For the payment of bills.

Egham Education Trust
33 Runnemede Road, Egham, Surrey, TW20 9BE Email: eghamunicharity@aol.com
Makes educational grants to young people, under 25, living in the electoral wards of Egham, Englefield Green East/West, Virginia Water, Egham Hythe and the village of Stroude and St Ann’s Heath in Surrey.

Egyptian Community Association in the United Kingdom
H Elsheriff (General Secretary), 100 Redcliffe Gardens, London, SW10 9HH
Grants for fees, maintenance, and research expenses for students of Egyptian origin.

El-Rahma Charity Trust
http://www.elrahma.org.uk/  Mr M Zamir, 3 The Avenue, London, NW6 7YG
The relief of hardship and advancement of education and religion in the Muslim community, in the United Kingdom and abroad.

Elizabeth Evans Trust
http://www.theelizabethevanstrust.co.uk/english/the-trust/
Grants for students up to 26 years of age. Must wish to pursue a professional career in any aspect of the performing arts and must be able to demonstrate a close association or connection to Wales.
EMI Music Sound Foundation
http://www.EMImusicsoundfoundation.com/
Gives grants up to a total of £2,000 towards the purchase of musical instruments and/or equipment for individuals. Also awards bursaries to designated music colleges. Ask your department whether grants are available at your institution.

Eric Evans Memorial Trust
J M Kinder, Trustee, 55 Thornhill Square, London N1 1BE Tel: 020 7607 4517
Educational grants linked to sport for students who live in East Anglia or London.

Essex Awards Trust
Essex County Council, Corporate Resources, PO Box 4, Chelmsford CM1 1JZ
Applicants must have lived in Essex for at least two years prior to application. Grants are given to those in financial need in for fees, books and equipment, study abroad, and living expenses.

European Consortium for Political Research
http://www.ecprnet.eu/
Small awards for students and conference attendance funding in politics, sociology and social policy.

EWS Educational Trust NEW!
http://ewseducationaltrust.co.uk/
The Trust offers grants help people achieve their educational, artistic or sporting potential. To be eligible, you must have a close family link to the UK railfreight industry. Also offers doctoral research funding.

Exeter Relief-in-Need Charity
http://www.exetermunicipalcharities.org.uk/
Educational charity giving grants for those needing help with university fees/books/equipment for courses. Applicants under 25 years of age and residing within 15 mile radius of Exeter centre. Grants up to £250.

Experimental Psychology Society
http://www.eps.ac.uk/
Grants awarded for research expenses for members for research of Psychology or cognitive functions.

Exuberant Trust
http://www.exuberant-trust.org.uk/
Students up to the age of 30, who are based in Oxfordshire, who are interested in developing their interest in the arts. One-off grants up to £500 for a specific project or activity.

Family Action’s Welfare Grants
http://www.family-action.org.uk/
General grants (c.£300) for clothing, fuel bills and household needs. Applicants under 25 only.

Farmers’ Company Charitable Fund
http://www.farmerslivery.org.uk/
A variety of awards for students studying agriculture, including travel awards.

Feryal Rajah Educational Trust
Bob McIntyre, Education Office, Minerva House, Pendlebury Road, Swinton M27 4EQ Tel: 0161 778 0123
One-off grants for women who wish to pursue a career in medicine and allied professions and who live in Salford.

Fife Educational Trust
M Jonston, Education Service, Fife Council, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes, Fife KY7 5LT Tel: 01592 414141
Students who have a permanent address within the Fife council area and who attended a secondary or primary school there. Postgraduate funding is usually restricted to travel grants where this is an integral
part of the course of study, but can also be given for music, drama and visual arts. Applications are considered in March.

**Florence Mary Mackenzie Bequest**  
*Mr G. Bentinck, Peterkins Solicitors, 100 Union St, Aberdeen, AB1 1QR*  
Provides supplementary grants to Canadian students studying Medicine and related sciences, to cover or contribute to fees, travel costs, books, etc.

**Florence Nightingale Foundation**  
Small grants to help nurses and midwives with research, training and conference attendance.

**Folklore Society Postgraduate Research Bursary**  
The bursary supports research in any aspect of folklore studies at a UK society. The bursary may be for research, travel, equipment or maintenance costs. Applicants must be currently registered on, or in the forthcoming academic session will be registered on, a full or part time programme of research leading to a PhD. The bursary is for a period of one year or less and is worth up to £1,000.

**Foundation for the Canadian Studies in the UK**  
Provides financial support for British and Canadian citizens to conduct doctoral research, at a UK University, containing a substantial Canadian element. Offers travel grants, publication grants and doctoral scholarships of up to £2,000.

**Forrest & Grinsell Foundation**  
The charity awards grants to enable people to pursue courses of study or training that are essential to employment. Applicants must be resident in Westminster.

**Foundation of St Matthias**  
The Foundation’s primary objective is the advancement of education in the Dioceses of Bath & Wells, Bristol and Gloucester, with a preference for education contributing to the advancement of the Church of England. Deadlines are 31st May or 30th September.

**Frederick Soddy Trust**  
The Trust offers support for study which includes human geography: the social, economic and cultural life of specific regions within the United Kingdom or elsewhere in the world. Postgraduate awards up to £6,000.

**Fresson Trust**  
Offers bursaries to residents of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland who wish to begin or pursue a career in aviation within the area as a pilot, engineer or air traffic controller.

**Funds for Women Graduates**  
[http://ffwg.org.uk/](http://ffwg.org.uk/)  
Offers Foundation Grants to help women graduates with their living expenses (not fees) while registered for study or research at an approved institution of higher education in UK. Grants will only be given for a postgraduate doctoral award and are not likely to exceed £6,000. Closing date is early May. Those who have received a Foundation Main Grant in the past are not eligible to apply. Also, offers Emergency Grants to graduate women who face an unforeseen financial crisis whilst engaged in study or research at institutions of higher education in Great Britain. Grants are not likely to exceed £2,500. They will be offered twice a year in March and November.
Furniture History Society
http://www.furniturehistorysociety.org/
Awards grants towards travel and other expenses for study or research into the history of furniture.

Galton Institute
http://www.galtoninstitute.org.uk/
Funds for conferences and networking (£1000) for work on heredity issue and reproductive technology.

Gainsborough Educational Charity
Burton & Dyson Solicitors, 22 Market Place, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire DN21 2BZ Tel: 01427 610761 or 01427 616866
Applicants must be currently registered on, or in the forthcoming academic session will be registered on, a full or part time programme of research leading to a PhD to an equivalent degree with a research component. The bursary is for a period of one year or less and is worth up to £1,000.

Gen Foundation
http://www.genfoundation.org.uk/
For postgraduates in music, art, modern languages, natural sciences. Must live in the UK or Japan to be eligible, and applications from students wishing to undertake exchange programmes or research trips between the two countries are especially welcome.

General Federation of Trade Unions Educational Trust
http://www.gftu.org.uk/
Students must be members of a trade union. Grants for economic history and theory; industrial law; and the history and principles of industrial relations. Full-time and part-time students undertaking a course nominated by the recipient’s trade union receive a grant of £150 (full-time), £50 (part-time).

General Sir John Monash Foundation
http://monashawards.org/the-general-sir-john-nash-foundation/
Offers scholarships to Australian citizens graduating from Australian universities studying at universities abroad. The Scholarships provide funding of AUD $50,000 per year for a maximum of three years.

Genetics Society Conference grants
http://www.genetics.org.uk/Funding/ConferenceGrants.aspx
Grants of up to £750 are available for PhD students to attend conferences in the area of Genetics.

George Drexler Foundation
http://www.georgedrexler.org.uk/
Grants of £1,000-£10,000 per year to support 'exceptional students'. Studies with a link to medicine are especially welcome (although not medical electives). Must be able to demonstrate a link (via yourself, parents, or grandparents) to commerce. One deadline a year, at the end of April.

Geologist’s Association
http://www.geologistsassociation.org.uk/
The Geologists’ Association provides a number of grants that are open to both members and non-members and designed to promote the highest quality research projects and wide dissemination. Grants for research, conferences and prizes.

George Heim Memorial Trust
Paul Heim, Wearne Wyche, Picts Hill, Langport, Somerset, TA10 9AA
Provides grants of up to £1,000 for students under age of 30.

George Viner Memorial Trust
http://www.georgeviner.org.uk/
Gives grants (for course fees, books or travel) to British black and Asian students wishing to gain employment in radio, print and photo journalism.
Gerald Finzi Charitable Trust  
http://www.geraldfinzi.org/  
Gives scholarships to artists, writers and musicians of all ages and levels of accomplishment. The Trust anticipates awarding grants for projects within the UK or overseas lasting, on average, between 3 and 8 weeks. Grants previously awarded ranged between £2000 to £5000.

Gerda Henkel Foundation  
http://www.gerda-henkel-stiftung.de/  
Funds research projects, conferences and PhD scholarships in Archaeology, History and Art History.

German Historical Institute London  
http://www.ghil.ac.uk/  
Funds research visits by British and German postgraduates to Germany or Britain respectively. The scholarships may last for up to six months. Applicants should have completed one year’s postgraduate research, and should be studying either German history or Anglo-German relations.

German Welfare Council  
http://www.gac-online.org.uk/  
Gives general grants to people of German origin and their dependents.

Gilbert Murray Trust  
Mrs Mary Bull, Hon. Secretary, International Studies Committee of the Gilbert Murray Trust, 5 Warnborough Road, Oxford, OX2 6HZ  
Gives grants for research expenses to people who are studying international relations in the UK. Applicants should be 25 years or younger on the 1st April of the year they are applying. No grants for fees or maintenance.

Gilchrist Educational Trust  
http://www.gilchristgrants.org.uk/  
Applicants must be in their last year of study. Average grant value is about £850. Funds also available to support travel.

Girls’ Welfare Fund  
Mrs S M O’Leary, West Hey, Dawstone Road, Heswall, Wirral CH60 4RP Email: gwf_charity@hotmail.com  
Grants of up to £750 for women aged under 25 years, who were born, educated and are living in the Merseyside. Preference will be given to those who are pursuing vocational courses.

Glamorgan Further Education Trust Fund  
Student/Pupil Support Section, Department for Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning, 1st Floor, Aberafan House, Port Talbot, SA13 1PJ Tel: 01639 763553  
The following students eligible: 1.) pupils who attended a county secondary school in Glamorgan, and 2.) female pupils who attended a maintained primary schools in the parishes of Llantrisant, Pontypridd, Pentyrch, Llanfabon, Llantwit Fardre, Eglwysilan and that part of the parish of Llanwon. Grants for teacher training courses, or university courses as approved by the council. Application deadline is 31 May.

Glasgow Educational & Marshall Trust  
http://www.gemt.org.uk/  
Give grants to postgraduate and mature students who have lived in the City of Glasgow for a minimum of five years. Awards are given towards the cost of the following: books, course fees/living expenses, study/travel abroad, course fees, travel, books, equipment/instrument, childcare.

Glasgow Highland Society  
http://www.alexandersloan.co.uk/ghs  
Students who have a connection with the Highlands (for example, lived or went to school there) and who are now studying in Glasgow. Postgraduate studies must be a natural progression of the degree. Grants may also be given for Gaelic research projects and apprenticeships.
Gordon Charitable Trust
45 Dunkeld Road, Bournemouth BH3 7EW Email: gerry_aitken@hotmail.com
Students up to 25 years who live in the county of Dorset or the parishes of Ringwood, Burley, Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley, New Milton, Sopley & Bransgore in west Hampshire. One-off and recurrent grants of up to £500 a year towards books, equipment/instruments and maintenance/living expenses.

GradFunding Outstanding Student Fundraiser Awards NEW!
Email: enquiries@gradfunding.co.uk
We (GradFunding - the publishers of this book) have a fund of our own! We will make a limited number of awards of £50-200 each year to students who have been especially successful and/or creative fundraisers. If you have won multiple charity awards (minimum of two) to support your postgraduate course, then get in touch with your story! We are always looking to feature successful students’ profiles on our website, because it helps inspire and encourage other students to try the voluntary sector and this alternative approach! See our archive at http://www.postgraduate-funding.com/students/student-stories,

Grantham Yorke Trust
Grantham Yorke Trust, c/o Martineau Johnson, 1 Colmore Square, Birmingham
Students under 25 who were born in what was the old West Midlands metropolitan county area (basically: Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Redditch, Sandwell, Solihull, Tamworth, Walsall or Wolverhampton). One-off grants for books, equipment, instruments, fees, maintenance and living expenses, childcare, travel overseas and student exchange.

Great Britain - China Educational Trust
Awards to Chinese citizens studying in the UK at PhD level. Applicants must have started their third year and awards are up to £3,000. Also gives awards to British postgraduate students giving conference papers in China, or travelling to China to pursue essential doctoral research, or studying Chinese language. Priority is given to applications where the bulk of funding has already been raised. Applications are considered twice a year: in Spring and Autumn.

Greenwich Blue Coat Foundation
136 Charlton Lane, London SE7 8AB Tel: 020 8858 7575
Students up to 25 years of age who live, or who are being educated in, the borough of Greenwich. One-off and recurrent grants of up to £1,000 each.

Great British Sasakawa Foundation
http://www.gbsf.org.uk/general/index.html
Supports fieldwork of all subjects in Japan at PhD level. Support is limited to a maximum travel grant of £1,000 towards a research or field trip to Japan necessary for the completion of the PhD thesis. A letter of support from the PhD supervisor should also be provided with the application.

Grundy Educational Trust
http://www.grundyeducationaltrust.org.uk/
UK students under 31 years of age. Grants for courses leading to a career in a technologically or scientifically based discipline in industry, commerce or the professions. Tenable only at the following universities: Imperial College London, Loughborough, Manchester, Nottingham, and Surrey.

Guarantors of the Brain
http://www.guarantorsofbrain.org/
Offer travel grants to neuroscience students where travel is necessary for the applicants' research interest. The grants are awarded in a one off amount between £400 and £800

Guildry Incorporation of Perth
Lorna Peacock, Secretary, 42 George Street, Perth, PH1 5JL Tel: 01738 623195
Bursaries of up to £300 for students living in Perth.
Gurunanak  
*Jill Prendergast, 12 Sherborne Street, Manchester, M3 1ED*  
Gives general grants for people (including students) in financial need who live in UK or overseas.

**Gwent Further Education Trust Fund**  
c/o Pupil & Student Services Section, Monmouthshire County Council, Education Department, County Hall Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 2XH Tel: 01633 644507/644664 Email: jemmacleverly@monmouthshire.gov.uk  
Students studying part-time who are resident in the former Gwent area (excluding Newport) and went to a Gwent secondary school. Small grants for university fees, books and equipment.

