



CHARITABLE GRANTS FOR
POSTGRADUATE STUDY IN THE UK



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ABOUT THE SIR RICHARD STAPLEY EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Founded as a charity in 1919 by the businessman, politician and philanthropist Sir Richard Stapley, for over 100 years our Trust has increased access to educational opportunities for students of proven academic merit experiencing financial need. Open to UK-based students from all countries, the Trust currently supports students of medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine taken as a second degree as well as postgraduate courses in any subject.

For further details on our current eligibility criteria please see [our website](#).

PLEASE HELP US SUPPORT EVEN MORE STUDENTS IN FUTURE

We depend on our endowment and individual donations to fund everything we do – and the number of students seeking our support is growing all the time. Postgraduate study makes an enormous contribution to public life, providing so much of the knowledge and skills on which we all rely. Every donation however small is welcome. To find out how you can help us to help even more students, please [follow this link](#). Thank you!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Conception: Dr Mike Mortimer
Research: Dr Debbie Marsden, Dr Jane Dancer and Colin Nee
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ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Much as we would love to help every student in financial need, our own funds are very limited so sometimes we can't help or can't help enough. This guide aims to offer some alternatives to UK-based students seeking charitable grants to finance further or higher degrees in the UK.

Part 1 provides information and links to print and online searchable directories of UK grant makers.

Part 2 provides links to some specific UK grant makers that we know have helped students seeking support.

All information in the guide relates only to the UK and assumes that the reader is living in the UK and attending or planning to attend a recognised UK educational institution. If you are not currently living in the UK, please see the final page.

A NOTE ON UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

For many students in financial difficulty, their first port of call will be the university at which they are studying. Many universities offer various scholarships and bursaries including:

- Emergency, hardship or welfare funds
- Disadvantaged bursaries - to encourage students from all backgrounds to pursue further study, regardless of their personal circumstances
- Academic excellence scholarships - funding for students in recognition of their outstanding academic credentials
- Alumni discounts - many UK universities offer a tuition fee discount of 10%-15% to their own students who progress to postgraduate study
- Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) - fee waivers for PhD students in return for providing pastoral support and teaching duties to undergraduate students.

To find out more, contact your University Student Services Office or Student Union welfare officer.



PART 1: PRINT AND ONLINE SEARCHABLE DIRECTORIES

IN PRINT

The only published, print directory of educational grant making trusts and foundations that we know of is 'The Guide to Educational Grants' produced by the Directory of Social Change. This is published every two years, and the 16th edition came out in June 2020. The guide has a small section on grants for further and higher education.

The Directory of Social Change also publishes 'The Guide to Grants for Individuals in Need'. The 18th edition was published in March 2022.

These publications are primarily intended for organisations, and are priced accordingly (£95 each). They can be purchased from the [Directory of Social Change](#).

If you wish to view the directories without buying them, you will need to see if your local library, university library, student union welfare office, student services office or local Citizens Advice Bureau has a copy that you can look at. Some students purchase out of date copies cheaply on, for example, eBay or Amazon, but we can't recommend this.

