

Opportunities Award

Guidance Notes

The Opportunities Award has been introduced to help people aged 18 or over with funding which could provide an opportunity to pursue ongoing activities meaningful to them or gains skills which will open doors to new work prospects. Grant applications are expected to be in the range of £200 to £2,000. The Opportunities Award will not affect any current or future applications you may put forward under Barnwood Trust's Wellbeing Fund.

1. Are you...

- a. Over the age of 18?
- b. A permanent resident of Gloucestershire?
- c. Disabled or do you have a long-term mental health challenge?
- d. Unable to fund the requested item(s) yourself?
- e. Applying for something that will enhance an ongoing activity or passion? (12 months+) Or, applying for something that will help you pursue a work or volunteering opportunity?

2. If so, have you...

- a. Included a personal statement which outlines your request and your previous experience within the activity/project, plus a full breakdown of the items and associated costs?
- b. Ensured all personal details are fully completed including full income and outgoings based on the whole household?
- c. Have you, (or your legal representative) signed and completed the consent questions?
- d. Attached an up-to-date award letter for your disability benefits?
 - If you are not in receipt of disability benefits, please enclose a statement from your doctor or medical professional confirming your condition, how long you have the condition and how this grant will contribute to your overall wellbeing.

3. Additional information we will need for volunteer or work projects...

- a. A letter from your doctor or medical professional confirming this project or work venture will not be harmful to your overall health.
- b. A business plan and pricelist, including how you plan to continue funding and supporting the project once a grant has been used.
- c. Quotes for specialist items or work.

Please note, the Opportunities Award is not intended to cover university fees or any costs for which you could receive a statutory grant or a student loan.



What happens next?...

If your request is **under £500**, one of our Home Visitors will contact you to make an appointment to meet you and discuss your request. Please allow up to 4 weeks to hear from them, from the point we receive your fully completed form. You should hear from us regarding the final decision within 4 weeks of your home visit.

If your request is **over £500**, you may be invited to come and have a chat with us about your plans. We will send you an appointment invitation within 4-6 weeks of receiving your fully completed application form. We will aim to get back to you with a final decision within the 2 weeks following your appointment date.

Please return your fully completed form along with all relevant documents:

By Post: The Grants Team, Barnwood Trust, Overton House, Overton Road, Cheltenham. GL50 3BN

By Email: grants@barnwoodtrust.org

If you have any queries, please feel free to call us on: 01242 539935

For information on how we process and store your information refer to our Privacy Policy on our website (www.barnwoodtrust.org)

Purpose of request

Please refer to the guidance notes overleaf for more additional information we may need

How much are you requesting from Barnwood Trust?

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Are you receiving additional funding from elsewhere? If yes, please provide details

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If awarded, what would you intend to spend the grant on?

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Please provide a breakdown of the items and their associated costs:

(please attach additional information if necessary, e.g. quotes)

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How long have you been involved in this particular activity/project and what does it mean to you?

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What opportunities do you hope to gain if awarded this grant?

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Please feel free to write on additional sheets or enclose any other extra details you feel are necessary.

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