**Hale Trust**  
Secretary, Rosemary House, Woodhurst Park, Oxted, Surrey RH8 9HA.  
One-off grants for disadvantaged students under 25 who live in Surrey, Sussex, Kent or London.

**Hallett Science Scholarship**  
**UPDATED!**  
Brighton & Hove City Council, Central Accounting, Kings Avenue, Hove, East Sussex BN3 2SR Tel: 01273 291259 Email: mary.grealish@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
Students under 25 who live in Brighton and Hove and are undertaking a course in pure or applied science. One-off grants are given for fees, study or travel abroad, equipment, student exchange and research, but not childcare. Applicants must demonstrate the research value of the study being undertaken.

**Hammond Trust**  
10 Spring Gardens, London, SW1A 2BN Email: Hammond.Trust@britishcouncil.org  
Students from Asia between 18-45 years. Applicants must be in the last 6 months of their course. Preference is given to students who are able to show that their course might benefit their home country.

**Harris Charity**  
P R Metcalf, Richard House, 9 Winckley Square, Preston PR1 3HP Tel:01772 821021  
People in need under 25 (in some cases 30) who live in Lancashire. One-off grants of £250-£1,000.

**Harry James Riddleston Charity of Leicester**  
People aged 21 to 34 who live in Leicestershire or Rutland. Interest free loans of up to £10,000 for between 5 and 10 years to start or expand a business, or for educational or vocational advancement.

**Harry Tee Young People Foundation**  
Civic Offices, Civic Centre, Reading RG1 7TD  
Students up to 25 who live or work in the borough of Reading. One-off grants to develop leadership skills through travel overseas, such as international exchanges, overseas expeditions, short-term study projects.

**Haworth Charitable Trust**  
Challoner House, 19 Clerkenwell Close, London, EC1R 0RR  
One-off grants of £1,000-£2,000 for young musicians and painters in their final year of full-time study. Preference is given to applicants from the North West of England, Herefordshire, Shropshire, The Wrekin and London.

**Hazel Heughan Educational Trust**  
14 Camus Avenue, Edinburgh, EH10 6QT  
Grants for students who usually live in Turkey and are from poor backgrounds.

**Headley-Pitt Charitable Trust**  
*Mrs S D Pitt, Secretary, Summerville, Ulley Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent TN24 9HX Tel: 01233 623831*  
One-off grants of £500 to students in need who live in Kent, with a preference for Ashford.
The Purpose of the Guide

Charities & Trusts Funding List

**Hellenic Foundation**
*Hon. Secretary, St Paul’s House, Warwick Lane, London, EC4P 4BN*
Grants for education, research, music and dance for students studying Greek culture, tradition and heritage.

**Henry Dixon’s Foundation for Apprenticing**
[http://www.thedrapers.co.uk/](http://www.thedrapers.co.uk/)
Grants for music, textiles or art. Applicants under the age of 25.
Block grants usually awarded to universities, but will consider other applicants.

**Hertfordshire Educational Charity**
[http://www.hertsdirect.org/hef](http://www.hertsdirect.org/hef)
Students under the age of 25 who live in Hertfordshire. Small grants for books, equipment, clothing or travel.

**Hervey & Elizabeth Ekins Educational Charity**
*The Pines’ 36 Lower Street, Great Doddington, NN29 7TL Tel: 01933 224369*
Students who have lived in the borough of Northampton and attended an Anglican church on a regular basis. Applicants should be under 25 (or in exceptional cases under 30). Grants average around £200, but in exceptional circumstances can be up to £500.

**Highland Children’s Trust**
[http://www.hctrust.co.uk/](http://www.hctrust.co.uk/)
One-off grants of up to £500 for students under 25 who live in the Highlands.

**Hilda Martindale Educational Trust**
*Miss J L Hurn, c/o The Registry, Royal Holloway, Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX Tel: 01784 434455*
Grants for British women towards the cost of vocational postgraduate courses. Grants up to £1,000 towards books, fees, living expenses, travel or childcare.

**Hockerill Educational Foundation**
Provides grants for students, mainly those training to become teachers (RE teachers in particular). Grants not usually awarded for the first year of a course, but exceptions may be made for mature students. Deadline in December.

**HolidayLettings Study Abroad Scholarship** NEW!
[https://www.holidaylettings.co.uk/study-abroad-scholarship/](https://www.holidaylettings.co.uk/study-abroad-scholarship/)
Awards one student a £500 scholarship towards studying abroad. The winning student can put the money towards tuition fees, accommodation or travel costs to make their trip abroad that bit easier and even more rewarding.

**Holt Education Trust Fund**
*Roger Morris, Secretary, India Buildings, Water Street, Liverpool, L2 0RB*
The trust gives educational grants to Merseysiders who are in financial need as a result of their pursuit of higher education. Grants up to £500.

**Holywood Trust**
[www.holywood-trust.org.uk/](http://www.holywood-trust.org.uk/)
The Holywood Trust offers grants and support to students from Scotland who are under 25. Awards up to £500.

**Horrison Educational Fund**
Aims to support lone parents who have the motivation, determination and ability to improve their employment prospects through a vocational postgraduate course. Grants of £500-£1,500. UK residents only.

**Horne Foundation** UPDATED!
*PO Box 6165 Newbury Berkshire RG14 9FY Email: hornefoundation@googlemail.com*
Grants (maximum of £5,000) for students who live in Northamptonshire and are in need.
Hornsey Parochial Charities
Lorraine Fincham, PO Box 22985, London N10 3XB Tel: 020 8352 1601 Email: hornseypc@aol.com
Grants for students under 25 who have lived for at least one year in the parish of Hornsey, London.

Humanitarian Trust
http://www.humanitariantrust.co.uk/
The Humanitarian Trust awards one-off grants to postgraduate students each year of up to £1,000. The eligibility criteria area that the students must be studying an academic subject at graduate or post graduate level; must be under 30 years old; must have secured the majority of their required income needed for the year - whether this is through student loans, scholarships, university hardship grants, grants from charitable trusts, employment, family contributions or similar. Students must have a maximum shortfall in required income of £2,000. Also, grants can be used for tuition fees or living expenses only.

II Circolo Italian Cultural Association Limited
http://www.ilcircolo.org.uk/
Students resident in the UK attending a British higher education institution, pursuing studies, training or research relating to Italian culture.

Ideapod Scholarship NEW!
https://www.ideapod.com/social/scholarship/
Ideapod is awarding a US$2000 scholarship for the best idea on the future of work. University students worldwide are invited to enter.

Inner London Fund for the Blind and Disabled
Jil Howard, Flat B, 18 Tressillian Rd, London SE4 1YB.
Grants towards rent and tuition fees for people who are blind, partially sighted or disabled who live or are regularly employed within the London area.

Institute of Actuaries Research and Education Fund
Institute of Actuaries, Staple Inn Hall, 13 Staple Inn, London, WC1V 7QJ
Grants for overseas students studying actuarial science or related subjects.

Institute of Chartered Foresters Educational & Scientific Trust
http://www.charteredforesters.org/
Grants available for students who intend to pursue (or who are at an early stage of) a career in forestry.

Institute of Historical Research Schemes
http://www.history.ac.uk/fellowships
Offers bursaries, prizes and fellowships to postgraduate students studying History.

Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining
http://www.iom3.org/awards/
Awards various scholarships, bursary and travel awards available to fund research. You need to be a member to apply.

Institution of Gas Engineers Benevolent Fund
Gordon Davies, Charnwood Wing, Holywell Park, Ashby Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3GR
Grants for UK and overseas students wishing to study engineering or gas.

Institution of Engineering and Technology
http://www.theiet.org/about/scholarships-awards/
The Institution of Engineering and Technology offers Award and Scholarship programmes to postgraduate and undergraduate students who are studying Engineering and Technology.
Institution of Mechanical Engineers
http://www.imeche.org/About-Us/scholarships-and-awards/postgraduate
The Postgraduate Fund offers assistance to graduates who wish to undertake programmes of postgraduate study or research. It also provides support for members embarking on world-wide projects addressing Third World and environmental issues.

International Federation of University Women
http://www.ifuw.org/what/fellowships/international/
International grants (3,000 to 6,000 Swiss francs) and fellowships to women postgraduates in any course. They are open only to women graduates who are members of IFUW's national federations. First year doctoral students do not qualify. Students Awards are available for use in any country other than the one in which the applicant was educated or habitually resides.

International Students Trust
http://www.ish.org.uk/
Scholarships for postgraduate students from the developing world. All scholarships are co-funded with the academic institution, which provides a tuition fee waiver. Students in the first year of a course are not eligible.

Isaac Davies Trust
The Secretary, United Synagogue, Alder House, 735 High Road, London N12 OUS

Isaac Holden Scholarships
Britannia House, Hall Ings, Bradford BD1 1HX
Small grants for male students who have attended maintained schools within the area of the former City of Bradford County Borough Council for three plus years.

Isabel Blackman Foundation
Stonehenge, 13 Laton Road, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 2ES Tel: 01424 431756
Students in need who live in Hastings and the surrounding district. Grants for books, equipment/instruments, fees and maintenance/living expenses.

Island Health Charitable Trust
Sonia Lapwood, 43 Caledonian Wharf, London E14 3EN
One-off grants and recurrent grants to students who are involved in providing primary healthcare and live in the London boroughs of Tower Hamlets and Newham.

J C Robinson Trust No. 3
The Trustees, Southend Farm, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire, GL12 7PB
Gives general grants of up to £500 to people in need, with a preference for those living in East Sussex, Bristol and South Gloucester.

Japan Foundation Endowment Committee NEW!
http://www.jfec.org.uk/index.php
JFEC's current remit is to provide small grants to support research in Japanese Studies by staff and doctoral research students in degree-awarding institutions of higher education in the United Kingdom. “Japanese Studies” is interpreted as covering research on any aspect of Japan within the humanities or social sciences (which may include comparative studies). Grants are up to £5,000.

James Pantyfedwen Foundation
http://www.jamespantyfedwenfoundation.org.uk/
Funds postgraduate students for the advancement, encouragement and promotion of religion, education, the Arts and agriculture and other charitable purposes for the benefit of Welsh persons primarily in Wales.

Jean Shanks Foundation
http://www.jeanshanksfoundation.org/
Grants bursaries for medical research and related projects to support medical education.
Jewish Care Scotland

Ehne Woldman, May Terrace, Giffnock, Glasgow G46 6LD. Email: admin@jcarescot.org.uk

One-off grants ranging from £500 to £1,000 given to Jewish students living in Scotland for equipment, fees, maintenance and living expenses.

Jewish Widows & Students Aid Trust

5 Raeburn Close, London, NW11 6UG Tel: 020 8349 7199

Jewish students from the UK, France, the Commonwealth and Israel who are aged up to 30 years old. Mainly interest-free loans up to £1,000. Awards made on the basis of academic excellence and need, towards fees, living expenses, books or travel.

Joel Davies Foundation

26 Rye Croft, Tickhill, Doncaster, DN11 9UW

Grants for students of psychology at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

John Longwill Education Trust

J & J McCosh Solicitors, Clydesdale Bank Chambers, Dalry, Ayrshire KA24 5AB

Grants for students who are attending a university in Scotland and who are native to Dalry and of Scottish descent.

John Mathews Educational Charity

http://www.johnmathewscharity.co.uk/

Gives grants to students under 25 years of age resident in the North Wales.

John Nowes Exhibition Foundation

c/o Battens Solicitors, Mansion House, Princes Street, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1EP Tel: 01935 846000

Students under 25 who are in need, living in the town of Yeovil and the parishes of Alvington, Barwick, Brympton, Chilthorne Domer, East Coker, Limington, Mudford, Preston Plucknett, West Coker. Grants, of up to £500 for general educational purposes. Applications by 31 August each year.

John Oldacre Foundation

Hazleton House, Hazleton, Cheltenham, Gloucester, GL5 4EB

Postgraduate students researching the agricultural sciences, specifically the UK agriculture industry. Grants towards research and travel expenditure. Block grants normally given to institutions, so ask at your department in the first instance.

John Speak Trust Foreign Languages Scholarships

Mrs S Needham, Bradford Chamber of Commerce, Devere House, Vicar Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD1 5AH

Grants to help with studying a foreign language abroad for a continuous period of six months.

John Storer’s Educational Foundation

20 Churchgate, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 1UD

Students under the age of 25, undertaking study of any subject and living in the old borough of Loughborough who are in need. One-off grants in the form of scholarships, maintenance, and travel.

John Thaw Foundation

PO Box 38848, London, W3 6WT

Students wishing to pursue a career in the theatre and performing arts. Funding especially for arts-based training courses. This trust only makes grants to specific institutions. Ask your department whether grants are available at your institution.

John Wates Charitable Trust

Nicholas Smith, 40 Kings Road, Chelsea, London, SW3 4UD

Postgraduates studying music and singing who live in London or the South East. Grants range from
£500-£1,000 for fees and maintenance. This trust only makes grants to specific institutions. Ask your department whether grants are available at your institution.

**Johnston Educational Foundation**
*School and Governor Support Service, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UJ Tel: 0191 383 4596*
Students under 25 who live or whose parents live in the city of Durham and who have attended one of the city's comprehensive schools for at least two years. One-off and recurrent grants of up to £1,000. Grants made to help with the cost of books, equipment/instruments, fees, living expenses, travel.

**Joseph Boaz Charity**
*ID Graham, Graham and Rosen Solicitors, 8 Parliament St, Hull HU1 2BB Tel: 01482 323123*
One-off grants of £250-£500 for students from Hull and East Yorkshire. Grants for books, equipment, and instruments.

**Kathleen Trust**
*Currey & Co, 21 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1 E6LS*
Grants to young musicians and singers. Loans to buy instruments and equipment, and grants to pay course fees.

**Kay Kendall Leukaemia Fund**
*[http://www.kklf.org.uk/junior.html](http://www.kklf.org.uk/junior.html)*
Fellowships and travel grants for any area of leukaemia research

**Kentish’s Educational Foundation**
*7 Nunnery Stables, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 2AS Tel: 01727 856626*
Students up to 35 who have the surname ‘Kentish’ or who are related to the founder Thomas Kentish (died 1712). May also make awards to people not named ‘Kentish’ from Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, where Thomas Kentish was associated. Grants of up to £1,000. Usually for undergraduates, but postgraduates also supported in special cases.

**Kettering Charities (Apprenticing)**
*Kettering Borough Council, Council Offices, Bowling Green Road, Kettering NN15 7QX Tel: 01536 534398 Email: anneireson@kettering.gov.uk*
Students who live in the town of Kettering or Barton Seagrave and are in training or further education. One-off grants for general educational needs such as books and equipment.

