



Thomas Pocklington Trust funding guidelines

Last reviewed: April 2021

Funding priorities

Thomas Pocklington Trust (TPT) funds a broad range of projects that support the delivery of positive outcomes for blind and partially sighted people around our key funding themes across the UK. TPT will consider applications for new and innovative projects that will achieve a positive impact in at least one of the following priority areas:

- Education: Enabling opportunities for blind and partially sighted children and young people in and entering education;
- Employment: Creating employment opportunities for blind and partially sighted people;
- Engagement: Facilitating the voice and encouraging self-determination of blind and partially sighted people;
- Collaboration and Sustainability: Promoting positive change to improve the sustainability of the sight loss sector. We will consider transformative activities that require an investment to make that change happen. This might include developing organisations' technological capabilities, restructuring reviews, feasibility studies, partnership working (including resource sharing) or even integrations and mergers.

TPT also funds research and technology projects that support the key funding themes set out above.

TPT is keen to avoid wasting the time and effort of those organisations involved in applying for grants when there is no prospect of success. It is, therefore, recommended that all applicants take time to read these guidelines to avoid submitting applications that are likely to be rejected.

If in doubt, please contact us at **grants@pocklington-trust.org.uk** and one of our partnerships team members will be happy to discuss your enquiry with you.

Funding criteria*

- Although we will consider applications for larger amounts by exception, most successful applications will be for £25k or less.
- Applications should fit with at least one of the TPT priority areas listed above.
- TPT will not accept any repeat applications from the same organisation within the same financial year – April 2021-March 2022 (unless part of a consortium bid).
- TPT will only provide one-off support (although this can be provided over a phased period subject to demonstrating the success of initial phases or if there is a strong case for further investment to extend an existing project).
- TPT will not fund established programmes of work but would consider supporting new developments delivered in addition to that work.
- TPT will not generally fund applications from charities that have more than six months running costs in unrestricted reserves.
- TPT will not fund unsolicited applications for the following:
 - Charities registered overseas;
 - Construction projects such as playgrounds, village halls, and disabled access;
 - Educational fees;
 - General school appeals;
 - Hospices;
 - Individuals in any capacity;
 - Medical research;
 - Parish facilities;
 - Requests for vehicles.

What you can spend the money on

The money you get for your project can be used for:

- New staff posts: This could include part of a current employee's role if they were dedicating a specific amount of time to the project.
- Paid training: This could include training for existing staff to support the aims of the project.
- Professional fees: This could include anyone related to your project in a professional capacity, from consultants and lawyers to other advisors.
- Resource development: This could include printing, marketing, website design etc.
- Capital items: This could include physical assets (e.g. computers), but only where the capital items form part of the total cost of the project submitted.

What you can't spend the money on

- Existing staff posts or organisational costs: Unless calculated through Full Cost Recovery which means budgeting for all costs involved in running a project. So, you can request funding for direct project costs and also for part of your organisation's overheads.
- Legal and/or statutory responsibilities: This includes anything that would be paid for regardless, whether the project went ahead or not.
- Promoting the causes or beliefs of political or faith organisations.
- Recoverable VAT.
- Costs for any activity that has taken place before a grant is awarded.

Our grants*

Our grants generally fund projects up to £25,000 and funding may be used for projects that will deliver positive outcomes for blind and partially sighted people either in a local area, specific region or nationally. All grants must fall within TPT's funding priorities as set out above. Most grants are only for one year.

*Exceptions will be considered for very strong cases. If you have a project that falls outside the criteria either in nature or value, but you feel the project would have a broad reaching impact, then please contact the partnerships team via **grants@pocklington-trust.org.uk** to discuss before submitting an application.

Ends