

Trees for Schools Fund

Grants are available for schools across the UK to carry out tree planting projects during National Tree Planting Week.

Fund Information

Funding body: Tree Council

Maximum value: £ 520

Application deadline: 31/03/2018

Background

The Tree Council was founded in 1974 with major support from the then Department of the Environment and in 1978 became an independent registered charity. The Tree Council's aims are to:

- Improve the environment in town and country by promoting the planting and conservation of trees and woods throughout the United Kingdom.
- Disseminate knowledge about trees and their management.
- Act as a forum for organisations concerned with trees, to identify national problems and to provide initiatives for cooperation.

Working through and on behalf of its member organisations, the Tree Council aims to create an awareness of the value of trees and of the need for more trees and their better management. It uses every opportunity to inform people about trees, to alert them to national tree problems and to seek solutions.

Each November, the Tree Council organises National Tree Week at the start of the tree planting season. National Tree Week is the UK's largest annual tree planting campaign and a nationwide festival of trees. Its purpose is to raise public awareness of trees and to encourage tree planting and good management.

Objectives of Fund

The Tree Council has funds available to assist schools proposing to undertake well-planned tree planting projects starting in National Tree Week, which usually takes place in November/December each year. The Tree Council is particularly concerned that projects should actively involve children in the planting of the trees. Projects must be located on school grounds or playing fields.

Value Notes

- Projects should cost between £100 and £700.
- Grants can cover up to 75% of total costs; therefore the maximum support the Tree Council can provide is £525.

Any applications where the £700 limit is exceeded will automatically be discounted, even if funds are available from another source to cover the excess. If the cost of the planned project is likely to exceed the £700 limit, the Council suggests that a specific section of the project is separated out to stand alone and that a funding application is submitted for that part.

Match Funding Restrictions

Satisfactory evidence that applicants are able to meet 25% of the funds needed to carry out the complete tree planting project must be provided as the grant will be limited to a maximum of 75% of the costs incurred. Volunteer skilled labour may be included as part contribution, and valued at £50 per day pro rata.

Who Can Apply

The programme is open to all UK schools with pupils aged 16 or under.

Schools must be local authority run or registered as a 'not for profit' organisation (including a community interest company, a charity organisation or a social enterprise).

Eligible projects must:

- Take place during National Tree Week.
- Actively engage children under the age of 16 in both the planning and the carrying out of the project.
- Have a total cost of between £100 and £700.
- Be able to provide at least 25% of funding from other sources.
- Demonstrate how they provide value for money.
- Have the consent of the land owner (if the school does not own the land involved with the project).
- Be maintained for at least five years after funding is allocated.

Where the trees are being planted by the supplier, or a contractor, they should be asked for a guarantee that trees which die within one year will be replaced. A copy of the guarantee should be attached to the application form.

If assistance is granted by the Tree Council, the school must start the planting during National Tree Week and maintain and protect the site to which the application relates for at least five years.

Location

United Kingdom

Restrictions

Projects costing more than £700 are automatically disqualified.

The following will not be supported:

- Projects from outside the UK.
- Retrospective costs.
- Projects involving the planting of hedges, bushes and shrubs, and willows.
- Trees not planted in the ground, for example, trees planted in tubs.

Eligible Expenditure

Eligible costs include the cost of the trees and any reasonable cost of necessary supports and aids to establishment (stakes, ties and guards, plus fertiliser, mulch and soil amelioration but only where conditions make this appropriate).

The Tree Council will fund up to four fruit trees (but no more than that) on semi-vigorous, vigorous and very vigorous rootstocks (apple trees that are on rootstocks M116, MM106, MM111, M25 and pear trees that are on rootstocks Quince A , Pyrodwarf and Pyrus Kirchsaller.)

How To Apply

The deadline for National Tree Week 2018 projects is 31 March 2018.

Applications can be sent by either email or by post to The Tree Council.

Payment Procedure

Payments will be made in arrears on production of receipted invoices.

Useful documents & links

Useful Links

<http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/grants/trees-for-schools>

Addresses and contacts

For further information on how to obtain this grant locally, please contact the following:

- Enquiries**

Tree Council

The Tree Council

4 Dock Offices

Surrey Quays Road

London

SE16 2XU

Tel: 020 7407 9992

Fax: 020 7407 9908

Email: info@treecouncil.org