**Khaleque & Sarifun Memorial Trust**
*Dr A Zaman, 121 Manor Road, Darwen, Lancashire BB3 2SN Tel 01254 778380*
Grants up to £1,000 for students in need who live in Lancashire (including overseas students studying there).

**King’s Lynn Educational Charity**
*21 Baldwin Road, King’s Lynn, Norfolk PE30 4AL*
Students up to and including 25, who have lived in the borough of King’s Lynn and West Norfolk for not less than two years, or those who have attended school in the borough for not less than two years. One-off and recurrent grants of up to £200 are made for books, equipment/instruments and fees.

**Kingston-upon-Hull Education Foundation**
*Corporate Finance, City Treasury, Hull City Council, Guildhall Road, Kingston-upon-Hull, HU1 2AB Tel: 01482 613517*
Students who live (or whose parents live) in the city of Kingston-upon-Hull, and either attend, or have attended, a school in the city. Grants of up to £250 towards scholarships, bursaries or grants tenable at any university approved by the trustees.
Kochan Trust
Revd R Massingberd-Mundy, Secretary to the trustees, The Old Post Office, West Raynham, Fakenham, Norfolk, NR21 7AD Tel: 01328 838611
One-off grants to students living in Lincolnshire who are in need of financial assistance for their study of the creative arts, music, or veterinary medicine.

Law Society Bursary Schemes
http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/bursaries/
The Law Society operates two bursary schemes offering assistance with fees for the Legal Practice Course (LPC) to exceptional aspiring entrants to the solicitors’ profession.

Lawlor Foundation
Mrs. Virginia Lawlor, Chair, 37 Downshire Hill London NW3 INU. Tel: 020 7317 8103.
Grants to Irish students who live in Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland. Grants of £100-£500 for fees, maintenance, research expenses. Grants for up to three years.

Lawrence Atwell’s Charity
http://www.skinnershall.co.uk/charities/lawrence-atwell-charity.htm
Grants for students from poor backgrounds. Must be 26 years of age or under, and be pursuing a course of study which is vocational and essential to future career plans.

Leathersellers’ Company
http://www.leathersellers.co.uk/
Exhibitions (grants) awarded on the basis of academic record and financial need. Full-time applicants only.

Leche Trust
http://www.lechetrust.org/
Offers grants to overseas PhD Students from outside the EU who are under 35, and in the final 6 months of their course.

Leeke Church Schools & Educational Foundation
5 Woburn Avenue, Lincoln, LN1 3HJ
Students under 25 who live, or whose parents live, in the city of Lincoln. One-off and recurrent grants up to £500 each term. Grants for books, equipment/instruments, fees, UK and international travel, and student exchanges.

Leverhulme Trust Study Abroad Studentships
http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk/funding/SAS/SAS.cfm
Offering maintenance and research expenses to allow applicants to spend a period of 12 to 24 months on advanced study or research at a centre of learning in any overseas country (excluding the USA). Non-UK residents are not eligible. Applications close on January.

Leverhulme Trades Charities Trust
http://www.leverhulme-trade.org.uk/
These awards are for those who can demonstrate a family link (i.e. parents or spouse) with the grocers’ trade, chemists or pharmacists, or commercial travellers. The awards are around £5,000 per annum, and can be annually renewed.

Lewisham Education Charity
Lloyd Court, Slagrove Place, London SE13 7LP. Email: admin@lpcharities.co.uk
Students aged 26 or under who are in need and live in the ancient parish of Lewisham (which does not include Deptford or Lee). One-off grants for any educational need. Applications are preferred for specific items rather than contributions to large fee costs.

Linnean Society
http://www.linnean.org/
Funds overseas fieldwork and research in earth and Life Sciences.
10 Charities & Trusts Funding List

Lionel Bart Foundation
J. Cohen, 55 Drury Lane, London, WC2B 5SQ. Email: jcohen@clintons.co.uk
For Drama postgraduate students. Grants of £1,000-£3,000 for fees. This trust only makes grants to specific institutions. Ask your department whether grants are available at your institution.

Logan & Johnstone School Scheme
Marion Taylor, Education Services, Nye Bevan House, 20 India Street, Glasgow G2 4PF Tel: 0141 287 6784
One-off grants for students who live in the former Strathclyde region.

London Mathematical Society
http://www.lms.ac.uk/
Grants for research, travel, and conference expenses for mathematics.

Lumb’s Educational Foundation
4 Manor View, Cold Pool Lane, Up Hatherley, Cheltenham, GL51 6HZ Tel: 01242 577610
Students up to 25 who live in the borough of Cheltenham and surrounding parishes. Students from Gloucestershire, particularly art and music students, are also considered. One-off grants of up to £1,000 to help with books, equipment/instruments, fees, domestic and international travel.

Lynne Grundy Memorial Trust
http://www.lynnegrundytrust.org.uk/
Open to students in the disciplines of Old English/ Anglo-Saxon or Humanities Computing. Awards (up to £500) for research expenses. Based on academic record and financial need.

Macfarlane Walker Trust
50 Courthope Road, London NW3 2LD
Music students who are in need, with a preference for those who live in Gloucestershire. One-off grants ranging from £500 to £2,000, for the purchase of musical instruments.

Magdalen & Lasher Educational Foundation
http://www.magdalenandlasher.co.uk/
The Foundation awards bursaries to students under 25 living in Hastings.

Marjorie Deane Financial Journalism Foundation
http://marjoriedeane.com/studentships/
The Marjorie Deane Financial Journalism Foundation provides studentships to postgraduates embarking on finance or economics-related masters degrees. The foundation aims to encourage excellence in financial journalism; preference will be given to applicants who possess exceptional writing skills and who have the potential to produce publishable work.

Manchester Publicity Association Educational Trust
38 Larkfield Close, Greenmount, Bury, Lancashire BL8 4QJ
Students living in Greater Manchester and the surrounding area, who are already working in (or hoping to enter) marketing or related occupations, or who are studying marketing communications. Grants of up to £500 towards the cost of books and fees.

Marsden & Popplewell Educational Charity
Diane Abbott, Secretary, R P Smith and Co., 1 Chorley New Road Bolton, Lancashire BL1 4QR Tel:01204 534421
Students under 25 who live in Bolton and are in need. Preference is given to ‘the promotion of education in the principles of the Church of England’.

Marshall Scholarships
http://www.marshallscholarship.org/
Finances young Americans of high ability to study for a postgraduate degree in the UK.
Martin Smith Foundation
4 Essex Villas, London, W8 7BN Tel: 0207 937 0027
One-off grants of up to £2,500 for students of ecology, environment and natural resources, music or performing arts.

Mary Trevelyan Fund
International Students House, 229 Great Portland St, Regent’s Park, London, W1W 5PN
Grants of up to £1,000 for overseas students from developing countries. Applicants must be studying in London, and be in their final year. Additionally, the candidate should be planning to return to their country after their course, and particular preference will be given to those who can show a relevant developmental application to their home country.

MastersPortal Global Study Award NEW!
https://www.mastersportal.com/pages/the-global-study-awards/#fflt:SP_GSA1
These awards recognises studying abroad as a positively life changing experience for many students, opening their minds personally and professionally, as well as promoting intercultural understanding and tolerance. The Award prize will be applied toward the cost of tuition fees in the first instance, paid directly to the Higher Education Institution that the successful candidate will attend.

Mathew Trust
Mrs Fiona Bullions, Henderson Loggie, Royal Exchange, Dundee DD1 1DZ Tel: 01382 201234
One-off grants up to £1,100 to students who live in the local government areas of the city of Dundee, Angus, Perth and Kinross and Fife.

McGlashan Charitable Trust UPDATED!
66 Octavia Terrace, Greenock, PA16 7PY Email: gordon.armour66@btinternet.com.
The McGlashan Charitable Trust offers small grants to Post-Graduate students under the age of 30 and either born in Scotland or born elsewhere but studying in Scotland. There is no limit to the range of subjects studied. Applications by letter, stating the need for financial assistance, must be received during the month of April (those arriving early or late are ineligible) Grants tend to be between £500 and £1000 awards are made during July.

Melton Mowbray Building Society Charitable Foundation
Secretary to the Trustees, G F Wells, 39 Nottingham St, Melton Mowbray, LE13 1NR.
One-off grants for students in need who live in Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland, with a special preference for people with dyslexia.

Merchant Company
http://www.mcoe.org.uk/
Gives grants to students under 30 studying in Edinburgh.

Merlin Trust
http://www.merlin-trust.org.uk/
Gives financial assistance to students up to 35 to study plants in their natural habitats anywhere in the world.

Michael James Music Trust
4 Onslow Gardens, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 2QG. Tel: 01202 842103.
Grants to musicians, especially in a Christian context.

Michael Sobell Welsh People’s Charitable Trust
Mrs S E Davies, Dolenog Old Hall, Llanidloes, Powys SY18 6PP
Grants of up to £500 for Welsh people, including students, in need

Middleton Educational Trust
People who live or attend or have attended a school in the area of the former borough of Middleton, Rochdale. One-off grants of £250 to £500 for students for fees, maintenance/living expenses and childcare.

**Mihran Essefian Charitable Trust**
15 Elm Crescent, Ealing, London W5 3JW Tel: 020 8567 1210
Armenian university students studying in the UK (or Armenia). Grants up to £6,000. Applications to the correspondent by 30 April each year.

**Mijoda Charitable Trust**
Mrs J V Hardman, Oak House, Botley Road, Chesham, Buckinghamshire HP5 1XG Tel:01494 783402
One-off and recurrent grants of up to £500 for students under 40 who live in Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. Must study in music, the arts or medicine.

**Millington’s Charity**
Copthorne Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY3 8JW Tel: 01743 360904
Applicants must be residents or have been educated in Shropshire, and be under 25. They (or their parents/guardians) should be members of the Church of England. One-off grants of up to £400 to help with incidental expenses associated with university attendance such as books, equipment/instruments, maintenance/living expenses, travel abroad. No grants for fees.

**Modern Humanities Research Association**
http://www.mhra.org.uk/
Offers grants of up to £1,500 to support conferences or colloquia in the field of medieval and modern European languages and literatures. Funds can also be sought for the publication of scholarly works.

**Moody Charitable Trust**
Thomas David, Orchard House, 5 The Orchard, Hertford, SG14 3HQ
One-off and recurring grants for students in need.

**Muirhead Trust**
Clerk to the Trust, 24 St Enouch Square, Glasgow G1 4DB Tel:0141 226 3000
Grants for female students in Scotland studying for graduate medicine or dentistry.

**Mynshull’s Educational Foundation**
Gaddum Centre, Gaddum House, 6 Great Jackson St, Manchester M15 4AX Tel: 01618 340 348
Gives grants to students aged 25 or under who are resident in Greater Manchester.

**Nailsea Community Trust Ltd.** UPDATED!
Nailsea Community Trust Ltd., 1st Nailsea Scouts Activity and Training Centre, Clevedon Road, Nailsea, BS48 1EH
One-off grants up to £200 for students undertaking study of any subject, but mainly those of: arts, sciences, religion, commerce and healthcare and who live in the town of Nailsea and the immediate area in North Somerset.

**Neale’s Educational Foundation**
The Clerk, The Vestry, St Dunstan’s in the West, 186 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2EA.
One-off grants are given towards courses of men under the age of 26 who attended school in the City of London or the London borough of Westminster for at least two years. Preference given to men who propose to train for the Merchant or Royal Navy.

**Netherlands’ Benevolent Society**
Peter Broek, Hon Treasurer, 7 Austin Friars, London, EC2N 2HA
Grants (up to £1,000) to people of Dutch origin who are in need and live in the UK.
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research
http://www.nwo.nl
Grants enable researchers from abroad to spend one year conducting research in the Netherlands. The Rubicon programme is open to all scientific disciplines. Depending on the nature of the project, applicants may conduct field research. Postgraduates currently engaged in doctoral research, or recent doctoral graduates, may apply.

Newcomen Collett Foundation
http://www.newcomencollett.org.uk/individuals.html
Grants for students under 25 living in the London borough of Southwark for at least 2 years.

Newton Exhibition Foundation
117 Ladywood Road, Hertford, Hertford SG14 2TA
Students up to 25 attending, or having attended, any school in the town of Hertford, with preference for members of the Church of England. Grants up to £400. Grants given for books, equipment/instruments, study or travel overseas.

NHS Bursary
http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/Students/816.aspx
The NHS offers bursaries to postgraduates undertaking courses leading to a health care-related qualification. The funding is usually between £1,900 – £2,900.

Nichol-Young Foundation
The Clerk, Bates Wells & Braithwaite, 27 Friars Street, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 2AD
One-off and recurrent grants of up to £500 for students in need who live in East Anglia.

Nightingale Fund
http://www.thenightingalefund.org.uk/
Funds for students pursuing qualifications in nursing and related care.

Noon Foundation
The Trustees, 25 Queen Anne’s Gate, St James Park, London. SW1H 9BU
Email: secretary@noongroup.co.uk
Gives educational grants to students from Pakistan.

Nora Henry Trust
The Grants Manager, Family Action, 501-505 Kingsland Road, Dalston, London, E8 4AU. Email: grants.enquiry@family-action.org.uk
The trust makes grants to students from any country with a preference for students from developing countries who are studying subjects which will be of use when the student returns to that country.

Norman Whiteley Trust
D Foster, Lane Cove, Grassgarth, Ings, Cumbria, LAB 9QF
Grants for people in need who live in Cumbria, including students.

Northbrook Society
Northbrook Society, 37 Neatherd Road, Dereham, Norfolk, NR20 4AU.
Grants of up to £750 for nationals of India planning to return to India after the completion of their course.

Norton Folgate Trust
http://www.carpentersco.com/
People who are engaged in (or studying) the craft of carpentry or any branch of the building industry. Small grants to help with university fees or to supplement existing grants. Deadline is July.

Norwich French Church Charity
http://norwichfrenchchurchcharity.org.uk/
Offers financial assistance to help students up to the age of 25.
Nottingham Gordon Memorial Trust for Boys and Girls
Nottingham Gordon Memorial Trust for Boys and Girls, Cumberland Court, 80 Mount st, Nottingham NG1 6HH Tel: 0115 936 9369
Educational grants students up to 25 who are in need and live in Nottingham and the around the city.

Nurses Association of Jamaica
http://www.naj.org.uk/
One off grants are available for students studying health, education or Sciences, preferences given to students living in Birmingham area, Nottingham, London or Internationally.

