The University is committed to creating a more inclusive Oxford. The small community grants scheme provides a total of £35,000 in funding for community projects, events and activities in the City of Oxford that address inequality, provide educational and career opportunities for young people, benefit the city’s many communities, and help to build links between the University and its neighbours.

Eligibility
Applicants must be community groups or organisations external to the University that wholly, or largely, draw membership or participants from the Oxford City area, as defined by the Oxford City Council boundaries. Student groups will not normally qualify for a grant unless the activity is deemed to be mainly of benefit to the community. Previously successful and unsuccessful applicants may reapply. However, grants may not be allocated to a project which has received funding in the previous twelve months.

A project will be eligible for a grant if its application demonstrates the ability to achieve all, or a substantial part, of the following criteria:

• benefit communities in the Oxford area
• promote educational development among the under-18 age group
• increase engagement between the University and the community
• address inequality within Oxford

All applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the community fund management board. A decision to fund a particular project does not necessarily mean that a project of that nature will be automatically supported in future rounds.

Similarly, a decision not to award funds may not mean that the project will not be supported in the future.

Each year we receive a large number of applications. Prospective applicants are advised that they are unlikely to receive a grant unless they can demonstrate that they have a strong case in at least two of the criteria.

Projects that will not be funded
Funding will not ordinarily be provided for:

• capital projects or to cover day-to-day running costs – eg staff costs, rent or building maintenance and subsistence
• subscriptions or memberships
• marketing or advertising
• purposes for which other financial support exists within the University
• school fundraising projects
• projects limited to small sections of the community, where no other qualifying requirements are demonstrated, will not normally be considered

The grants
The Community Fund Management Board will endeavour to provide a grant to as many of the qualifying applicants as possible. Given the demand on the Scheme, individual grants are unlikely to exceed the maximum of £3,000. In many cases it will only be possible to make a partial contribution to a project.

If funding is awarded, the University will require an evaluation form to be completed and returned within 3 months of completion of the grant period, explaining the impact of the grant. Receipts for expenditure must also be submitted.
How to apply

Please apply by completing a grant application form. This can be found on the Small Community Grant Scheme website: www.ox.ac.uk/research/engage-with-us/local-community/small-community-grants

All applications need to be submitted to community.grants@admin.ox.ac.uk by the deadline specified on the form.

Applications will be considered on a gathered field basis by the Board. All successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified of their decision.

Further information

If needed, please email community.grants@admin.ox.ac.uk for any other advice.