



Applicants Rules and Guidance Aims of the CEKFC

The objects of the Cornwallis East Kent Freemasons' Charity are to assist with the prevention or relief of poverty in East Kent by the provision of grants, items, and assistance to those in need. This includes emergency grants to relieve poverty and distress following disasters occurring in East Kent. Our trustees also have the discretion to award grants for public benefit in East Kent that are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales. A summary of our constitution together with more information about us is published on the Charity Commissions website, <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>

Who can apply?

Applications may be considered from individuals and some types of organisations, particularly registered charities. Also, Masonic Lodges and Chapters within the Province of East Kent wishing to support individuals and other charities who can apply on their behalf. **If you are thinking of making an application, you may wish to consider doing so in partnership with a local Lodge or Chapter. Their contact details may be found on the Province of East Kent website, <http://eastkentfreemasons.org>**

What types of organisations are not included?

We are unable to support applications made by the following:

- Limited companies.
- Organisations that are part of the public sector operated by or on behalf of the UK Government, or Local Government, such as schools, hospitals, the police, border and immigration service, etc.

The only exception we **MAY** consider is an application made on behalf of a registered charity established to support a public sector organisation. For example, those commonly established as friends or support groups of hospitals or schools.

Who might qualify for a grant?

Grants can be made to support initiatives and projects that will make a positive difference to people's lives. Although principally supporting local charities, we do consider national charities where a local connection applies. A charity must be registered with the Charity Commission to qualify.

Grants may be awarded to:

Vulnerable People. Grants aimed to improve the lives of the vulnerable and disadvantaged in our communities including those:

- Living with a disability.
- Caring for the seriously ill and elderly.
- Who are carers.
- Those living in poverty or distress.

Youth Opportunities. Charities helping children and young adults under 25 reach their full potential by:

- Participating in organised activities, initiatives and challenges aimed at good citizenship, and improving physiological and physical development.
- Developing life and work-related skills.
- Supporting the needs of disadvantaged and or disabled young people.

Are there any rules on how the grant may be used?

Yes. Grants are awarded for one-off initiatives or projects. Our grants cannot be used as a supplementary source of income, nor to support the annual budget of a charity or organisation. Grants are primarily awarded for what is normally defined by accountants as capital funding initiatives.

These might include:

- A time limited staff led initiative such as buying in specialists to help those suffering with a physical, psychological and neuro-divergent conditions including ADHD, autism and dyslexia to develop new skills and or knowledge to help them improve their lives.
- Structural building developments or improvements of a modest nature.
- As a contribution to the purchase or modification of a vehicle.
- Specialist equipment such as play apparatus and like equipment.
- Computers and software.
- A one-off initiative to improve the well-being or development of young people.
- Mobility aids, and specialist equipment for persons with special needs.
- Furniture and soft furnishing.
- Books and consumable stationery essential to specific new initiatives.
- A one-off grant to an otherwise reliable charity facing unforeseeable existential circumstances.
- Those charities providing support or spiritual relief to the community or part of a Grand Lodge community focused initiative.

Are there any types of funding requests we would not support?

Yes. Some examples are listed below.

- Salaries, employee wages, and their expenses. (1)
 - Any overhead expenses relating to sales, routine ongoing administration costs and other running costs.
 - Overseas trips and travel. (Other than for life threatening medical emergencies or for approved youth educational when representing scouts, guides or cadet forces)
 - Mortgages, rents, or the servicing of loan repayments.
 - Utility costs, including heating, electricity, oil, or vehicle fuel.
 - Insurance, licensing, council tax, or any other forms of taxation.
 - Routine maintenance costs.
 - Consumables such as books, stationery, printer ink and other office equipment.
 - Sponsored walks or similar fundraising initiatives.
- (1) This rule doesn't necessarily apply to the larger bona fide charities operating in the Province who employ or contract in staff with a headcount of 30 or over whose staff budget exceeds 75% of their total annual budget.

Does the CEKFC support a second application from the same individual, charity, or organisation?

Not generally. Unless in very exceptional circumstances or as part of our 3rd pillar initiative whereby a Lodge or Chapter enters into a 3 years agreement to provide support to a recognised group or body supporting the development of young people.

Otherwise, our trustees will normally approve one grant to each applicant; any subsequent applications made by successful applicants or for the same beneficiary will normally only be considered after 2 years (have elapsed unless in exceptional circumstances). A third award will only be considered after a full 4 years has elapsed following a second award.

How do I apply?

You will find our simple online application procedure on our website
<http://cornwallisekfc.org.uk> Cornwallisekfc.org

And finally.

Before making your application, please make absolutely sure it is aimed at the relief of poverty and distress or is for a charitable purpose benefiting the public including individual members of the public residing in East Kent. Also, that it meets the other criteria explained

in this document. We aim to make a final decision on applications within 6 weeks from the date they are received.

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