

# POSSIBLE SOURCES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR WOMEN STUDENTS

## DIAMOND EDUCATION GRANT SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL GBI (SIGBI)

SIGBI Federation Office, 2nd Floor Beckwith House, 1-3 Wellington Road North, Stockport SK4 1AF

<https://sigbi.org/our-charities/deg>

Tel: 0161 480 7686

Grant to assist women to update their skills after employment breaks or to acquire new skills to improve their opportunities for employment and promotion. Awards are made to help towards the cost of course fees or books/equipment, not for living expenses.

See website for details of eligibility and application form. The deadline for applications is 15th April each year. The decision of the Trustees is final and no correspondence will be entered into regarding individual applications. All applicants will be notified in the June following receipt of their application as to whether or not they have been successful.

## EATON FUND

PO Box 528, Fleet GU51 9HH

[www.eatonfund.org.uk](http://www.eatonfund.org.uk)

Tel: 020 3289 3209 Email: [admin@eatonfund.org.uk](mailto:admin@eatonfund.org.uk)

Applications for grants are considered from either:

- Artists (painters, potters, sculptors and photographers, not performing artists)
- Nurses (in employment or retired, in hardship or with long-term sickness/disability)
- Women over 18 years, experiencing hardship.

Applicants must be resident in the UK. Grants are made, **once only** to each individual, for a specific item or purpose. A supporting letter from a third party, such as a social worker or tutor, is also required. Trustees make decisions on grants at meetings held every two months.

Further information and application form available on the website.

## EDINBURGH ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN – PRESIDENT’S FUND

Eileen Brownlie, Honourable Secretary, 12 Dean Park Mews, Edinburgh EH4 1ED

Email: [eileencbrownlie2706@gmail.com](mailto:eileencbrownlie2706@gmail.com)

Funding is available to assist women in their final year of study for a degree (postgraduate or undergraduate) in a university in the United Kingdom. Awards are not given for courses of one year’s duration (undergraduate or postgraduate), or for access courses, diploma courses nor for certificate courses.

- Awards are for those who face unexpected financial hardship.
- Awards are given for the current study year – the applicant’s final year of study.
- Successful applicants to the Fund will receive one award only.

Application forms are available by request from the Honourable Secretary, which must be returned completed with two signed academic references. Applications are considered three times a year by the Trustees of the Fund - usually in October, January and April.

## **FUNDS FOR WOMEN GRADUATES (FFWG)**

Grants Administrator, Mrs J F Collett-Flatt, 4 St Michaels Gate, Shrewsbury SY1 2HL

[www.ffwg.org.uk](http://www.ffwg.org.uk)

Tel: 01743 383047 Email: [grants@ffwg.org.uk](mailto:grants@ffwg.org.uk)

FFWG awards grants specifically for living expenses to Women, during their postgraduate studies, with the aim of positively impacting their future career and our society as a whole.

**FOUNDATION GRANTS** help women graduates from Britain and overseas with their living expenses (not fees) while registered for study or research at an approved institution of higher education in Great Britain. The criteria are the proven needs of the applicant and their academic calibre. Please check closing date before application. Application form available by email only from The Grants Administrator at [grants@ffwg.org.uk](mailto:grants@ffwg.org.uk)

**EMERGENCY GRANTS** to women graduates from Great Britain and overseas, who face an unforeseen financial crisis (not with their fees) whilst engaged in study or research at institutions of higher education in Great Britain. These grants are offered twice a year, in May and November. Application form available from the correspondent.

See website for further details of eligibility.

## **FUTURES FOR WOMEN**

Jane Hampson, 11 Church Street, Marton, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 9RL

[www.futuresforwomen.org.uk](http://www.futuresforwomen.org.uk)

Email: [futuresforwomen@btinternet.com](mailto:futuresforwomen@btinternet.com)

Interest free loans to female home students of all ages seeking to improve their career prospects by undertaking further education and training. Loans awarded by Futures for Women rarely exceed £1,000 per annum. Successful grantees will be asked to sign a loan agreement and supply a Guarantor who will also be asked to sign a legal agreement. Grantees are expected to commence repayment of the loan within 3 months of securing employment. Full repayment of the loan is due within 2 years of commencing repayments.

Applications will only be considered from women who have been resident in the UK, Isle of Man or Channel Islands for at least three years.