Old British School, Bratton
Supports the education of persons under the age of 25 who are in need of financial assistance and who live within a radius of 20 miles from Bratton, Wiltshire.

Old School Fund
121 Southgate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 2AZ Tel: 01284 769483
Students under 25 who live in, or whose parents live in, Bury St Edmunds. One-off and recurrent grants of up to £250 towards the cost of books, fees and living expenses.

Oliver & Johannah Brown Apprenticeship Fund
Brighton & Hove Council, Education Finance, Kings House, Grand Avenue, Hove, East Sussex BN3 2SU Tel: 01273 291 259 or 01273 291 659
Students (UK citizens) under the age of 25 who live in Brighton and Hove. One-off grants of up to £600 for study expenses, e.g. books, tools, and travel.

Open University Students’ Educational Trust
Secretary to the Trust, PO Box 397, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6BE. Email: ouset@open.ac.uk
Grants are available to Open University students who are in financial difficulty for assistance.

P & M Lovell Charitable Settlement
100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6AG. Tel: 0117 905 4000.
Gives small one-off grants to students in need, generally up to £200.

Palmer & Seabright Charity
c/o Wall, James & Chappell, 15–23 Hagley Road, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 1QW Tel: 01384 371622 or 01384 374057
Students living in the borough of Stourbridge. One-off and recurrent grants for for fees, books, equipment/instruments and maintenance/living expenses.

Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art Research Support Grants NEW!
Research Support Grants assist with research travel costs. They are offered to scholars already engaged in research involving the study of British art or architectural history. Grants may be used towards the expenses incurred in visiting collections, libraries, archives or historic sites with the United Kingdom or abroad for research purposes. The maximum award given in this category is £2,000.

Parkes Foundation
http://www.parkesfoundation.org.uk/grants.html
Grants to assist PhD students researching biosocial disciplines of reproduction, demography or fertility.

Pasold Research Fund
http://www.pasold.co.uk/
Gives PhD bursaries of up to £2,500 to support research in textile history. The bursaries may be used for conference attendance, travel or research expenses or to support students close to completion of their
dissertation. Awards will be for one year initially, but may be renewed for up to two years. Applicants must be past the first year of their PhD and be enrolled at an institution within the UK.

**Peel Foundation Scholarship Fund**

*Mrs D Bradbury, 18 Somerset Road, Rishton, Blackburn, Lancashire BB1 4BP.*

Grants of around £500 for students under 25 who live in and around Blackburn.

**Perkin's Educational Foundation**


Students under 25 who have been living for at least two years (immediately prior to their application) in Salford Priors, Kings Broom, Bidford-on-Avon, Harvington or Cleeve Prior. Grants towards the cost of books, fees/living expenses and study or travel abroad.

**Perry Charitable Trust**

*75 Park Walk, London, SW10 0AZ Tel: 020 7351 9533*

Students in need under 25 whose parents or guardians have been resident in the West Midlands for not less than three years. Grants for equipment, tools, books.

**Perth and Kinross Educational Trust**

*Tracy Dowie, Finance Section, Education and children’s services, Perth and Kinross Council, Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth, PH1 5GD Tel: 01738 476210*

Small grants for students who were born or attended school in Perth and Kinross.

**Peter Kirk Memorial Fund**


Citizens of any European country up to 26 years of age. One-off grants of £1,500 to help students increase their understanding of Europe by undertaking a project on any aspect of modern European life. This must involve active research in at least one other European country for two to three months. Deadline is 16 Feb.

**Peter Lathom's Charity**

*Brighouse Wolff, 21 Liverpool Road North, Maghull, Merseyside, L31 2HB*

Students in need living in West Lancashire. The key objectives of the charity are to provide financial assistance for the education and training of persons under 25. Application deadline: 30 September.

**Peveril Exhibition Endowment Fund**

*5 New Road, Burton Lazars, Leics, LE14 2UU*

Applicants under 25 who (or whose parents) live within the city of Nottingham. There is a minimum residential qualification period within the city of two years. Grants of up to £1,000.

**Philip Bates Trust**


Grants to support students under the age of 25 in the arts living in the West Midlands.

**Philological Foundation**

*Mrs A Millar, Clerk, 24 Carlton Hill, St John’s Wood, London NW8 0JY.*

Grants of up to £2000 for students under 25 who attended a secondary school in the borough of Camden.

**Physiological Society**


Grants awarded for research expenses, travel, and conferences for postgraduates involved in the scientific study of humans and animals.

**Pocklington Apprenticeship Trust**

*Mrs D Young, Clerk, 42 Creswick Road Acton, London W3 9HF Tel: 020 8992 6385*

Small grants for apprentices and student nurses aged 25 or under who live in Acton, Ealing or Hammersmith and Fulham.
Postgrad Solutions Study Bursaries
http://www.postgrad.com/editorial/fees_and_funding/postgrad_solutions_study_bursaries/information/
Offers postgraduate bursaries in all subjects worth £500. Extremely competitive.

Preston Simpson Scholarship in Music
Hartlepool Borough Council, Civic Centre, Victoria Road, Hartlepool TS24 8AY Tel: 01429 523763
Students of music up to 25 who were either born in Hartlepool or who have had at least one parent living in Hartlepool for the last five years. Grants for fees and instruments.

Professor D.G. Montefiore Trust
17 Market Street, Crewkerne, Somerset, TA18 7JU. Tel: 01460 74401
Grants of up to £500. Overseas students from developing countries, principally those undertaking postgraduate medical work in the UK before returning home.

Prowde’s Educational Foundation
39 Stanley Street, Southsea, Hants, PO5 2DS Tel: 02392799142
Male students up to 25 years old, who live in Somerset or the North or East Ridings of Yorkshire. One-off grants for fees, books, equipment, instruments, study or travel abroad. Average grant is £450. Applications should be submitted in May/June for consideration in July.

Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust
http://www.qest.org.uk/
Individuals taking vocational postgraduate courses in crafts such as jewellery making, upholstery, book binding etc. Grants up to £15,000.

R and D Burchett Charitable Foundation
Watermillock House, Watermillock, Penrith, CA11 0JH Email: burchett.foundation@gmail.com
A limited number of small grants to people in difficult circumstances to assist with education or music. Small grants (max. £1000) given according to need. Two deadlines per year, in January and July. Please note that the email account is only checked in January and July. Apply by presenting a brief summary of: 1.) What you would like funding for, 2.) Circumstances explaining why you cannot fund it yourself, 3.) Other efforts you have made to fund your course, 4.) Any other information.

R C Sherriff Trust
http://www.rcsherrifftrust.org.uk/
Composers, craftspeople, curators, designers, directors, film-makers, musicians, performers, producers, promoters, theatre technicians, visual artists, writers and other individual arts practitioners in Elmbridge. Grants (of c.£500) are not for fees/maintenance of university courses. However, they can be used for development and training (including travel grants), research and development for arts projects, or publication or production of a specific piece of work and equipment.

Radcliffe-Brown Memorial Trust Fund for Social Anthropological Research
www.therai.org.uk/awards/research-grants/
Assists social anthropologists, handicapped by lack of funds who are in the final stages of completing a doctorate. Only students associated with British or Commonwealth universities are eligible. Grants are made towards the production costs of the thesis and living costs during the final period of writing-up. Grants are up to £750: closing dates are in April and November each year.

Rainford Trust
c/o Pilkington plc, Prescot Road, St Helens, Merseyside WA10 3TT Tel: 01744 20574
Students in need who are normally resident in the borough of St Helens. One-off and recurrent grants of up to £750. Grants for books, equipment/instruments, fees, childcare and travel in the UK.

Reading Municipal Church Charities
St Mary’s Church House, Chain Street, Reading, Berkshire RG1 2HX
Students up to the age of 24, in Reading and Wokingham.
Reardon Smith Nautical Trust
Cob Cottage, Garth Hill, Pentyrch, Cardiff, CF15 9NS
Residents of Wales up to the age of 25 studying recognised nautical or maritime courses. These should relate to shipping, maritime law and commerce, navigation, sailing, oceanography and marine related environmental issues, especially those for individual first hand practical experience of being at sea.

Retail Trust
Marshall Estate, Hammers Lane, London, NW7 4EE
You may be eligible for a grant if you, your spouse, or your parents have worked in the retail, wholesale, manufacturing or distribution trades for at least two years or is retired and worked in the trades for at least ten years.

Rhona Reid Charitable Trust
K. Clayton, c/o Rathbone Taxation Services, Port of Liverpool Building, Pier Head, Liverpool, L3 1NW
Gives grants to students of medicine and music.

Richard Carne Trust
http://richardcarmetrust.org/
Trust provides bursaries and scholarships to students at select music and drama institutions. Awards made on the basis of talent and financial need.

Richard Jones Charity
Peter H Godfrey, Two Shillings, 24d Tyning Road, Saltford, Bristol, BS31 3HL Tel 01225 341085 Email peter@godfreyfamily.org.uk
Grants up to £250 for students under 30, living in Bath and North East Somerset for equipment costs.

Richmond Parish Lands Charity
http://www.rplc.org.uk/
This Education Fund exists to help students who live in the following postcodes around Richmond and Twickenham: TW9, TW10, or SW14.

Robert Nicol Trust
NEW!
http://www.peterkins.com/robert-nicol-trust
The Robert Nicol Trust is an educational charity which makes small financial awards to support students from or based in the Aberdeen region who are undertaking courses of one kind or another at the post-school level.

Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council
http://www.rochdaleonline.co.uk/sites/rochdale-ancient-parish-educational-trust
One-off grants to students towards fees, travel in the UK, study or travel abroad, maintenance/living expenses and childcare. Grants up to £330. Applicants should be under 25, and live in Rochdale, Littleborough, Milnrow, Wardle, Todmorden, Saddleworth and Whitworth, or have attended a school in the area of the ancient parish.

Roger and Miriam Pilkington Charitable Trust
c/o Brabners Chaffe Street, 1 Dale Street, Liverpool L2 2ET
Grants are given to 'enterprising' people up to 25, particularly those who are undertaking imaginative projects abroad which could be said to broaden horizons, giving them new and unique experiences; increase awareness of other cultures and ways of living; or to deepen understanding of social problems outside their immediate environment. Grants of £500-£1,000.

Roger and Sarah Bancroft Clark Charitable Trust
Lynette Copper, 40 High Street, Somerset, BA16 0YA
Offers small grants for fees and maintenance to UK and overseas students. This trust only makes grants to specific institutions. Ask your department whether grants are available at your institution.
Rootstein Hopkins Foundation
The Secretary, PO Box 14720, London, W3 7ZG. Tel: 020 8746 2136.
Grants for British people studying or working in the fine arts, particularly painting and drawing. Applicant must have been resident in Britain for at least 3 years.

Rotary Foundation Scholarships
http://www.rotary.org/
Offers a range of local and global scholarships for students. Must apply via your local rotary club.

Rothschild Foundation
http://www.rothschildfoundation.eu/
These awards support students preparing themselves for, or undertaking, doctoral dissertation research in Jewish studies at an academic institution in Europe. Fellowships last for a period of one year and provide funding of between £3,000 and £12,000.

Rotherwick Foundation
G C Bateman, Trustee and General Manager, Ashdown Park, Wych Cross, Forest Row, East Sussex RH18 5JR
Tel: 01342 820227 Email:rotherwickfoundation@ashdownpark.com
Students under 25 who live, or whose parents or guardians live in Hampshire or East Sussex. Beneficiaries must also have attended a school within the area for at least five years.

Rowlett Educational Foundation
Small grants to supports training and education of students under 25 in Corby.

Royal Academy of Engineering
http://www.raeng.org.uk/education/
A range of bursaries and fellowships to students of engineering and qualified engineers.

Royal Aeronautical Society Bursaries and Scholarships
https://www.aerosociety.com/careers-education/bursaries/
Offers Centennial Scholarships to aeronautical postgraduate students for study and research, and Aerospace Speakers Travel Grants.

Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland
http://www.therai.org.uk/
Gives fieldwork grants and promotes anthropological research. Preference will be given to those who propose to do fieldwork outside the UK. Awards will normally range between £500 and £7,000. Also gives grants of up to £750 to help students in the final stages of their PhD. Applicants must be citizens of the UK, RoI or Commonwealth countries.

Royal Bath & West of England Society
Jane Guise, The Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 6QN
Grants for any aspect of agriculture, horticulture, forestry, conservation or any form of food production or marketing. Up to £10,000 is available for each scholarship.

Royal Bibliographical Society
http://www.bibsoc.org.uk/grants.htm
Must demonstrate a degree of bibliographical research (on, for example, book history, textual transmission, publishing, printing, bookbinding, book ownership and book collecting). A small number of grants for research expenses, of up to £1,000.

Royal Geographical Society
http://www.rgs.org/
Awards for research expenses and travel for the study of Geography.
Royal Historical Society
http://www.royalhistoricalsociety.org/postgraduates.htm
Grants of up to £500 for student research expenses for the study of History.

Royal Institute of British Architects
http://www.architecture.com/EducationAndCareers/PrizesScholarshipsandBursaries/
The Royal Institute Education Department administers a number of trust funds supporting postgraduate study in architecture, and its research.

Royal Medical Benevolent Fund
http://www.rmbf.org/
The student must be enrolled on a course which will lead to registration with the GMC and must be facing hardship as a result of sudden and unexpected factors outside their control. Students seeking to apply must do so through their University's Student Welfare Officer or the head of the medical school.

Royal Merchant Navy Education Foundation
http://www.rmnef.org.uk/
Helps young people at any stage of educational development. To be considered for support, young British people must have one or other parent who has served at sea in a Merchant Navy and who is unable to provide fully for their child's education, maintenance or upbringing.

Royal Meteorological Society Rupert Ford Award NEW!
The Fund is used to sponsor travel by outstanding young scientists from any part of the world to enable them to undertake research work or study in meteorology or associated physical oceanography (air-sea interaction) at a centre of excellence outside their own countries. Applications for travel in the following year are required by July from early career scientists (defined as no more than 15 years into career). Applicants do not need to be members of the Society.

Royal Pinner School Foundation
http://www.royalpinner.co.uk/
Applicants must preferably be under 25. They must be the children of travelling sales representatives and manufacturer's agents, where the family has experienced adversity or hardship. Full-time students only. Funding for books, equipment, travel.

Royal Scottish Corporation (Scottish Hospital of the Foundation of King Charles II)
Willie Docherty, Chief Executive, 37 King Street, Convent Garden, London WC2E 8JS Email: enquiry@royalscottish corporation.org.uk
Gives grants to Scottish students who are in need and live within 35 miles of Charing Cross in London.

