

Application Guidelines

Updated October 2021

1. Eligibility

Applicants must be a registered charity, exempt charity, not-for-profit social enterprise or community interest company benefitting communities in the Greater Bristol area.

CICs must have been established for at least three years and have an annual income of at least £50,000 with at least 25% of income from trading.

Sectors supported:

- **Children and Young People**
Prioritising organisations and projects which support disadvantaged young people to gain skills and qualifications for employment.
- **The Arts**
Supporting performance venues and groups across Bristol
- **Prevention of Homelessness**
Including support for organisations who provide advice and guidance to people at risk of losing their homes.
- **Community Cohesion**
Projects which support equality, diversity and social inclusion for high need groups from all communities in the city.

Exclusions

The following are not eligible:

- Medical research
- Single condition medical charities
- Grants for Individuals
- Animal welfare charities
- Sponsorship

Trustees strongly favour applications from Bristol based organisations. National charities applying for support for work in Bristol are less likely to be supported.

CICs whose core business model is substantially grant-reliant are unlikely to be successful.

2. How to Apply

Please apply using our **application form**.

There are three levels of grant:

- Small – up to £5,000
- Medium – £5,001 to £30,000
- Large – over £30,000

We know it takes time and resource to apply for grants. If you plan to apply for a medium or large grant, we recommend you make contact with the Director (nisbettrust@ahope.co.uk), to check that your proposal is a good fit with the Trust's priorities and that the grant request level is appropriate.

Applicants may suggest a preference for any level of grant, but the final amount may vary at the discretion of the trustees.

Applications for Small and Medium grants may be for project costs, capital costs or core costs. Project costs may include a reasonable proportion of core costs relevant to the project.

Grants may be for up to three years e.g. a small grant could be for up to £5,000 per annum (£15,000 in total). Please be aware, however, that the competition for multi-year grants, especially three year grants is much higher than single year grants as we can only award a small number each year.

Large grants are typically awarded to major capital projects.

3. Budget Information

If you are applying for core costs, then please provide budget information for your whole organisation. If you are applying for project costs, please provide a project budget

4. Safeguarding

The Nisbet Trust takes the safeguarding of children and adults at risk seriously and we require organisations applying for funding to have a safeguarding policy which is up-to-date and relevant to their beneficiaries. We ask you to submit a copy of your safeguarding policy with your application.

5. Deadlines

Trustees meet quarterly, usually in January, April, July and October. Please check deadline dates on the website www.nisbettrust.co.uk.

Applications will be acknowledged by email. The Trust aims to make a decision within three months. All applications will receive a response whether successful or not.

Following an application, please do not reapply for at least twelve months (from the date of your original application).

6. Reporting

Small & Medium Grants

For single year grants, please send us a brief report via email at the end of your project, or after 12 months if we are supporting core costs. If you wish to reapply, please send your report with your application. Your report should be no more than 2 pages long and should include both details of the number of people you have supported and the change or outcomes you have achieved with the funding.

For multi-year grants, please send a brief report towards the end of each 12 month period. A specific deadline will be given in your award letter.

Capital Grants

We will agree reporting conditions at the time of our grant

5. Contact Details

Queries:

Please make sure you have read the application guidance carefully first.

Please make contact by email in the first instance:

Key contacts:

Alison Hope, Director E: nisbettrust@ahope.co.uk

Gemma Roberts, Administrator E: admin@nisbettrust.co.uk

Email applications are preferred.

Applications and should be sent to admin@nisbettrust.co.uk

If you are unable to send your application by email please send it to:

The Nisbet Trust
22 Clifton Road
Bristol BS1 1AQ