

Society Development Fund Factsheet

The Students' Union has a small pot of money available for societies to apply for. This fund is designed to provide small grants that will help to increase the sustainability of the society and allow it to grow. The following criteria are goals we would expect you to achieve with the development grant:

Collaboration: This funding is for events or initiatives that bring societies together. We are looking for a combination of ideas and activities from two or more societies that is innovative, mutually beneficial to all societies involved and represents all the involved societies equally.

Inclusivity: This funding seeks to help our society welcome students to your activities who may face certain barriers to participation. Improve access to your society with certain equipment, training or other initiative's.

Development: Take your society to be next level, this fund is for purchases that will benefit the society in the long term. E.g. a piece of equipment, subscription to a national organisation or something else that is going to improve your society. Competition entry fees may be covered (funds dependent) if the Society wishes to represent the Union at the national level although societies must self- fund all transport and accommodation costs.

Important Guidelines and tips for a successful application

1. **Be realistic:** The Students' Union only has a small pot of money available for societies to apply for and approximately 40 societies remember we must ensure all societies have fair access to the money available, you need to seriously consider whether you're asking for a reasonable amount. If your society can't survive without this funding you might need to consider other funding sources or reviewing your activities.
2. **Be clear:** We'll want to know exactly what the funding will be used for, including a detailed run down of how it will benefit your society.
3. **Check our limits:** As a Students' Union, there are some items that we simply can't fund, check the list below for a full run-down of things that might lead to an unsuccessful application.
4. All funds granted must be spent within 3 calendar months of grant approval or the money will be reinvested in to the grant to be relocated to another society.

We will not accept funding bids for the following:

- Costs for your day-to-day or regular society activities
- Events or trips that are purely for a social purpose
- Costs of food or drink
- Requests made retrospectively to cover costs of a previously made purchase
- Anything contravening other Worcester SU policies, our constitution or bye-laws , or that could be reasonably be construed as such
- Donations to any other charitable organisation

The Application Process

1. Visit <https://worcsu.wufoo.com/forms/q7d3qhu1x9pnc4/> and submit your application form.
2. Be sure to include any links or information on what you are purchasing
3. Following submission deadline, committees who have applied will be invited to pitch your request to the panel which consists of Vice President Student Activities, Student Activities Manager, and Director of Finance & Commercial. This will give the opportunity for the panel to hear about your request and ask questions. These will take place **Friday 27th October and Monday 30th October.**
4. Once the panel have met with all committees who have applied for the fund, you will be notified of whether your application has been successful or not and given the information on the next steps.

Applications Open: Monday 16th October 2023, 9am

Applications Close: Monday 23rd October 2023, 10pm

Meetings with the panel: Friday 27th October and Monday 30th October.