Royal Society of Medicine
http://www.rsm.ac.uk/academ/awards/index.php
The Society awards a large number of prizes, fellowships and bursaries to trainees and registrars in a wide variety of topics. See website for a full list.

Royal Town Planning Institute  NEW!
http://www.rtpi.org.uk/bursary/
The RTPI Future Planners Bursary for postgraduates scheme supports students on accredited posgraduate conversion degrees. It is open to any discipline, including law, politics, geography or architecture, who choose planning as a career and enrol on a Planning Masters at an RTPI accredited planning school.

Ruby and Will George Trust
http://www.therwgtrust.co.uk/
Grants (up to £2,000) awarded for assistance with fees or maintenance, on the basis of academic record and financial need. Must be able to demonstrate a family link with commerce (i.e. the purchase and sale of goods and services).
Rushworth Trust
Liverpool Charity and Voluntary Services, 151 Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2AH Tel: 0151 227 5177 E-mail: grants@lcvs.org.uk.
One-off grants of up to £300 for music students living within a sixty mile radius of Liverpool. Grants to help with the cost of studying music: e.g. publishing music, promotion, equipment and concerts.

Ruth Hayman Trust
http://www.ruthhaymantrust.com/
The Trust awards small grants to support the education and training of students resident in the UK who speak a language other than English as their first language.

Saint Mary Magdalen Apprenticing & Educational Foundation
Hampden Cottage, High Street, Ramsden, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, OX7 3AU
Grants of up to £500 to help students with books and fees/living expenses. Applicants must be under 24 and live in the city of Oxford. Applications deadline is mid-September.

Sale Educational Foundation
284 Brooklands Road, Manchester, M23 9HB
Grants to students undertaking/about to undertake higher education, which may be used for books, equipment and travel. Awards of £250 a year for up to three years. Applicants must have attended a secondary school in the former borough of Sale, and whose parents have lived in the borough for at least two years prior to the application.

Salford Foundation Trust
http://www.salfordfoundationtrust.org.uk/
Gives grants to young people to develop their hobbies, interests, skills and talents. Applicants must be under 25 and have lived in Salford for a minimum of three years.

Salisbury City Almshouse and Welfare Charities
http://www.salisburyalmshouses.co.uk/
Educational grants are made to students (under 25 years old) resident within the Salisbury area who are in need of financial assistance. Applications are considered on a monthly basis.

Salt Foundation
17 Springfield Road, Baildon, Shipley, West Yorkshire, BD17 5NA Tel: 01274 591 508
One-off grants to students for books, equipment/instruments and study or travel overseas. Applicants must live in the former urban district council of Shipley. Two deadlines per year, in January and September.

Sandra Charitable Trust
Lucy Moore, Messrs Moore Stephens, St Paul’s House, Warwick Lane, London, EC4M 7BP
Grants to assist people studying to become nurses and who are in need of financial support in order to complete their studies.

Sarah Cowley Educational Foundation
Mrs Janet Taylor, St Helens Council, Education and Leisure Services Department, Wesley House, Corporation Street, St Helens WA10 4ND. Tel: 01744 455339; E-mail: studentsupport@sthelens.gov.uk
Students under 25 who live in the borough of St Helens. One-off grants of up to £400 to assist in vocational training/courses. Applications must include details of parental or spouses income.

Sarum St Michael Educational Charity
http://www.sarumstmichael.org/
Gives grants to students of any age that live or study (including by distance learning) in the Diocese of Salisbury or one of its adjacent dioceses (Bath & Wells, Bristol, Exeter, Oxford and Winchester).
Savoy Educational Trust  
http://www.savoyeducationaltrust.org.uk/  
Individuals can apply to the Trust for a small grant of usually not more than £500 to assist you towards fees if you are undertaking a hospitality related PhD or Masters degree. You must be studying in the UK and we do not offer funding to students undertaking a non-hospitality related course.

SC Witting Trust UPDATED!  
Administrator, S C Witting Trust, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ  
Small grants for university students, ordinarily resident in England, Germany or Poland. Applications must include a letter from a tutor acknowledging the students' financial need.

Scarborough Municipal Charities  
42 Green Lane, Scarborough, YO12 6HT Tel: 01723 371063  
Support is given to students living in the borough of Scarborough for books, fees, uniforms, travel, equipment, maintenance/living expenses and excursions.

Scarborough United Scholarships Foundation  
169 Scalby Road, Scarborough, North Yorkshire, YO12 6TB  
Grants are given to students for study/travel overseas, books, equipment/instruments and excursions. No grants for fees. Applicants must be under 25, live in the former borough of Scarborough and have attended school in the area for at least three years. Grants up to £500 a year.

Scarr-Hall Memorial Trust  
C Kane, DPC, Vernon Road, Stoke on Trent, Staffs, ST4 2QY. Tel: 01782 744144  
Grants to students in the UK of up to £500.

Scientific Instrument Society Research Grants NEW!  
http://www.sis.org.uk/grants/what-we-support  
The Scientific Instrument Society awards small grants, of up to £500 each, for research on the history of scientific instruments. Grants may be used to cover any reasonable costs of research, including travel and photography. Grants cannot be used to purchase equipment, and are not intended to support conference travel, unless there is a specific research dimension.

Scottish International Education Trust  
http://www.scotinted.org.uk/  
Gives educational grants (up to £2,000) to Scots men and women (Scots by birth or Scots by upbringing). Priority for individuals who are not eligible for support from public funds.

Scottish Society for Art History  
http://www.ssah.org.uk/  
Grants for research and travel for study of the history of Scottish art and art located in Scotland.

Sedgefield Educational Foundation  
East House, Mordon, Stockton-on-Tees, TS21 2EY Tel: 01740 622512 Email: east.house@btinternet.com  
Grants to help with university courses towards the cost of books and fees/living expenses. Grants up to £300. Applicants must live in the civil parishes of Sedgefield, Fishburn, Bradbury and Morden in County Durham and be 25 or under. Students seeking funds for study or travel abroad and students over 25 may be referred to the Sedgefield District Relief-in-Need Charities. Applications submitted by 30 September.

Seven Trent Water Charitable Trust Fund  
http://www.sttf.org.uk/  
Gives grants to people who have water services with Seven Trent Water who are in financial difficulty and are unable to pay water charges.
Shrewsbury Municipal Charity
21 Eastwood Road, Shrewsbury SY3 8ES
People under 25 in need who live in the borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham, including students. One-off grants of up to £250.

Sidney Perry Foundation
The Secretary, The Sidney Perry Foundation, PO BOX 2924, Farringdon, SN7 7YJ
Grants of £300-£1,000. Awards based on academic record and financial need.

Simon Fletcher Charitable Trust
http://www.simonfletcher.org.uk/
People studying music, usually singers under 30, studying at a music academy. One-off grants up to £1,000 for books and equipment/instruments, fees, study/travel abroad and maintenance/living expenses.

Sir Ernest Cassel Education Trust: Mountbatten Grants
http://www.casseltrust.co.uk/
Grants to Commonwealth students, aged 20-35, in particular those in their final year and who are experiencing unexpected financial difficulties. Grants of up to £500 for living expenses. Applicants must have paid course fees as an overseas student.

Sir George Monoux Exhibition Foundation
London Borough of Waltham Forest, Po Box 416, Silver Birch House, Uplands Business Park, Blackhorse Lane, Walthamstow
Students aged under 25 who live in the London Borough of Waltham Forest and went to school in the borough. Small one-off grants are available.

Sir John Cass’s Foundation
Richard Foley; 31 Jewry Street, London EC3N 2EY. Tel: 020 7480 5884.
Grants for students under 25 who have been a permanent resident of inner London for 3 years, on postgraduate courses leading to professional qualifications.

Sir John Plumb Charitable Trust
Dr Joachim Whaley, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, CB2 1TA.
Grants up to £500 for the publication of History, or research leading to publication. Applicants must be under 30.

Sir John Sumner’s Trust
Ian Henderson, Secretary, No. 1 Colmore Square, Birmingham. B4 6AA
Grants of up to £400 to nursing, medical and veterinary students who are in need

Sir Mark and Lady Turner Charitable Settlement UPDATED!
Katie Styles, Kleinwort Benson, 14 St George Street, London, W1S 1FE. Email: katie.styles@kleinwortbenson.com
The Trust supports students from North London with small grants from £100-1,000 towards their studies. Please note, the trust does not support PhD students. Applications will only be considered when emailed with a completed application form, two complete references and a CV. The trustees meet to consider applications twice a year, usually in June and November. To apply email the contact at Kleinwort Benson for an application form

Sir Philip Reckitt Educational Trust Fund
http://www.spret.org/
People in full-time education who live in Kingston-upon-Hull, the East Riding of Yorkshire, or the county of Norfolk. Grants are given towards courses, and attending conferences and training courses.

Sir Richard Stapley Educational Trust
http://www.stapleytrust.org/
Applicants must be over 24 on 1st October of the proposed year of study, and hold a first or 2:1 bachelor’s degree. Awards made on merit and hardship, usually at £300-£1,000.
Scientific Instrument Society Research Grants NEW!
http://www.sis.org.uk/grants/what-we-support
The Scientific Instrument Society awards small grants, of up to £500 each, for research on the history of scientific instruments. Grants may be used to cover any reasonable costs of research, including travel and photography. Grants cannot be used to purchase equipment, and are not intended to support conference travel, unless there is a specific research dimension.

Snowdon Trust
http://www.snowdontrust.org/
Gives grants to disabled students for disability-related costs. Deadlines is usually the 31st August.

Society for Arabian Studies
https://www.thebfsa.org/content/grants
Grants to promote research of the Arabian Peninsula, in particular, its archaeology, art, culture, epigraphy, ethnography, geography, geology, history, languages, literature and natural history. Grants may be used to fund fieldwork, library or laboratory-based research or research support.

Society for Dyers and Colourists Main Bursaries NEW!
http://www.sdc.org.uk/education/bursaries/
Main Bursary up to £500 for undergraduate and postgraduate students on a relevant course (e.g. Colour Chemistry, Fashion & Design, Textiles). The submission dates for bursary applications are 31st January, 31st May and 30th September.

Society for Educational Studies
http://www.soc-for-ed-studies.org.uk/
Small grants involved in any area of education studies.

Society for Endocrinology
http://www.endocrinology.org/
Travel, research, and conference awards for study of hormones.

Society for General Microbiology Travel Grants NEW!
http://www.sgm.ac.uk/grants-prizes/travel-research-funds.cfm/travel-grants
Funds are available to support members presenting work at scientific or education meetings or attending a short course.

Society for Latin American Studies Postgraduate bursaries
http://www.slas.org.uk/
Makes awards of up to £600 to its postgraduate members to assist them with travel costs for overseas fieldwork and of up to £500 to attend conferences held outside the UK. To be eligible, you must be: a member of SLAS; a current research student at a UK university and giving a paper at the conference.

Society for Promoting the Training of Women
http://www.sptw.org/
Loans for women seeking to improve career prospects. Loans of up to £1,000, interest free. Does not fund applicants resident in the UK for less than three years.

Society for Theatre Research
http://www.str.org.uk/
Grants for the history of arts including: British theatre, opera, dance, and the performing arts. Grants range from £200 to £1,000 and go towards travel and research costs.

Society of Antiquaries of London
http://www.sal.org.uk/
Grants of up to £2,000 for archaeological subjects. Deadlines in December and March.
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Society of Chemical Industry Travel Bursaries NEW!
http://www.soci.org/Awards/Travel-Bursaries
SCI contributes towards the development of young PhD students and postdoctoral researchers’ careers by helping them broaden their vision and share cutting-edge knowledge at international conferences and laboratory visits. In this way, SCI helps young scientists learn from, and network with, top scientists from around the world.

Society of Biology Travel Grants NEW!
http://www.rsb.org.uk/get-involved/grants/travel-grants
These grants aim to give the opportunity of overseas travel in connection with biological study, teaching or research to those who would otherwise be unlikely to have it. Twenty grants of £500 are available every year to members.

South Square Trust
Clerk to the Trusties, PO Box 67, Heathfield, East Sussex, TN21 9ZR
Grants (£500) for the studying of applied or fine arts. Music and the performing arts also considered.

Southdown Trust
Canbury School, Kingston Hill, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey KT2 7LN
Grants to support individuals up to 26 years of age.

Spalding Trust
http://www.spaldingtrust.org.uk/
Supports research into the great religions of the world, particularly projects that promote inter-religious understanding. Applications are considered monthly.

Split Infinitive Trust NEW!
http://www.splitinfinitivetrust.co.uk/
The Trust’s main area of interest is in supporting live and performance arts, in general and in education. Applications with a Yorkshire or regional focus are favoured. Split Infinitive is a small trust with limited funds to distribute annually. Average grants fall between £250 and £750 and are at the trustees’ discretion. They may be awarded to individuals or to organisations for specific projects. Grants for general running costs, for projects outside the UK, will not be eligible for support.

Spoore Merry & Rixman Foundation
10 High Street, Burnham, Buckinghamshire, SL1 7JH
People under 25 who live in the old (pre-1974) borough of Maidenhead and the ancient parish of Bray. Grants for university fees, of up to £5,000 each.

St Christopher’s College Educational Trust
C/o St Christopher’s College Educational Trust, Church House, Deans Yard, London SW1P 3NZ
Students of religious education connected with promoting the objects of the Church of England/Wales. One-off and recurrent grants up to £2,000.

St Olave’s Foundation Fund
http://www.stolavesfoundation.co.uk/individuals/index.html
For students under 25 who have lived in the London borough of Southwark for at least 2 years.

St. Clement Dane Educational Foundation
The St. Clement Dane Educational Foundation, St. Clement Danes C of E Primary School, Drury Lane, London, WC2B 5SU.
Grants for assistance with fees or maintenance, on the basis of academic record and need. Applicants must be under the age of 25, live in London, and have been to school in London. Send letter with SAE.

Stationers’ Foundation
http://www.stationers.org/postgraduate-bursary-scheme.html
The Foundation offers 10 Bursaries to postgraduate students on specific courses related to Communication and Content industries. Bursaries of £6,000, plus the opportunity to receive mentoring during the period of their studies from an appropriate member of the Stationers’ Company. Students must be under 25 at the time of application.

**Stevens Hart & Municipal Educational Charity**  
*Henley Municipal Charities, 24 Hart Street, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, RG9 2AU*  
Students living in Bix and Rotherfield Greys and the town of Henley-on-Thames. Grants max. £300.

**Stockport Educational Foundation**  
*Anthony Roberts, 32 Sevenoaks Avenue, Stockport, Cheshire, SK4 4AN Tel: 0161 831 1512*  
One-off grants of up to 300 for students under 25 who live in Stockport and the surrounding area.

