



STEPPING STONES

Freemasons supporting young people

Information

Selection Process

Stepping Stones has a two stage application process. Interested charities are invited to submit a one page initial enquiry that includes the charity's registration number, details about the main area of work, the amount of the grant requested and a description of the programme or project that the grant would be used towards, including its location.

These initial enquiries will be reviewed by RMTGB staff and the enquiries that most closely match our eligibility criteria will be sent full application forms. Grantees will then be selected solely on the basis of the completed application form, matched against our funding criteria and knowledge of the sector.

Grant Making Timeline

In 2010 a meeting will be held in October to allocate funding. The deadline for completed application forms is a month prior to that meeting:

- deadline for selection 2010: 15 September 2010

Applications that are received after those deadlines will be rolled over to the first selection round in 2011.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

To be eligible to apply charities must be:

- Registered in England and Wales
- Engaged in work aimed at reducing child poverty/breaking the cycle of poverty through education and education-related activities
- In a position to significantly impact life outcomes for young people

➤ Other grant considerations:

Our main criteria for deciding between eligible applicants is the expected return from the grant, be it the total number of children that a grant enables a charity to assist, or the importance of an intervention to a small number of children.

The scheme is national, but the charities we fund do not have to be. We will support local charities if they can offer the greatest return from our grant.

We do not provide general contributions to capital or building projects.

We hope to fund (or part fund) specific programmes, initiatives and one-off/specific overhead costs.

We are interested in considering new and innovative ideas aimed at helping vulnerable children and young people succeed in life which could provide a model for wider application.

We are interested in supporting programmes that work with populations excluded from main stream educational services.

Organisations need to demonstrate their understanding of the regional or national context in which they work and the root causes of the issues they wish to tackle.

The Trust will not agree a grant for less than the requested amount without prior correspondence with the grantee during the application process.

Examples of Grants

Past grants include:

- funding a programme providing training and accommodation for homeless youth
- supporting the costs of a senior clinical supervisor to work with children who experienced deprivation or trauma in their early years
- providing assistive educational technology for the multiply disabled
- funding day care services for children with special needs