

Engaging Young Adult Quakers Events and Learning Grants – Guidance Notes

Please read these notes before completing the application form and please contact youngadultgrants@quaker.org.uk if you have any questions or require any assistance. If you are unable to complete the application yourself, someone else can do so on your behalf.

Introduction

Grant-making is an important part of turning our faith into action. Through our grants we support individuals in their work and development around our values.

The Quaker Events and Learning grants cover travel, course/event fees and accommodation costs for Quaker learning opportunities and other events.

The purpose of these grants is to support young adult Quakers to attend Quaker events and Quaker learning opportunities which would otherwise not be possible due to financial constraints. The aim is for young adult Quakers to participate more fully in the life of the Society of Friends as a result of being able to attend these events.

Eligibility

Applicants should be

- A member of, or closely connected with, the Religious Society of Friends in Britain
- Aged 18-35
- Attending an event or learning opportunity (e.g. a course or conference) which is either explicitly Quaker in nature or closely linked to Quaker witness or testimonies (see list of examples below)
- Unable to attend without financial assistance.

The costs of attending Britain Yearly Meeting or Yearly Meeting Gathering will not be covered. Applications to the BYM bursary scheme should be made in these cases, if local sources of funding are insufficient. The costs of attending Young Friends General Meeting will not be covered, applications should be made to YFGM for bursary help.

What can Events and Learning Grants cover?

Grants might be made for the following, but may be considered for other things:

- Help with the cost of attending a course at Woodbrooke which offers a 50% discount to young adults, and the cost of travel to Woodbrooke, if the remaining cost cannot be met by the applicant
- Help to cover an additional night's accommodation if this makes attending an event possible, for example due to ill health or living a long distance from the venue

- Help with conference or other event fees e.g. attending Quaker Peace and Social Witness Spring Conference
- Help with travel costs or accommodation/subsistence costs to attend a free event e.g. Quaker Activist Gathering

Completing the application form

Applications

Applications should be submitted through the online form on the website. If for any reason you are unable to complete the online form please email youngadultgrants@quaker.org.uk.

Grants are usually decided and, if approved paid, within a month.

Sums available

A grant of up to £500 may be made to any one application.

Reapplications

Applicants may re-apply for a grant but priority will be given to first time applicants.

Your Quaker community

This could be a local or area meeting, Young Friends General Meeting (YFGM), a local young adult worship group, an annual Quaker event (as attender or volunteer for Children and Young People's events), European and Middle Eastern Young Friends (EMEYF), or other Quaker group that you consider to be your worshipping community.

If you do not consider yourself to be a part of one of these groups, please give examples of how you have been involved with Quakers in Britain.

Have you already applied to your local or area meeting for any financial help?

You may not feel able to ask your local or area meeting for help, particularly if you do not view it as your main Quaker community. You do not need to approach them for help before applying for a Quaker Events & Learning Grant, but if you haven't done so, you just need to briefly outline why this is. We ask this question as some people may not be aware of it as a potential source of help, and to ensure that such funds are accessed where possible.

The role of a supporting Friend

The application must give details of a supporting Friend. This person must be a member of, or closely connected with, the Religious Society of Friends in Britain, who has oversight responsibility within a Quaker community (whether a Local Meeting or YFGM, or as an organiser of a young adult Quaker group). Supporting Friends will be contacted to confirm that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria and that other funds have been considered.

Please make sure you have their permission to share their contact details and personal data with us.

Reporting

The intention with this grant-making scheme is to build a community of alumni who are able to share the impact that the grants have had on their lives and their Quaker witness. As an alternative to a written report of 250 words, recipients may instead wish to share their experiences in different formats which will be accessible and engaging to other young adults. This might include videos, being interviewed on a Quaker podcast, or Instagram stories or takeovers (with the permission and where appropriate, the support of the BYM comms team).

Alumni stories may be shared on our website and social media to promote awareness of the grants and to encourage others to apply. We may organise virtual meetups via Skype for members of this alumni community to share their experiences.