**Strand Parishes Trust**  
One-off grants (up to £500) to students under 25 who live in Westminster, London.

**Stuart Rossiter Trust Fund**  
Anyone of any nationality undertaking original research into postal history with a view to publication. Grants towards: translations; cost of hire of researchers; publication costs; and costs of research.

**Student Disability Assistance Fund (BAHSHE)**  
[http://www.bahshe.co.uk/](http://www.bahshe.co.uk/)  
The Fund helps students with disabilities to keep up with their studies. The maximum amount of each award is £500 and students must be on a full-time course. A reference from the applicant’s tutor and a doctor’s letter reg. the disability/illness are required.

**Studley College Trust**  
[http://www.studleytrust.co.uk/](http://www.studleytrust.co.uk/)  
Grants of up to £2,000 for British nationals up to 30 years old for vocational postgraduate courses in horticulture, forestry, and rural industries.

**Sutasoma Trust**  
*Trust Administrator, PO Box 157, Haverhill, CB9 1AH. Email: sutasoma.trust@btinternet.com*  
Provides one-off grants to full-time graduate students in social sciences, humanities and humanitarian activities, for projects related to their studies.

**Sutherland Page Trust**  
[NEW!](https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/money/bursariesandscholarships/sutherlandpagetrust/)  
Invites applications from undergraduates or postgraduates studying: Medicine, Law, Arts, Divinity, Science. To qualify, you need to have (1) successfully completed the first year of your course and (2) been born in Scotland or have at least one parent born in Scotland or have been resident in Scotland for three continuous years before starting at University.

**Swann-Morton Foundation**  
*Swann-Morton Ltd, Owlerton Green, Sheffield S6 2BJ Tel: 0114 234 4231*  
Students who live in South Yorkshire with a preference for those studying surgery and medicine.

**Swansea Foundation**  
*Legal Department, City & County of Swansea Council, Civic Centre, Oystermouth Road, Swansea, SA1 3SN*  
Students who live in Swansea and are under 25.

**Swiss Benevolent Society**  
Gives general grants to Swiss citizens experiencing financial hardship living in London, including students.
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Charities & Trusts Funding List

Talisman Charitable Trust
http://www.talismancharity.org/
Provides one-off general grants (up to £300) to people in need, or (in the Trust's words) who are 'going short'. No grants towards university fees.

Ted Adams Trust Limited
http://www.tedadamstrust.org.uk/
Makes grants for the education and training of students of nursing / midwifery in the Guildford area. No grants for living expenses.

Textile Society Bursaries and Awards
http://www.textilesociety.org.uk/bursaries-awards/
The Textile Society offers bursaries and awards to students, museums, archives, historians, PhD candidates, craft workers, designers, curators and conservators.

Thomas Dawson Educational Foundation
56 Poplar Close, Garsington, Oxford, OX4 4BQ Tel: 01865 368259
Grants (up to £1,500) to help with the cost of books, fees and other essentials for students who have lived in Oxford (OX1 to OX4) for three years. No grants given towards accommodation, travel or living expenses.

Thomas Parson’s Charity
Hall Ennion & Young, 8 High Street, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB7 4JY
Grants and loans, ranging from £1,000 to £4,000 for people (including students) who live in Ely.

Thomas Stanley Shipman Charitable Trust
6 Magnolia Close, Leicester, LE2 8PS tel: 0116 283 5345
One-off and recurrent grants ranging from between £500 to £5,000 for living expenses, for people in need who live in Leicester. No grants for fees or educational expenses.

Thomas Wall Trust
http://www.thomaswalltrust.org.uk/
Grants of £1,000 for non-research Masters students. Must have been resident in the UK for three years. Preference given to part-time students working to support themselves.

Thomas Wilson Educational Trust
23 Tranmere Road, Whitton, Middlesex, TW2 7JD Tel: 020 8893 3928
Grants of up to £4,500 for students towards books, fees, living expenses and study or travel abroad. Students must be under 25 and live in the Teddington area.

Thornton-Smith & Plevins Trust
Grants Secretary, Chantrey Vellacott, Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF
The Trust assists young men and women undergoing articles or apprenticeships, or requiring help with educational expenses.

Tooting Graveney Educational Charity
6 Burtonwood Grange Road, London, SW18 3JX Tel: 020 8870 0133
One-off and recurrent grants ranging of up to £600 for students under 25 living in Tooting, London. Help can be towards books, equipment, fees and study or travel overseas. Applications deadline is the end of September.

Toras Chesed (London) Trust
14 Lampard Grove, London, N16 6UZ Tel: 020 8806 9589 Email: ari@toraschesed.co.uk
Grants for people of the Jewish faith, including students, who are in need.

Trades Union Congress Educational Trust
The Secretary, Congress House, Great Russell Street, London, WC1B 3LS
A number of bursaries available to members of TUC affiliated trade unions
Trans-Antarctic Association
http://www.transantarctic.org.uk/
Grants of up to £1,500 to support field work or travel to Antarctica (equipment and other research activities) for citizens of UK, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand.

Trevelson Educational Foundation
6 Crown Crescent, St Newlyn East, Newquay, Cornwall, TR8 5NQ
Gives grants of up to £500 to students under 25 who live in the parish of St Newlyn East.

Truro Fund
Parish Church of St Clements, 1 St Clements Court, London, EC4N 7HB Tel: 020 7623 5454
Gives grants to people under 25 to provide them with an opportunity to broaden their experience and to develop their self confidence and ability for the future. Average grant is £400. Applicants must be UK nationals. Priority is given to applicants with a City of London connection.

Turner Exhibition Fund
Veale Wasbrough Vizards, Barnards Inn, 86 Fetter Lane, London, EC4A 1AD. Email: jcuxson@vwv.co.uk
Grants of up to £1,000 to assist women for fees and equipment. Applicants must be members of the Church of England, have attended a school wholly or partly maintained out of public funds for at least two years, and who now live in the diocese of London, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark or Wandsworth. Applications are usually considered in June and October.

University Association for Contemporary European Studies Scholarships
http://www.uaces.org/funding/scholarships/
The scholarships are essentially travel bursaries designed to provide mobility to existing postgraduate students so that they can undertake research in another country. Scholarships are for a fixed amount of 1,500 GBP to be awarded on a competitive basis to UACES members.

Uxbridge United Welfare Trusts
http://www.uuwt.org/
Gives grants to people (including students) with limited income living in Cowley, Harefield, Ickenham, Uxbridge and Hillingdon.

Vegetarian Charity
http://www.vegetariancharity.org.uk/
Grants available for vegetarian and vegan students of 25 or under.

Viscount Amory's Charitable Trust
The Trust Secretary, The Island, Lowman Green, Tiverton, Devon EX16 4LA
People in need in the south west of England, with a preference for Devon.

Vivian Moon Foundation
http://www.vivianmoonfoundation.co.uk/
Grants for students with residential and/or family ties in the Devon. Support is favoured towards applicants who are likely to return to the Devon area to practice their profession and those who have an offer of a place on a course of higher educational professional or vocational training.

Walthamstow Fund
London Borough of Waltham Forest, Municipal Offices, High Street, Leyton E10 5QU
Students in higher education who are under 25, who live and attended school in Walthamstow.

Warwick Apprenticing Charities
http://www.warwickapprenticingcharities.org.uk/
Grants to assist in the payment of fees, provision of books, equipment and materials, special clothing and travelling expenses etc. Applicants must live in Warwick and be under 25 years of age.
Weavers’ Company Textile Education Fund
http://www.weavers.org.uk/
Scholarships (£1,000-£4,000) are available for weaving-related discipline, eg technology, design, management etc. Applicants (British citizens) must demonstrate special interest in weaving or woven textiles. Applications only welcome from students at: Manchester University, Huddersfield University, Derby University, Loughborough University, Royal College of Art and Central St. Martin’s College.

Webster and Davidson Educational Trust N
c/o Thorntons Solicitors, Whitehall House, 33 Yeaman Shore, Dundee DD1 4BJ
Gives grants to students who are blind or partially sighted studying music and resident in Scotland.

Wellbeing of Women
http://www.wellbeingofwomen.org.uk/research/research-grants/?menu=1c
Funds research dedicated to improving the health of women and babies.

William Barry Trust
The William Barry Trust, 56 Avenue Close, London, NW8 6DA
Grants for students aiming to work in art or craft based occupations. Grants of £1,000.

William Boreman Charitable Trust
http://www.thedrapers.co.uk/Charities/boremans.shtml
Grants to students under 25 resident in the London boroughs of Greenwich or Lewisham. Must be a UK National, and have a family income of c.£25,000 per annum or less.

William Piddock Foundation
c/o Birmingham and Midland Institute, 9 Margaret Street, Birmingham, B3 3BS Tel: 0121 236 3591 Email: accounts@bmi.org.uk
Grants (uo to £500) made to students to help with books, equipment/instruments, fees and maintenance/living expenses and research travel. Applicants under 25 and must have undertaken secondary education in Birmingham.

Wine Guild Charitable Trust
http://www.wineguilduk.org/
The Trust’s objective is to enhance the education of the general public in the knowledge of wine. It offers grants, loans and bursaries to enable individuals to further their research into the wine making industry.

Wing Yip & Brothers Bursaries
http://www.wingyip.com/page-550.html/
Gives bursaries to Chinese students from China or the UK.

Winston Churchill Memorial Trust
http://www.wcmt.org.uk/
Substantial travel grants for 4-8 weeks are available. Note that the trust will only fund travel associated with postgraduate degrees if wider benefits to others in the UK can be demonstrated.

Wolverton Science and Art Institution Fund
78 London Road, Stony Stratford, MK11 1JH Tel: 01908 563350
Recurrent grants of up to £500. Grants given to postgraduates for books, equipment/instruments, fees and travel in the UK. Eligible people must live in the Wolverton.

Women Techmakers Scholars Program NEW!
https://www.womentechmakers.com/scholars/
Through the Women Techmakers Scholars Program - formerly the Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship Program - Google is furthering Dr. Anita Borg’s vision of creating gender equality in the field of computer science by encouraging women to excel in computing and technology and become active leaders and role models in the field. To be eligible applicants must identify as female and be studying computer science.
Women’s Careers Foundation
2 Watchoak, Blackham, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN3 9TP Tel: 01892 740602
One-off grants averaging £250, and loans of up to £1,000. Women only, who are UK citizens. Applications should be submitted between the 1 September and 31 January for the following academic year.

Women’s Continuing Ministerial Education Trust
http://www.cofe.anglican.org/
Grants to support part-time degree course fees, conferences, sabbaticals and workshops, and also some welfare needs. Any woman, ordained or not, who is licensed into a nationally recognised ministry in the Church of England or the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Worrall & Fuller Exhibition Fund
http://www.worrallandfuller.org.uk/
Gives grants for students under 25 years old who and live, work or study in the Old Borough Of Finsbury.

Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants General Charitable Trust
http://www.wccaew.org.uk/
Grants for students studying subjects related to commerce, especially accountancy.

Worshipful Company of Engineers
http://www.engineerscompany.org.uk/
Engineering students who have an undergraduate degree in engineering.

Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers Company
http://www.furnituremkrs.co.uk/
Bursaries for students studying for an MA in furniture or furnishing manufacture or design.

Worshipful Company of Launderers
http://www.launderers.co.uk/
Scholarships for the further education of people pursuing studies of benefit to the laundry industry.

Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers
http://www.wcsim.co.uk/
Grants to postgraduates in science and mathematics. esp. in branches of engineering connected with instrumentation and measurement. Students must be at: Cambridge, City, Glasgow Caledonian, Imperial, Oxford, Teeside, UCL, Manchester, or Warwick.

Worshipful Society of Apothecaries General Charity Ltd
The Clerk, Apothecaries Hall, Black Friars Lane, London, EC4V 6EJ Tel: 020 7236 1189
Email: clerk@apothecaries.org
Small grants to medical & pharmaceutical students in their penultimate or final year.

Wyvernian Foundation
6 Magnolia Close, Leicester, Leicester, LE2 8PS
People who live in the city or county of Leicester. One-off and recurrent grants for students towards fees/living expenses, study or travel overseas, and possibly books and equipment where essential. Childcare expenses may be given. Grants up to £300. Loans for individuals may also be given.

Yorkshire Ladies’ Council of Education
http://ylce.org/
Grants of up to £500 for fees for British women of 21 years of age or over. Tenable at any UK university.

Yorkshire Training Fund for Women
http://ytfund.wordpress.com/
Give small grants of up to £300 to British women with Yorkshire connections for educational and career purposes. Deadlines are the 1st May and 1st December.
Young People and Education Bursary Fund
http://www.cdf.org.uk/applying_for_a_grant/
Grants of up to £2,000 to people up 25 who excel in a particular field, or individuals of any age who are achieving against the odds, who live in County Durham or Darlington.

Zibby Garnett Travelling Fellowship
http://www.zibbygarnett.org/
Give grants of up to £3,000 to students who want to travel to countries outside the UK, for the practical study and conservation of a.) Historic buildings; b.) Historic man made landscapes and historic gardens; c.) Allied trades, techniques, skills and crafts; d.) Artifacts. Open to all British residents.

Zobel Charitable Trust
Tenison House, Tweedy Road, Bromley, Kent, BR1 3NF
Gives grants to individuals for education, particularly in the Christian field. No grants for fees.

And finally...

GradFunding Outstanding Student Fundraiser Awards!
We (GradFunding- the publishers of this book!) have a fund of our own- and a prize draw for grant winners. We will make a limited number of 'Student Story Awards' of £50-£200 each year to students who have been especially successful and/or creative fundraisers, and we also have a yearly Prize Draw with a top prize of £500. You can apply for a Student Story Award if you have won at least two awards from charity- write to tell us about it! For the Prize Draw, you need to have only won a single award from any alternative funding body.

To apply please see https://www.postgraduate-funding.com/students/student-stories and https://www.postgraduate-funding.com/prizedraw
Other Useful Links, Addresses & Publications

Books, databases, and links

This section supplies a useful list of books and internet sites which will help you hunt for funders. The Top 500 list is in this Guide is far from a definitive list, so these links will help you uncover new opportunities!