Further details and application form are available on their website. The Trustees meet three times per year to consider applications for loans.

Interest free loans on hold until strategic review completed later in year. Check on website for further details.

**MSM FOUNDATION  
(DR MEENA SHARMA MEMORIAL FOUNDATION)**

Dr B.K. Sharma or Vivek Sharma, MSM Foundation, 14 Magdalene Road,  
Walsall, West Midlands WS1 3TA

Email: [gwalior@onetel.com](mailto:gwalior@onetel.com)

Grants awarded are usually between £100 to £500, but not more than £1,000 to an individual. Only Children and Women in UK and India are eligible for the grant, preference being for disadvantaged women and children.

Applicants should write to the charity with their resume, purpose for the grant, requirements, alternate or additional sources for funding, references and recommendations. Include S.A.E. for returned applications and outcome. Applications are considered by the trustees every three months in January, April, July and October every year. Only successful applicants will be contacted. Unsuccessful applicants can submit their applications again after six months of their first application.

**ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY**

Grants Officer, Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)  
1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR

[www.rgs.org/grants](http://www.rgs.org/grants)

Tel: 020 7591 3000

The society provides several grants with different eligibility criteria to postgraduates and undergraduates from the UK, and/or EU, and/or other countries, to support university students with research and field trip costs (not living costs or tuition fees) in areas such as geography, environmental science, conservation, society, economy, and natural history.

Some grants are also specifically for female students.

See their website for details.

**WOMEN'S CAREERS FOUNDATION (GIRLS OF THE REALM GUILD)**

Mrs B Hayward, Secretary, 2 Watchoak, Blackham, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN3 9TP

Tel: 01892 740602

One-off grants or low interest loans to UK women. Applicants should be seeking assistance to begin or continue studies for a career and should be 21 or over, except for music or dancing when the minimum age is 16. Grants are not given for PhD study or postgraduate studies if the subject indicates a complete change of direction. Average grants usually total around £250.

Write to the Foundation enclosing a SAE for further details and an application form. Applications to be submitted between 1<sup>st</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> January for help in the following academic year.

Please note that this is a very small charity with limited resources.

## YORKSHIRE LADIES COUNCIL OF EDUCATION (INCORPORATED)

YLCE, Ground Floor Offices, Forest Hill, 11 Park Crescent, Leeds, LS8 1DH

[www.ylce.org](http://www.ylce.org)

Tel: 0113 269 1471 Email: [info@ylce.org](mailto:info@ylce.org)

Provides small awards to help British women who cannot finance their chosen educational course from their own resources and do not qualify for support from Student Finance. However, women who are eligible for a Postgraduate Loan may apply. The grant awarded is normally between £200 and £400, and support course fees only. Grants are paid direct to institutions on behalf of applicants. No payments are made to individuals.

### Applications are accepted from Women who:

- Are British citizens.
- Are aged 21 and over.
- Have a confirmed offer of a place at a British educational institution.
- Are not eligible for Student Finance support and require help with course fees.
- Are not related to a member of the Yorkshire Ladies' Council of Education.
- Women who are eligible for a Postgraduate Loan are also eligible for support.

Application should be made online and sent to [info@ylce.org](mailto:info@ylce.org). Applications are assessed in September, March and June. Completed forms must be received by the first day of the relevant month.

### SEARCH FOR TRUST FUNDS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER FUNDING

In addition to this list, there are websites which provide information on Scholarships and Charitable Trusts, and also include a Grant search facility to help students identify appropriate funding based on individual circumstances and needs - see examples below:

- [www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk) - a charitable service which helps people access welfare benefits, educational grants and other help. Individuals can search their database to find funding.
- [www.thescholarshipclub.org.uk](http://www.thescholarshipclub.org.uk) - provides a searchable database for scholarships and other funding.

*When applying to charities you are advised to consider the criteria carefully as organisations often have very limited funding and will not consider applications unless they meet their specific criteria.*

- The Directory of Social Change publishes "**The Educational Grants Directory**" which lists details of charities and trust funds - a copy of this directory can be accessed via the University Money Advisers.



Produced by Money Advice, University of Worcester  
See our Website for a Guide to applying to a Trust  
[www.worcester.ac.uk/moneyadvice/trustfunds](http://www.worcester.ac.uk/moneyadvice/trustfunds)



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