ONLINE

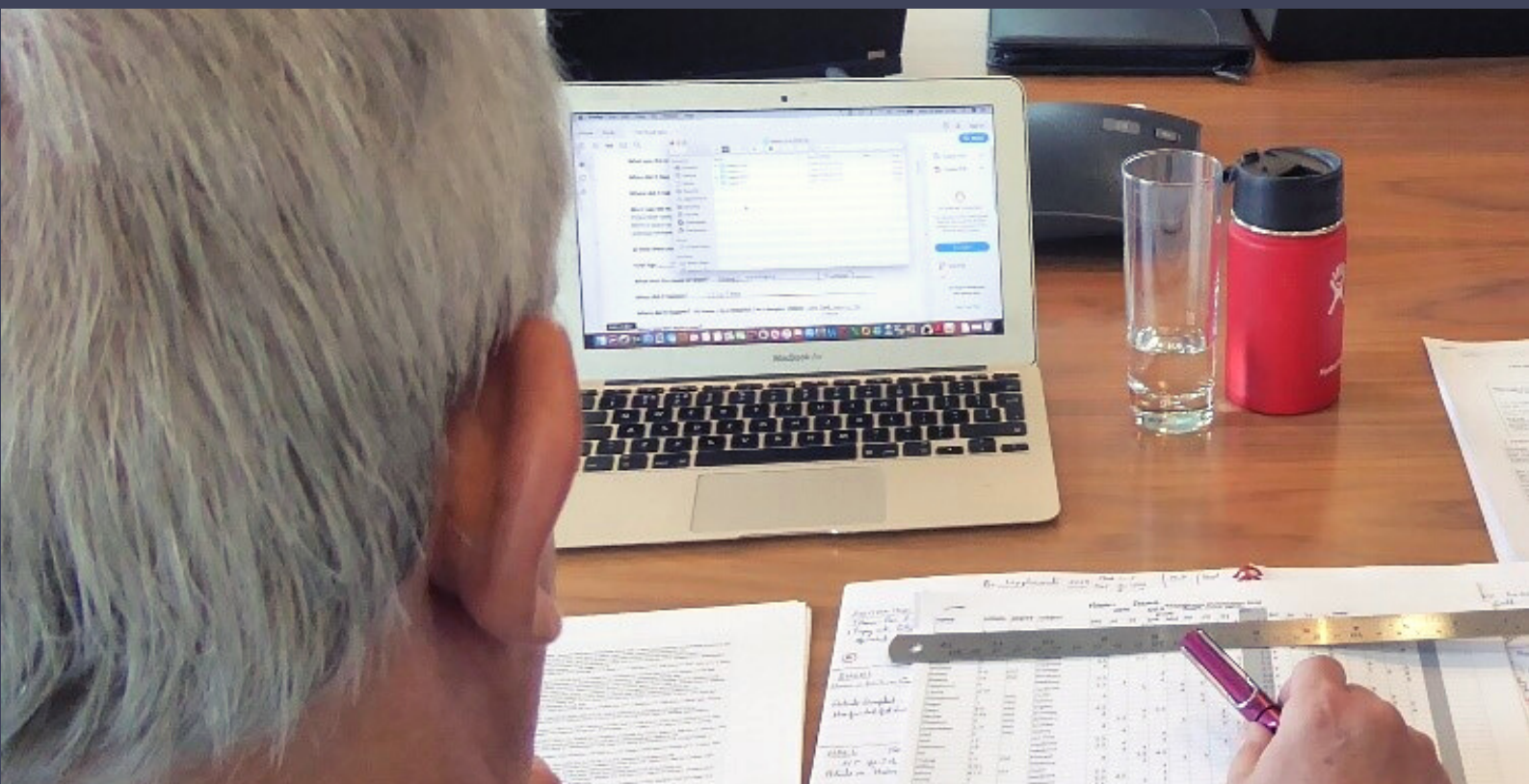
- [Prospects](#): Information and advice for graduates, including a searchable database of loans, scholarships and bursaries for postgraduates.
- [GradFunding](#) provides advice on postgraduate funding from charities. They publish [The Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding](#) as a web resource (currently £14.99 for a 3-months access licence).
- [Grant-Making Charities Funding Individuals](#): Published online by the Directory of Social Change, a one-week user licence currently starts at £180 for charities. If you wish to view the database, you will need to see if your local library, university library, student union welfare office, student services office or local Citizens Advice Bureau has a subscription and will let you access it.
- [Turn2Us grants search](#): Turn2us is a national charity providing practical help to people who are struggling financially. Its grant search database is free to access.
- [Help Musicians webpage 'Where can I find funding for postgraduate study?'](#) Help Musicians is an independent UK charity for musicians of all genres. At time of writing, this web page lists 14 trusts, foundations, scholarships, competitions and awards.
- [Displaced Student Opportunities UK](#): Hosted by Refugee Education UK, Student Action for Refugees and Universities of Sanctuary, this resource has information about financial and academic support to access higher education for students who are displaced in the UK.



PART 2: SOME SPECIFIC CHARITABLE GRANT MAKERS

Each year, we ask students we have supported which other charities have given them grants. The list of charities below has been compiled from their answers along with one or two suggestions of our own. To the best of our knowledge, all of those listed are open to applications from individual students (there are others which only accept applications from universities and their staff).

- **When?** All of those listed are likely to have strict date-bounded application 'windows'. Check when you are able to apply, and if there is an email reminder service, sign up for it.
- **Who?** They will all have eligibility criteria explaining the kinds of student and the types of courses they are prepared to consider. Check you are eligible to apply before wasting time (yours and theirs).
- **How?** Apply in the manner prescribed (application form or letter) and make sure you include all of the information requested.
- **Make a strong case:** Being eligible to apply is only the first hurdle. You will then be in competition with all of the other students who are also eligible to apply. Read their information carefully to find out what you need to include in your application to make the strongest case for yourself.



OPEN TO ALL ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

THE SIDNEY PERRY FOUNDATION

Aims primarily to help first degree and postgraduate students where the further degree is related to the first, or is a necessary part of professional training (e.g., medicine or dentistry). Also supports education in its widest sense.

THE LEATHERSELLERS' FOUNDATION

The Foundation's student grants for 2022-23 are only available for undergraduate students who are care leavers. They do offer student grants for those studying leather-associated courses, and these can be for postgraduate students as well as undergraduate.

THE HUMANITARIAN TRUST

Students undertaking a higher or graduate degree in the UK who will not be over the age of 30 when the course is completed.

THE RUBY AND WILL GEORGE TRUST

Grants for the enhancement of education or relief of poverty. The applicant must have a link to commerce, either directly or through a family member.

THE GILCHRIST EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Will consider applications for small study grants from those who have made proper provision to fund a degree or higher education course but find themselves facing unexpected financial difficulties which may prevent completion of it. These are small one-off grants to help in a financial crisis, they are not scholarships designed for a whole year.