**BOOKS**
- Grants Register (Palgrave Macmillian)
- Educational Grants Directory (Directory of Social Change)
- Guide to Grants for Individuals in Need (Directory of Social Change)
- The Directory of Grants Making Trusts (Charities Aid Foundation)
- Charities Digest (Waterlow Professional Publishing)
- Charity Choice (Waterlow Professional Publishing)

**INTERNET SITES**
- Research Councils
  - The Arts and Humanities Research Council
    https://ahrc.ukri.org/
  - The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council
    https://bbsrc.ukri.org/
  - The Economic and Social Research Council
    https://esrc.ukri.org/
  - The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council
    https://epsrc.ukri.org/
  - The Medical Research Council
    https://mrc.ukri.org/
  - The Natural Environment Research Council
    https://nerc.ukri.org/
  - The Science and Technology Facilities Council
    https://stfc.ukri.org/
- Research Councils UK
  http://www.ukri.org/

**Large Academic Charities**
- The Wellcome Trust
  http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/
- The Leverhulme Trust
  http://www.leverhulme.org.uk/
- The Nuffield Foundation
  http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/
- Carnegie Trust
  http://www.carnegie-trust.org/

**Funding Guide Sites**
- GradFunding (us!) UPDATED!
  http://www.gradfunding.co.uk/
- Prospects Student Funding Guides
  http://www.prospects.ac.uk/funding_postgraduate_study.htm
- Turn2us Guide on Grants and Funding
  http://www.turn2us.org.uk/
- Scholarship Hub NEW!
  https://www.thescholarshiphub.org.uk/
- Money Saving Expert Guide to Student Living
  http://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/
- Postgraduate Studentships
  http://www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk
- ResearchProfessional (Jobs and Funding opportunities)
  http://www.researchprofessional.com/
- Hubbub NEW!
  https://hubbub.net/
  Hubbub is the most popular crowdfunding platform used by successful student fundraisers!
The Purpose of the Guide

Whether to contact the charity to make an initial enquiry is to give you enough information to decide whether you wish to pursue the track record. Usually made to students of excellent potential and with financial difficulties during the final months of a course. Especially interested in assisting individuals under 40 years of age taking part in expeditions and fieldwork. Preference given to people with financial difficulties. Grants made to students of excellent potential and undergraduate students experiencing unexpected or unforeseen financial difficulty. Grants are first suggested by students! Email enquiries@gradfunding.co.uk!

Part-time Work

Jobs in Research
http://www.jobs.ac.uk/

Just Student Jobs
http://www.student-jobs.co.uk/

Guardian Jobs
http://jobs.guardian.co.uk/

ResearchProfessional (Jobs and funding opportunities)
http://www.researchprofessional.com/

University of London Careers Service
http://www.careers.lion.ac.uk/

Miscellaneous

Postgraduate Funding Blog
http://www.postgraduate-funding.com/news/blog

Find a PhD and Find a Masters
http://www.findaphd.com/
http://www.findamasters.com/

Oystercard 16-25 Railcard 34% Discount Deal
http://www.tfl.gov.uk/fares-and-payments/adult-discounts-and-concessions/railcards#on-this-page-1
This is a little-known but excellent deal which will probably save you several hundred pounds a year if you live in London.

Inland Revenue R40 reclamation form
(for tax paid on savings dividends)
http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/forms/r40.pdf

A form which enables you to claim back the tax paid on the interest gained each year from savings accounts can be retroactively applied for up to five years. Only works if your net earnings for the year in question fall within the tax free allowance.

Postgrad.com Student Funding Guide
http://www.postgrad.com/editorial/fees_and_funding/funding/postgraduate_student_funding_guide/

GoFundMe
http://www.gofundme.com/

Authors' Licensing Collecting Society
https://www.alcs.co.uk/
The Purpose of the Guide

HINTS & TIPS

Some extra things to consider: supplementing your income, keeping costs down, and how to use your charity awards to bolster your CV and help you get a job! These pages also contain a Q&A section, which addresses some frequently asked questions about postgraduate funding through charity.
Supplementing your Income

The right part-time job is an enormous help

A part-time job can be an extremely useful, if time-consuming way of supplementing your income if you are self-funding. Any awards from charities and trusts are tax-free, and will not take up any of your personal non-taxable allowance (£11,850). If you can, it is a very good idea to take advantage of this allowance and earn some extra money without having to pay any tax (charity awards and other grants you may win from your university are not taxable, and also do not count towards this allowance).

If you are over 25 and a part-time student, you'll also be eligible for the Working Tax Credit, which could bring in an extra £50 a week (more if you have children). The Working Tax Credit is not claimed by millions of people
who are eligible to it (especially students) so be sure to check out the HMRC website to make sure! Note also that it is not compulsory to pay National Insurance if you’re a full-time student and earning less than £162 a week.

Finding the right part-time job is always difficult, and could be the subject of another guide in its own right. Checking the Guardian jobs section and Jobs.ac.uk is a good way of finding part-time academic vacancies like library work, research, or teaching.

Check out the jobs at your university careers centre, and the student union. You may be able to secure work as a teaching assistant, and graduate tutorials and research assistantships are a possibility, depending on their availability. Also, university departments may offer work such as data inputting and other administrative tasks, so these are worth looking at, as are recruitment agencies. If you manage to secure some teaching, mention this to charities when you apply. It will make you look good!

One of a cash-conscious student’s best friends is Ebay. You can buy pretty much anything here—electronics, clothes, and books, for very low prices if you bid smartly. Better still, get into the habit of selling on your old stuff instead of throwing it away! If you are a creative type, you can also sell art or craft on Etsy.com.

If you have published papers, another interesting idea is to join the Authors’ Licensing and Collecting Society (ALCS) for free. ALCS are able to collect reproduction and transmission payments which are in fact owed to authors, but are rarely claimed!

Finally, Postgrad.com also has some other interesting ideas on how your might make a bit of extra money on the side.
Keeping Costs Down

Being frugal and taking advantage of as many discounts as you can.

Although maintenance payments on a full scholarship are currently made at about £13-16,000 a year (excluding the payment of fees) the true cost of independent studying is probably rather less than that: it can sometimes be done for as little as £11,000-12,000 a year depending where you live and your course costs.

The first thing to get right is accommodation. If you are renting, picking an area with lower rents is sensible. Rental markets vary greatly from place to place, and in many localities, you will be able to live close to university for a reasonable price. In others, especially in cities, you may have to live further away from campus to obtain good value. If you don't have much knowledge on the area you're moving to, finding out more about it from the internet, from your university’s accommodation office, and from local estate agents is very sensible.

You are entitled to council tax exemption if you are full-time, so it is important to claim this. Also, take advantage of a 16-25 Railcard, which you can get regardless of age as a student. If you are living in London, you can also use this railcard to lower the cap on your Oystercard by a third. See section 10 for more details.
If you are reliant on savings, bear in mind that you can reclaim the 20% tax which is automatically taken off your annual interest if your overall net earnings from work plus savings dividends fall within your tax-free allowance. You can actually reclaim the tax in this manner for up to five years previously.

If you are a part-time student and are paying tax, bear in mind that any costs you incur as a direct consequence of work (e.g. travel and equipment purchase) are tax-deductable - i.e. they do not count towards your tax-free allowance. You will probably have to self-assess to get HMRC to take this into account. You can self-assess online for free: see www.hmrc.gov.uk/sa/

The rest is mainly down to lifestyle choice, but it is probably advisable to cut down on any particularly expensive habits and generally try to make your money go as far as possible, taking advantage of discounts where possible. Sites like Moneysavingexpert.com offer numerous great cost-cutting tips aimed at students.
Innovative New Approaches

Thinking even further outside the box...

Grants from charities and trusts needn’t be your limit as far as alternative fundraising is concerned. There are other, albeit more ambitious, strategies you might consider in addition to them. Here we present three: funding from non-charitable organisations, research commercialisation, and (perhaps most exciting of all): crowdfunding.

Funding from Non-Charitable Organisations

We’ve already explored (see section 4) that a number of learned societies and independent associations exist that regularly make grants to students. However, most smaller ones do not, and probably have never considered the idea. It’s a long shot, but you
could try interesting them in your actual research - for example local historical societies (if you study History), political parties or think-tanks (Political Science), barristers’ chambers (Law), galleries (Art), or museums and collections (many disciplines) may be persuaded to grant you some support if you make a persuasive enough case. It will require some creativity to track down an independent association which may be interested in your research and then argue your case to them. These bodies (unlike charities) will want to gain something from you in return, so your communications must reflect that. Very often these smaller learned associations or societies will keep a library or research collection of some kind, and if you offer to give them a copy of your thesis when it is finished (and an entry in your ‘special thanks’ section) they may well become interested. Often these bodies don’t have much money they are prepared to give away, but it is always worth making your case with a polite, persuasive letter. If you can find an excuse to physically meet them, then so much the better. Their willingness to meet ought to give you a strong indication of whether they are really interested in you!

**Research Commercialisation**

Another imaginative mechanism by which you might gain funding is to consider whether your research - or anything that arises from it - has commercial potential. Any new work you generate, whether it’s through creative endeavours or scientific research, is your own intellectual property and can be protected legally. Intellectual property rights give legal recognition to the ownership of the novel work, and include copyright, database rights, design rights and patents. You will usually be asked to assign these rights to your university, who will then protect the intellectual property of your work and find ways to commercialise it, providing expert help and advice along the way.
Crowdfunding: An Introduction

An emerging – and very exciting – development in the last year is the emergence of crowdfunding platforms for research, and for postgraduate students. The initial headway was made by Studentfunder (https://www.studentfunder.com/), and Wallacea (https://walacea.com/) has recently been launched to help fund science research projects. Neither platform at present represents a comprehensive ‘catch all’ option for postgraduates which caters for fees, maintenance, and study costs. Although both platforms are worth checking out if you meet their specific criteria.

Even in the absence of a comprehensive student crowdfunding platform, there is nothing stopping you from starting your own campaign on a website like Hubbub, Kickstarter, or Gofundme. Indeed, a number of students have succeeded in raising impressive sums for fees and maintenance through these campaigns, and a few have got attention in the national press. Our advice would be to create a profile to raise funding for a designated specific amount of money (for example, £4,000 towards fees) and try to write a persuasive pitch for a lay audience on why you and your work are interesting and important (as you would for a charity), and also include a video. While strangers can and do donate, crowdfunding campaigns are often most successful in raising money from people you already know in real life, who are encouraged to give when they see you as a campaign. This is the real X factor- by turning your study into a fundraising campaign, you make it seem ‘official’ and easy for others to donate to you. Your donors also see that their cumulative donations (which individually might have not seemed worthwhile) amount
to a much more sizeable sum when pooled with others. This emboldens them to give.

A particularly innovative strategy would be to dovetail crowdfunding campaigns with charity applications. Naturally, if a charity is made aware that you are also running a crowdfunding campaign (especially one that already has some supporters) then they are likely to be emboldened by this in exactly the same way they would be if you already had other charity backers. More generally, a history of crowdfunding also looks impressive, because it gives the impression of a student who is meeting the challenge of funding their study with positive, innovative thinking, rather than one who has not made the effort, and is simply asking for help.

A more detailed 'how to' guide, written by a student who successfully used crowdfunding to raise a substantial sum for postgraduate study, can be found overleaf. In such a new area, there is no 'one size fits all' approach, but this Guide represents an excellent introduction.
Crowdfunding: A How to Guide

Supplied by Genevieve Richardson, who successfully crowdfunded her MPhil in Development Studies at University of Oxford, raising nearly £14,000. You can read more about Genevieve’s story on our Student Story Archive on our website!

Stage One: Plan

Crowdfunding starts before your campaign officially begins, and planning is essential. A little while before you start your campaign you should do what Hubbub (a popular crowdfunding platform at https://hubbub.net/) calls a ‘soft launch’. This means that you tell your family and closest friends that you are planning to crowdfund X amount of money and ask for their support, in this way you are guaranteed to have at least a handful of pledges, which will, in turn, encourage others to pledge.

Get Social Media Savvy

Before you begin, you may also want to set up your project on social media sites. Social media is key, not only for spreading the word, but also for updating anyone who is following your campaign. You need to think of something snappy for the project title, which you should use consistently on social media, too (Facebook page, Twitter handle and hashtag, Blog, YouTube channel etc.). Be creative. Again, you can inform your Facebook friends and Twitter followers of what you’re doing before actually launching your project as part of your ‘soft launch’.

Create the Perfect Pitch

In your ‘pitch’, you want to be clear, concise and informative. Use bullet points rather than long paragraphs. People online are impatient: they do not want to read long textual nor do they have time to do so. Explain a bit about
Innovative New Approaches

Yourself and what you are trying to do. Speak briefly about the course itself, too, or what you are going to research and why it is interesting, exciting, or will make the world a better place!. State how much money you already have and how much you need. Include links to where the course fees are listed on the university’s website, if that is what you are raising money for (it is really easy to add links on Hubbub, no knowledge of HTML is required). If you are crowdfunding for maintenance costs, include a breakdown of your outgoings, the cost of textbooks and field trips (see Section 9 in this book). Like when applying to charitable bodies for funding, explain the ways in which you have also tried other funding strategies.

Pitch Logistics

a) How long should I keep my campaign running for?

You need to think carefully about how long you want to keep your campaign running. If done correctly, it should take up a lot of time because you will be sending a lot of e-mails, making a lot of phone calls and posting a lot on social media every day. For that reason, it is advisable to stick to a short period of time (between one and two weeks). Any longer, and you will inevitably run out of steam. In addition, and perhaps more importantly, a shorter period of time is better because it creates a sense of urgency. If a campaign runs over a long period of time...
- say a month or more - people will be less likely to pledge because they will forget or think that they can put off pledging for another day, another week, etc. Understanding the psychology of your donors is very important.

b) Should I set a minimum amount?

On Hubbub, like on other crowdfunding platforms, you can set a minimum amount. If you set a minimum amount, you must raise that amount in order to actually receive any of the money at all. This method has its benefits because, like having a short running time, it creates a sense of urgency and might well encourage people to pledge sooner rather than later. However, you should be wary of setting too high a minimum amount because if you don’t raise that much, you could end up being very disappointed. Thank potential pledgers in advance for their support.

Reward your Pledgers

It is nice (and strategically sensible) to give something back to those who support you, and with Hubbub you can offer ‘rewards’ in exchange for pledges. The larger the amount pledged, the bigger the reward should be. Common rewards include a ‘thank you’ on social media or even a handwritten, posted ‘thank you’ for larger pledges (in a letter or on a postcard). You can also promise dedications on your thesis. For larger pledges, play to your strengths. That is to say, if you have a skill or talent that people might pay to see/hear/use, offer it as a reward, e.g. singing, dancing, painting, photography. In addition, as you are crowdfunding for postgraduate education, use your study skillset. For example, you could offer your services as a proofreader or tutor. Similarly, it is a good idea to try to get people involved who are

"It is nice (and strategically sensible) to give something back to those who support you"
interested in what you are studying, so you could offer them a copy of your undergraduate dissertation, for example, or you could set up a blog where you promise to write articles on the subjects about which you will be learning and offer exclusive access to the blog to people who have pledged. Some students have got very creative with rewards. This does require a certain confidence and creativity, but that’s what crowdfunding is all about!

