



WHAT MAKES A GOOD QUALITY CASCADE GRANTS APPLICATION?

Thanks to donations from alumni and friends, current students (and staff) can apply for up to £10,000 to fund projects which benefit the student experience. Cascade projects may be academic, pastoral or extracurricular, **but they must directly enhance the student experience and cascade the positive impact the student community can create.**

When preparing a Cascade grant application, make sure:

- ✓ to understand the main aim of the grant program reading carefully the [Guidance & Criteria for Applicants](#)
- ✓ to check your eligibility
- ✓ to submit a completed application form before the application closing date.

A good Cascade grant application effectively addresses the selection criteria. To ensure projects support the strategic vision to be a University without borders, all projects should align to at least one of the Cascade Grants Programme themes:

- Connecting campuses & communities
- Creativity & innovation
- Enhancing teaching & learning experiences
- Environmental sustainability
- Global citizenship
- Healthy bodies and minds

More details about these themes can be found in the [Guidance & Criteria for Applicants](#).

Before completing an application form, you should make yourself familiar with all documents available in the package which will be sent to you after you have submitted the expression of interest via the Cascade webpage. This will ensure you understand the grant programme and whether your project is eligible to apply for funding, before investing time and resources into preparing an application.

You should consider how to tailor information to be relevant to the specifics of the grant you are applying for. You will be asked to:

- *Describe the purpose of your project in one sentence and give a brief summary of key objectives and activities.* The main purpose of your project and activities should be clear and easy to understand. Your objectives should be achievable.
- *Answer a few questions about your project.* Show the connection between your project and the main themes and how the project outcomes will support them. Efficiently describe how you will make use of your skills and knowledge to support the project. Accurately describe



how your project is inclusive and consider equality and diversity; which are the long-term changes your project is going to make; how it is an innovative, exciting and unique project.

- *Provide an accurate description of the budget* for your project and remember to submit quotes for any items that cost more than £500.
- *A statement from a staff sponsor* is also extremely important to the success of your application. Please contact your staff sponsor in advance to avoid any issues with deadlines.

Please, be aware that if the projects are core activities, they should be funded by departments or Students' Union and they are not eligible for Cascade Grants Programme. Cascade projects should enable students to engage in activity that they wouldn't otherwise expect to without extra financial support.