FOR WOMEN STUDENTS

FUNDS FOR WOMEN GRADUATES

Grants, bursaries and fellowships to women graduates to help with living expenses, financial crisis and other areas of their education.

THE HILDA MARTINDALE TRUST

British women taking an undergraduate or postgraduate course in the UK and pursuing a career in areas where women are underrepresented. The first year of undergraduate study is excluded.

THE YORKSHIRE LADIES' COUNCIL OF EDUCATION

British women students aged 21 and over with a confirmed offer from a UK educational institution. Must not be eligible for Student Finance support other than a Postgraduate Loan.

FOR STUDENTS FROM SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE UK:

THE JAMES PANTYFEDWEN FOUNDATION

Grants towards tuition fees for Masters or PhD students from Wales. Must have a permanent address in Wales and have been born in Wales, or be of Welsh parentage, or have studied in Wales for at least 7 years. Closing date for applications: 31 May. Guidelines and application forms available from the website.

THE MCGLASHAN CHARITABLE TRUST

Postgraduate students aged under 30 at the start of the period of study for which support is requested. Must have been born in Scotland or be planning to study in Scotland.

THE SCOTTISH INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION TRUST (SIET)

Supporting Excellence in Need. Gives priority to Scottish (by birth or formation) postgraduate students working for a higher degree or similar qualification, especially if the course does not qualify or the applicant is not eligible for assistance from public funds (e.g. a Research Council).

STIRLINGSHIRE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Postgraduate scholarships for students who have been resident in Stirlingshire, either currently or in the past, for a period of at least 5 consecutive years or have been born there.

THE GLASGOW EDUCATIONAL AND MARSHALL TRUST

Grants to assist Glasgow residents to further their education, including postgraduate education. Please visit the GEMT website where you will be able to see the eligibility criteria and the types of students the GEMT supports.

WEST COUNTRY DAIRY AWARDS

West Country Dairy Awards provides a small number of grants to students on courses related to the dairy industry. Sons and daughters of farmers, farm employees, or students who can demonstrate commitment to the dairy industry will be considered. Applicants must live in one of the following four counties: Cornwall, Devon, Dorset or Somerset.



FOR SPECIFIC STUDY AREAS:

BMA CHARITIES

Grants to those taking medicine as a second degree, and to other medical students in immediate and serious financial need.

THE FOULKES FOUNDATION

Invites applications from post-doctoral scientists wishing to undertake a medical degree. Applicants must have completed their PhD and have a firm place to study medicine in the UK. Also invites applications from medical graduates who are currently undertaking research specifically for a PhD. Applicants should intend to contribute to medical research. Closing date 15 March each year.

THE DRAKE CALLEJA TRUST

Scholarships for exceptionally talented musicians at undergraduate, postgraduate and research levels.

THE COUNTESS OF MUNSTER MUSICAL TRUST

Open to postgraduate jazz or classical instrumentalists, singers and composers.

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF MUSICIANS

Various open-entry awards for musicians.

THE HATTORI FOUNDATION FOR MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Instrumental soloists (21-27 years of age) and chamber ensembles (average age 21-27 years) are invited to apply for financial assistance for projects taking place between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024. Awards are considered for various things including living allowance and travel expenses in connection with a postgraduate course. Support is not available for singers, conductors, composers, orchestral courses, full-time study or instrument maintenance or purchase.



THE ALBERT COOPER MUSIC
CHARITABLE TRUST

Considers applications from students aged from 18 – 21 who play violin, viola or cello. They may apply for funds for tuition, instrument purchase and some living expenses incurred while in full-time or postgraduate education. Applicants must have a UK bank account.

THE STATIONERS'
FOUNDATION

The Foundation promotes education and research in the Communications and Content industries. It offers a Postgraduate Bursary Scheme with up to 16 annual awards on postgraduate courses related to the Communication and Content industries. Also offers various awards and scholarships.

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THE COATS FOUNDATION
TRUST

Prioritises Textile related courses.

THE CHALKE VALLEY HISTORY
TRUST

Postgraduate study in the UK of history topics across the globe.

BLACK TROWEL COLLECTIVE
MICROGRANTS

"Any archaeology student (graduate or undergraduate) who needs support. Students of color and students without parental/family support or who lack access to other forms of financial aid by virtue of being undocumented etc. to the front!" The Collective is a solidarity group and not a charity.



WHAT IF I AM CURRENTLY LIVING OUTSIDE THE UK?

All information in this guide relates only to the UK and assumes that the reader is living in the UK and attending or planning to attend a recognised UK educational institution. We regret that we have no information about opportunities for those not currently living in and planning to study in the UK, although it may be that the list of scholarships from [The Canon Collins Educational Trust](#) may provide some useful leads.

PLEASE HELP US TO IMPROVE THIS RESOURCE

Please help us make this a really practical and relevant resource! If we have included a charity or resource that is no longer relevant, or failed to include a charitable grant maker that we should have included, please let us know.

Likewise if any of the links are broken or out of date, please get in touch via admin@stapleytrust.org



www.stapleytrust.org