**Stage Two: How to Get People to Donate**

**Talk to People**
Talk to as many people as you can about your campaign in order to spread the word (both in person and using the internet); this will trigger a chain reaction whereby they tell their friends and family, and so on. Tell your friends, your family, your university, your old school: anyone with whom you have ever had a relationship (within reason). Hubbub have a handy 'mind-map' of all of the people you could
contact on their website. You never know who is going to pledge; it may well surprise you. Some people will be people you know, or have known, in real life. Others will be friends of friends, and some will be complete strangers.

**Social Media is your Friend**

Some people find that they get a better response with promoting their campaign through Twitter, others with Facebook. With Twitter, it is easier to go viral, which is ideal. However, it is hard to gain lots of followers in a short space of time and you are also restricted to 140 characters, of course! On the other hand, people do not like reading a lot of text, so short, snappy tweets are helpful. It is advisable to use both platforms. Create a Facebook page and post updates, photos and videos. You do not want to annoy people by constantly posting on your personal Facebook page, so by creating a campaign page, people will expect the traffic! Post regularly, updating your ‘likers’ on progress you’ve made, thanking people for pledging, and so on. You can also pay to ‘boost posts’ on Facebook; this means that your post will become an advertisement that you can make available not only on the newsfeeds of those who ‘like’ your page but also on the news feeds of their Facebook friends.

It is inexpensive; you can spend $5 (about £3) on a few of your most important posts, and this will encourage friends of friends to like your page and pledge.
Other Publicity

If you can, try to get your ‘story’ in the local newspaper or radio station in order to increase your chances of going viral. Send e-mails to them, and if you do not get a response, call them! Newspapers and radio stations receive lots of e-mails every day and are more likely to respond if you follow up your e-mail with a phone call. However, if you do manage to get publicity from external sources, be prepared for potentially unsupportive (and in some cases) hateful comments. Crowdfunding for education is a controversial topic. As a general piece of advice when crowdfunding, it can be quite an overwhelming experience and if you go for it you have to be determined and thick-skinned enough not to let the setbacks get you down. Think about how many people are supporting you, not the minority who try to question what you are doing. You really have to believe in yourself (or at least, give the strong impression of self-belief) in order to get people to support you!

Top 5 Tips
1. Be enthusiastic: your enthusiasm will rub off on others.

2. Pester people: you need to remind people, even if you feel like you are annoying them!

3. Use social media to your advantage: it is the best way to spread the word.

4. Explain where the money is going and why you need it: people like to know what their money will be spent on.

5. Say thank you: not only is it polite to thank people for being so kind as to donate to your project, but also, it may well encourage people who have already pledged to spread the word, or indeed to donate more!
Charities & your Career

Using charities to bolster your CV and make you more employable!

An award from a charity is worth more than just money. They look very impressive on an academic CV, and may help you secure that all-important postdoc or research position! Not only are charities an excellent way of bulk- ing out the number of grants you have won, but they also demonstrate a track record of attracting external funding from private sector bodies which lay outside the academic world. The ability to win grants is highly prized in any re- search job, and it is important that you use any successes you have had with charities to bolster your CV as much as possible. This section suggests some useful pointers.

Presenting Charity Awards on your CV

In an ideal world, a student puts every charity award on his or her CV and the more the better! However, in reality, you have to be a little careful how you present your fund- ing to avoid potential pitfalls.

The most important thing to remember is that a CV with awards from charities on will stand out some distance from its competitors! Not many students have funding from bodies which sound as unlikely and obscure as the Royal Foundation of King Charles the Second, the Leatherseller’s Company, or the Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers! While this is usually a plus, it can be a minus too, depending on how your prospective academic employer interprets it. We can hope that they draw the true conclusion: that you are an enterprising
and creative student who has thought outside the box about funding. On the other hand, the employer might simply think the bodies sound odd and (if you did not hold a research council or university scholarship) draw the unfair conclusion that you were not good enough to win a full scholarship, so had to scrape the barrel finding anyone and everyone who would give you money.

The presentation of your charity awards on a job application thus requires some thought. If you already have funding from a well-known public body or university, then list your charities on your CV as ‘supplementary’ or ‘additional’ awards. This gives you the best of both worlds: the prestige of a full public scholarship, and proof of creative, independent fundraising to cover additional costs. If charities are your only source of funding, then you must judge whether or not the job you are applying for is the right place to list your multifarious awards in detail. If it is something extremely heavily oversubscribed like an externally funded Junior Research Fellowship, then the evaluators will only have a limited time to look at each application, and will not appreciate a long list! In this case, you may want to add all your awards together and give a headline amount (e.g. £15,000, rather than 15 awards of £1,000) under the general label of ‘charity funding’.

For non-academic positions, such precautions are generally not needed, and it is best to list every award in full (unless you are restricted by space on your CV).
Extra Skills and Experience you can claim

When describing your skillset in a job application, or in an interview, you can reasonably claim that you have branched outside the academic world, and interested an external organisation in your research to the extent that they were prepared to give money to you! This should not be underestimated. Public engagement and marketability are increasingly key objectives for research groups and projects. You can argue that your success with charities shows that you are just the sort of person who can think creatively about the communication and adaption of research to audiences outside of the academic world. This could be a big plus!

A second important skill you can demonstrate is a track record of writing, winning, and administering grants. Winning grants is the lifeblood of academic research, so you can be sure this skill will always be in great demand! Of course, a charity award for PhD study is very different from a major project grant from an academic funder, but your experience will still appear very impressive. Remember, very few junior scholars can claim to have much, if any, experience of independent grant-raising. To make your claim most strongly, do be sure to point out that you
were the one who found the charity, applied for the grant, and who administered it, rather than you simply being the beneficiary of a collaborative endeavour.

Another really useful additional claim is that your success and experience in winning small grants from unexpected sources make you well-placed to cover any additional costs you might run into on a postdoc (e.g. conference attendance, bench fees, research materials etc). There is no rule that only students can approach charities for funding, and a number of postdoctoral researchers have successfully gained funding from charities using the Alternative Guide. A postdoc who can potentially cover extra research costs and bench fees might be a job-clincher for a cash-conscious employer whose own funding is tight.

"Winning grants is the life-blood of academic research- so this is a great skill to have!"
I’m an International Student. Won’t this put me at a disadvantage? Don’t many charities only grant funding to UK students?

It’s true that a minority of charities will grant funds only to British citizens. However, most are interested in you simply being resident in the UK, or perhaps in you having lived in the UK for a short period of time.

Although this may close some doors for you, others will open. Many bodies award money only to students of certain nationalities - usually ones based overseas. A good place to look for these is in the Grants Register and other
directory type books. If you’re from a Commonwealth country, or the USA, you may find you actually have more options than a home student!

For more details, and information on how you might consider slightly modifying your applications if you are an overseas student, please see pages 62-64.

2 I’m a Masters Student. Will charities fund me, or are they more likely to fund Postgraduate Research Students (PGRs) like PhD researchers?

This is a common misconception. Many people assume that charities will be only interested in PGR students doing ‘academic’ subjects like PhDs and MPhils. In practice, charities actually do not place huge importance on your subject of study. Instead, they often simply want to know that your course will get you a job. This is sometimes easier for a Masters student doing something more vocational than it is for a PGR student!

3 I’m on a short Masters course and am only studying for another 6 months. Is it worth bothering to apply to charity?

Absolutely. Time is a factor that can dissuade Masters students from applying. But remember that charities are not at all like research councils or universities - they have several deadlines a year (usually 4, 6, or 12) where the trustees meet. People who apply to charities often need money quickly, so they need to be fast. In most cases they will send a response (and hopefully a cheque!) within a week of their meeting of trustees.

Overall, applications can be made at almost any time, and are usually resolved quickly: perfect for quick fundraising even if you only have a few months of your course remaining.
4 I’m a prospective student. I have a conditional place on my course, but I’ve not started yet. Are the odds of gaining funding worse for me than for a student already on their course?

It is generally harder to convince a charity that you are in financial difficulty if you haven’t already started a course. They might simply advise you not to take the course, but to work for a while so you can afford it.

However, you can probably avoid this response if you are careful in how you present your case. The two best pieces of advice are: 1.) Make it sound like your decision to do the course is set in stone, and 2.) make it sound like an essential qualification that you need to obtain to embark on your chosen career, rather than something optional. See the sample letters in section 5.

5 I’m studying for a vocational course such as teacher’s training. Will charities consider sponsoring me?

Absolutely. In many ways, you’ll be at an advantage because charities will see a clear vocational goal in your course. Plus public service professions like teaching may well enjoy an extra degree of sympathy.

6 I’ve not got great qualifications. Will this disadvantage me?

Not really. Generally, charities are looking for evidence of need, sound planning, and a persuasive argument above grades. Remember, most people who apply to charities are members of the general public who are unlikely to even have a Bachelor’s degree. If you are considering postgraduate study, the chances are that your CV will be quite substantially better than those of the vast majority of other applicants.
7 My university isn’t high on the league tables and isn’t very well known. In practice, do charities discriminate against these institutions?

Not in the least. Charities are there to help people in need. They are not academic bodies - many people they help have not even been to university. They are thus not at all concerned with league tables!

8 My university is a small specialist music/art/drama/agricultural college. Won’t this make it harder for me to get funding from charity?

No, it will probably make it easier. You can easily argue that public funding opportunities for your subject are comparatively poor, and you need other options. If you are studying art or music, then you also have an advantage. Everyone loves art and music, but everyone also knows that it is hard for young practitioners to make their way in the world. Indeed, there are many charities set up specifically for the visual and performing arts.
9 What resources/help can my university give to me in finding voluntary sector funding?

There are usually some resources which can help in finding bodies, although there are not currently any other dedicated books or websites which contain any guidance other than the one you are holding. Your university will probably have a careers or funding adviser, and probably a careers library where you can find many of the books mentioned in section 10 such as the Grants Register and the Directory of Grants Making Trusts.

More substantially, there may be staff with whom you can discuss your application and gain further advice, particularly for scholarships which are administered by your university, and possibly local charities which may have funded students form your university in the past.
10 *I’ve read that charities are heavily oversubscribed and have little money. Is the money really there?*

Yes: this is another misconception. The voluntary sector has given our record levels since 2008, despite Britain’s recent economic difficulties. Charities are there to help people in hard times and in difficult situations. As public funding for research councils and universities is cut, the voluntary sector is beginning to play an increasing role in financing undergraduate and postgraduate study.

This isn’t just a theoretical argument. It’s something we know to be true. *The Alternative Guide* is a grassroots publication: we are real students who have used charities successfully to win over 50 awards between us, not paid researchers who have not. In the past two years we have worked with hundreds of students of all backgrounds and abilities who have won awards from places they previously had no idea even existed. Charities are a major source of postgraduate funding in Britain, but have simply not yet been properly appreciated or utilised.

11 *If Charities are inundated with student applicants, won’t the money just run out?*

It’s possible that some charities will stop making grants, or cap the number. But it’s equally possible that supply may generate its own demand, and more charities will start offering awards. Charities have certainly become more student-friendly over the last few years, and with the recent steep rise in undergraduate tuition fees, students look set to become one of the key groups charities will seek to aid. Because of this, it’s likely charity funding will get more competitive in the future, but for now, since relatively few students know about charities or apply to them, you have a golden opportunity!
12 Funding from the voluntary sector sounds like a great deal of effort for only small returns. Is the effort really worth it?

The idea of sending off dozens of letters, and completing numerous application forms to assemble a package of small awards might seem a laborious method of funding your course. However, much of what you write in one application can be reused in others, and it's usually possible to renew awards in subsequent years with very similar applications if you need to. So although a lot of initial effort is required, it becomes easier the more you do. It's not hugely more difficult to make four applications than it is to make one! If your time is really at a premium, consider the targeted approach (see page 24.)

13 Do I have to show charities bank statements or other personal financial details?

No. The Access to Learning Fund (a government-sponsored hardship fund) requires you to show three months worth of bank statements, but charities very seldom, if ever, require you to show bank statements or other personal financial documents. You are trusted to be truthful in your financial statement.

14 Do I have to pay tax on charity awards?

No. Charity awards fall under the same tax category as do scholarships, so no tax is payable. Plus your personal tax allowance is unaffected.

15 Are there any strings attached?

Because charities can be a little eccentric, people often assume there must be strings attached. This is a myth. Charities have no claim over your future academic work, and the only condition they usually make on awarding a grant is that they ask you to submit a short report to them at the end of the academic year.
16 **Can my lab or workgroup apply for a grant collectively, or does it just have to be me as an individual?**

Yes, a research group or team can sometimes apply for a grant together towards research or equipment costs. Naturally, this only works with researchers who are working collaboratively, which is most usual in the Sciences. A group application has three advantages. First, a collaborative application will probably stand a better chance than an isolated one from a student. Second, the amount that you might raise for an individual award might well be larger (a charity will probably be prepared to devote more funding to something that looks like a more major collaborative project). Thirdly, you might be able to apply to charities which debar individual applicants, and so are thus unusable by individual students.

17 **Can you use charities for Postdoctoral Funding (e.g. conferences, research costs, bench fees, etc)?**

Yes you can! Although this is not discussed much in this guide, there is nothing to stop postdoctoral researchers approaching charities in much the same manner as a postgraduate. Funding a whole postdoc through charities would be very difficult, but charities can certainly be used for additional costs such as travel, conferences, and bench fees.
Acknowledgments

This guide began in 2008 as a brief essay for my department at King’s College London on how struggling postgraduates could gain some assistance through the voluntary sector. Since then, it has sold over 500,000 copies as The Alternative Guide. There are many individuals and organisations to which I am greatly indebted, and I would like to offer a few words of thanks:

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Luke Blaxill,
Streatham, 2018
This book is a secret passage into the postgraduate funding that nobody told you existed! It is all about charities and trusts, and shows you how to access this hugely underrated funding resource. Charities can be obscure, but they have money - and there are thousands of them. So whether it's the Leatherseller's Company, the Vegetarian Charity, or the Leverhulme Trades Charities Trust, there are bodies out there for you! You just need to know where to find them, and how to craft a strong application. This award winning Guide, written by real students, is now in its tenth edition. It will give you all the tools and guidance you need to access this major but neglected source of postgraduate funding.

**IN THIS GUIDE**

- How to find the right charities for you
- How to craft a winning application
- Model personal and financial statements
- Details of over 500 sources of funding