

Societies Grant - What You Need to Know

What's the Societies Grant?

UEA SU has a £10,000 pot of money set aside for societies to use on certain expenses and activities. Your request will be looked at by the Societies Executive Committee in their monthly meetings.

What's the goal?

The Societies Grant Funding is all about giving a helping hand to student societies at the university. It's there to make your events, projects, and ideas even better by providing money for things like events, equipment, and more. The goal is to supercharge what your society can do, making it easier to create awesome experiences and bring people together on campus.

Will our grant always get approved?

Some requests get the green light, while others might not. Here are some usual reasons why some requests might not go through:

1. **Insufficient Clarity and Detail:** If the proposal lacks clear objectives, a well-defined plan, or specific budget information, it may be rejected.
2. **Ineligibility:** The requesting organisation or project may not meet the eligibility criteria set by the grant provider, such as an application received from a student group that isn't officially registered and recognised by the SU.
3. **Poor Alignment with Grant Goals:** If the proposal doesn't align with the goals and priorities of the grant provider, it's unlikely to be accepted.
4. **Competitive Applicant Pool:** Grant programs often receive numerous applications for limited funds, making it highly competitive. Even well-prepared proposals may not be selected due to the stiff competition.
5. **Lack of Demonstrated Need:** If the proposal fails to convincingly demonstrate the need for the funding, it may not be considered a priority.
6. **Inadequate Impact Assessment:** Grant providers often want to see how their funds will make a measurable difference. Proposals that lack a clear plan for evaluating impact may be rejected.
7. **Ineffective Communication:** Poorly written or poorly presented proposals may not effectively convey the project's significance or its potential for success.
8. **Overambitious Budget:** An unrealistic budget that overestimates expenses or underestimates the necessary funds can lead to rejection.

9. Incomplete Application: Failing to include all required documentation, signatures, or supporting materials can result in disqualification.
10. Failure to Meet Deadlines: Submitting the application after the deadline is a common reason for rejection.
11. Previous Unsuccessful Applications: If the SU has previously received grant funding but failed to meet its obligations or achieve its goals, this can negatively impact future applications.
12. Limited Funding Availability: Sometimes, grant programs may have exhausted their available funds or may not have sufficient resources to support all worthy proposals.
13. Lack of Innovation or Uniqueness: Proposals that do not offer a novel approach or unique solutions may not stand out in a competitive field

Who can apply?

All approved societies with over 20 members can apply for this grant.

What can we ask for?

You can ask for money for things your society needs or events you're planning. For example, you could ask for funding to cover travel costs, entrance fees for events, or equipment that would help your society's activities. Unfortunately we can't give out physical cash – only online payments and / or reimbursements.

Is there a limit to how much we can get?

Nope, there's no highest limit. Each request will be checked individually. The Societies Executive Committee will look at your society's current funds and how well you manage money in your request.

How do we apply?

Just fill in the 'Societies Grant Application Form' on the committee hub page of the SU website. We'll get back to you after your application.

Who decides if we get the money?

The Societies Executive Committee checks the applications during their monthly meetings. This group has students from different societies. They're here to listen to you and represent your ideas.

Can we apply during the summer?

Yes, you can apply for the Societies Grant over the summer. But remember, the Societies Executive only meets during school terms. So you might have to wait for term to start before your request is reviewed.

Are there any deadlines?

If you ask for the grant, the Societies Executive will check it during their next meeting. You'll find a table on the 'apply for a grant' page in the committee hub section of the website. It shows when they'll look at your request based on when you submitted it.

Got more questions? If you're still curious about the Societies Grant, email union.opportunities@uea.ac.uk for more info. They're here to help!