
Funding Guidelines: Preservation and Scholarship

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£2
million

*Committed in
P&S grants in
2020*

Overview

The purpose of this document is to provide information on The Pilgrim Trust's funding criteria for its Preservation and Scholarship programme. There are separate guidelines for our Social Change programme.

Please read this document carefully before making an application.

Trustees will consider all applications that fall within the guidelines. However, they favour projects where they believe it is difficult to raise funds from other sources. They are primarily interested in projects where their funds will make a significant impact. Demand for grants far exceeds supply, so even if a project falls within the Trustees' current priorities it does not mean that it will receive funding.

Points to Consider

- The Pilgrim Trust operates a two-stage application process
- Applications are accepted at any time during the year
- Trustees meet to consider applications four times a year



The Pilgrim Trust

Who we fund

Who we fund

- UK registered charities where the work or project is UK-based
- Exempt charities such as universities and other higher education institutions
- Recognised public bodies such as local authorities
- Registered Friendly Societies

Who we do not fund

- Individuals
- Non UK registered charities or charities registered in the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man
- Not-for-profit organisations that are not registered charities including CICs and Social Enterprises

Types of funding

The Pilgrim Trust will consider applications for:

- Revenue costs such as staff salaries and overheads
- Project costs
- The costs of initial exploratory work for organisations seeking to rescue important buildings, monuments etc
- Capital costs where the total capital cost is less than £5 million (Preservation and Scholarship programme only)



*£25,000 was
the average
grant in 2020*

Exclusions

We do not fund:

- Projects where the work has already been started or contracts have already been awarded
- Projects with a capital cost of over £5 million are not normally considered under the Preservation & Scholarship programme
- Projects which seek to replace statutory funding from central or local government
- General appeals or circulars
- Projects for the commissioning of new works of art
- Organisations seeking publishing production costs
- Projects seeking to develop new facilities within a church or the reordering of churches or places of worship for wider community use
- One-off short terms interventions
- Youth or sports clubs, travel or adventure projects, community centres or children's play groups
- Arts and drama projects – unless they can demonstrate they are linked to clear goals that are aligned with our priorities
- Organisations seeking funding for trips abroad or outward-bound courses
- Organisations seeking educational funding, e.g. bursaries for individuals for degree or post-degree work or school, university or college development programmes
- One-off events such as exhibitions, festivals, conferences or productions

What we fund

Areas of interest

The Pilgrim Trust focuses its funding into two main areas, Preservation and Scholarship and Social Change. There are separate guidelines for our Social Change programme. The priorities for Preservation and Scholarship are listed below.

Preservation and Scholarship

We support work in this area both through our funding of partner organisations to distribute grant funds on our behalf and through the consideration of one-off applications.

We concentrate our resources in three main areas:

- preservation of and repairs to important historic buildings, and architectural features
- conservation of works of art, books, significant ephemera, museum objects and records held in museums, galleries, specialist archives and repositories.
- the promotion of knowledge through academic research and its dissemination.

Preservation of and repairs to historic buildings, and architectural features

We help fund the preservation and repair of historic buildings and architectural features. Special consideration is given to projects that give new use to buildings which are at risk and of outstanding architectural or historic importance. We will consider projects at an early stage where support is needed to develop a scheme. In exceptional cases, salary costs and other support costs can be considered.

What we fund

Places of worship

We support **preventative maintenance and the repair of the fabric** of historic churches, chapels and meeting houses across the UK through our funding of the Preventative Maintenance Micro Grants and the Foundation Grants for Maintenance. These grants are administered by the National Churches Trust. Please visit their [website](#) for more information.

Please do not apply to the Pilgrim Trust direct.

We do not fund re-ordering or projects to develop new facilities.

We fund the Church Buildings Council to distribute grants to support the **conservation of historic contents and structures** for example, monuments and the repair of important structures and monuments in churchyards.

If an application concerns a pipe organ, then the instrument should be historically and musically significant. Please visit their website [here](#) for more information.

Non-Anglican places of worship or those in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland should apply to us direct.

We do not fund ongoing, major fabric repairs in Cathedrals. However, we would consider particular discrete projects, for example, the conservation of a particularly significant monument.

Conservation of works of art, books, significant ephemera, museum objects and records

- We support the conservation of works of art, books, significant ephemera, museum objects and records held in museums, galleries, specialist archives and repositories.
- We support small and medium sized museums to care for their collections through our funding of the Collections Care, Audit and Conservation grant schemes run by the Association of Independent Museums.

- To be eligible, museums must be AIM members and must be registered or accredited, or expect to achieve accreditation within two years. Museums must have fewer than 50,000 visitors or a turnover of less than £300,000 per year. Please visit their website [here](#) for more information.
- Only larger-sized museums above the AIM threshold should apply to us direct.
- Cataloguing of archives and manuscripts: We support the cataloguing of archives and manuscripts through funding **Archives Revealed**, administered by the National Archives. Please visit their website [here](#) for more information.

Please do not apply to the Pilgrim Trust direct.

- Conservation of manuscripts: We support the conservation of manuscripts through our funding of the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust. Please visit their website [here](#) for more information.

Please do not apply to the Pilgrim Trust direct.

Promotion of knowledge through academic research and its dissemination

- We will consider projects that seek the promotion of knowledge and its dissemination, including cataloguing within museums, galleries and libraries and institutions where historic, scientific or archaeological records are preserved.
- Funding is restricted to works for which public funds are not available. Costs for preparing the work for publication will be considered but not those for the publication itself.

We operate a small grants fund for requests of £5,000 or less. This is still a two-stage process but the turnaround for decisions is quicker.

How to apply

Stage 1

If having read the guidelines you feel that your project falls within our current priorities then you should submit a Stage 1 application online using the link on the ['Applying to Us'](#) page on our website.

Please use your own, unique email address when creating a login. Your application will be acknowledged when it is submitted and we will send you a response within 4 weeks.

Save the login details as it will be needed for all post-application communication

Stage 2

If your project is successful at Stage 1, we will invite you to submit a Stage 2 application.

We ask you to submit your Stage 2 application within a year of receiving Stage 1 approval. If you need more time, please contact us to discuss.

Once your Stage 2 application is submitted we will let you know if we need further information and take your application forward to the Trustees.

Our Board of Trustees meet quarterly (normally March, June, September & November). We aim to take your application to the next available meeting and will let you know if we need longer.

If you are successful

You will be sent a letter telling you how much your organisation has been awarded. Included with the letter will be our Terms of Grant and BACS form. The Terms will need to be signed by an approved signatory and returned to us together with the completed BACS form. If any of the conditions are breached by the Grantee, the grant will become repayable if it is so demanded by the Pilgrim Trustees.

If you are unsuccessful

If you are unsuccessful, we will let you know the reason why. It is unusual for the Board to consider re-applications for the same project.
