



believe.
inspire.
change.

Grant guidelines

About the DWF charitable foundation

The DWF Foundation was founded by DWF. The vision is to encourage all the people within DWF and to work together as a catalyst for change. The DWF Foundation will provide funds, resources and support to help communities achieve their full potential.

The DWF Charitable Foundation is a registered charity number 1191347.

Themes

To help focus our work, measure our impact and support the efforts of the business the DWF Foundation will focus our work in the following areas. These complement our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) work.

- Education
- Employability
- Homelessness
- Health and wellbeing
- Environment and sustainability

How to apply

In the first instance please study our Grant Guidelines to ascertain if your project is eligible for funding.

UK and Ireland

Please complete the online application form. The Grant Application Form is then available to download from our webpages <https://dwfgroup.com/about-us/dwf-foundation>

International

Due to the large number of applications we received from international organisation that are not eligible for our support, before completing the application form please contact our DWF Foundation Manager by email clare.beavan@dwf.law to discuss your application and eligibility. Applications from international organisation not approved to apply by our DWF Foundation Manager will not be considered.

Please note for ALL applications that the DWF Foundation will **only be able to consider grant requests submitted using the Grant Application Form.**

If you wish to discuss your proposal at any stage, you are welcome to contact our Foundation Manager, Clare Beavan, please email clare.beavan@dwf.law

Application deadlines

Applications will be accepted at any time and if eligible for funding will be presented at the next Grants Committee meeting. Please see below guidelines on timescales for applications:

Application deadline	Grant committee meeting	Applicants notified by end
31 January 2026	April 2026	May 2026
30 June 2026	September 2026	October 2026
30 September 2026	December 2026	January 2027

Application review process



1. Complete online application form available on DWF website.

2. Submit application online to DWF Foundation Manager.

3. Foundation Manager to review for eligibility and then submit to local CSR Groups for recommendation.

4. Local CSR Group to submit their top 3 application recommendations.

5. DWF Foundation Trustees to consider all the recommendations from CSR Groups and make final decision on grants approved.

6. DWF Foundations Manager to notify both successful and unsuccessful applicants.

Who can apply

Location in which DWF Foundation welcomes applications from countries in which DWF has a presence.

- Australia
- Canada
- France
- Germany
- India
- Ireland
- Italy
- Poland
- Qatar
- Spain
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States

DWF also has associations with other law firms in the countries below but DWF Foundation **do not** currently fund in these locations;

- Singapore
- South Africa
- Turkey

The DWF Foundation will welcome applications from **registered charities only**. Applications are welcome from charities working in countries in which there is a DWF presence.

N.B. On the application form please include your countries appropriate registered charity or not for profit number.

Other than by country we do not have any other geographic restrictions for example, your project does not need to be within a certain distance of a DWF office.

Activities outside our criteria

The DWF Foundation will only fund charitable causes. We are not able to fund the following areas of work:

- Academic research
- Activities for which a statutory body is responsible
- Activity taking place in school time that are a statutory responsibility.
- Animal welfare
- Evaluation which is not related to the funded work
- Every day running costs and core salaries
- General fundraising appeals
- Individuals
- Loans or business finance
- Other grant making bodies
- Professional fundraisers or bid writers
- Professional qualifications
- Recurrent funding
- Redundancy payments
- Religious and political causes
- Sponsorship/marketing appeals/fundraising costs
- Startup costs for new organisations
- The advancement of religion
- Universities/HE facilities
- Vehicles and minibuses
- Work that has already taken place

Size of grants

All grants are calculated in £ sterling. For international locations the grant will be paid in the local currency.

The Foundation does not have a minimum grant size but the majority of our grants will fall under £5,000.

Due to the funds we have available the DWF Foundation will not fund multi-year grants.

Environmental impact

Climate change is a health issue, an equality issue, an educational issue, an economic issue, a cultural issue, a scientific issue, a security issue and a local community issue, as well as an environmental issue.

We recognise that the growing climate emergency is a serious risk and we can play a part in addressing the causes of climate change and supporting adaptation to its effects. We want to recognise and support those organisations who are considering the environmental impact in the delivery of their work and taking appropriate steps, this might be for example through the use of digital delivery to reduce travel and production costs.

Making an application

To support you in making an application to DWF Foundation we offer online workshops. You can book onto one of these workshops via the DWF Foundation website pages

<https://dwfgroup.com/en-ie/news-and-insights/events/dwf-foundation-application-workshop>

If you have difficulties in completing the application for or require additional assistance then please email clare.beavan@dwf.law

References

Your reference is someone who is independent of your organisation and can talk about your work and/or the project you are requesting support for.

If you know someone who works in DWF LLP then please include them as your reference on your grant application.

If you do not know someone from within the business, then please supply us with the contact details of someone who is independent of your organisation and can talk about the work you do.

Successful applications

You will be notified within 1 month of the Grant Committee at which your application was to be considered.

Charities receiving funding from us should allow 12 months to elapse from our last grant award before making a new application.

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Unsuccessful applications

Due to the volume of applications we receive unfortunately the DWF Foundation is not able to fund everyone.

You will be notified by email within one month after the deadline by which you submitted.

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31 January 2026	April 2026	May 2026
30 June 2026	September 2026	October 2026
30 September 2026	December 2026	January 2027

If you have not heard from us within 4 months of making your application then please assume you have been unsuccessful. Please allow at least 12 months before re-applying.

Further information



Clare Beavan
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E clare.beavan@dwf.law

If you have any questions regarding applying for a grant from the DWF Foundation please contact Clare.
The DWF Charitable Foundation
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