

**Grant Making Guidelines**

**Introduction**

Founded in 2007 by descendants of Sir Ernest Shackleton’s Antarctic expeditions in the early part of the 20th century, the Shackleton Foundation seeks to help disadvantaged and socially marginalised young people. Shackleton helped others to overcome their doubts and fears in the face of true adversity. We are looking for individuals who display those same characteristics of courage and resilience, who have a big idea to help others (we call it your ‘Antarctic’) and are prepared to take the risk to turn it into reality. We do this by supporting aspiring individuals (we call them Leaders) and social entrepreneurs who exemplify the spirit of Shackleton with seed-funding to help them start their venture. In particular the Trustees are looking for examples of leadership, innovation, enterprise, inspiration, ambition, endurance and courage in the applications they review. Successful applicants can expect to receive assistance with the practical aspects of starting up a social venture. These include:

* Seed-funding
* Mentoring
* Advice on maximising impact and building a sustainable business model
* Awareness building for your venture
* Introductions to potential second stage funders

**General Information**

Funding is generally made by means of a single grant of £10,000 to provide the funding needed to get an idea started. Grants are made to individual Leaders and not to teams or organisations.

Trustees have a preference for Leaders to be running charities, social enterprises or not-for-profit organisations.

Trustees are looking for:

* Leaders with entrepreneurial ideas/inspirational projects capable of making a difference
* Opportunities to support Leaders setting up their own social ventures with financially sustainable projects with the potential to provide solutions to the problems faced by disadvantaged young people
* Early-stage ‘social enterprises’
* Leaders that they believe have the potential to make their ideas work
* Leadership qualities sought by Trustees include:
  + Innovation
  + Enterprise
  + Inspiration
  + Ambition
  + Endurance
  + Courage
  + Passion
  + Energy
  + Dedication

Particular aspects that the Trustees will want to understand about the project include:

* How will the Shackleton Award enable you to deliver the project?
* How will disadvantaged young people benefit?
* Approximately how many disadvantaged young people do you expect to benefit directly in the first three years (broken down by year) from this Shackleton Award?
* Where do you see yourself, and your idea, in five years’ time?
* How you will measure success/know that you are succeeding?

As a rule, the Shackleton Foundation does not involve itself in directly financing projects for which substantial government funding and/or grants from a number of trusts or charities are available.

**Grant-making Procedure**

All applicants to the Shackleton Foundation must submit a completed application form.

All applications receive the fullest and most careful consideration and are judged on merit and substance. Clarity of presentation and the provision of detailed factual information are of the utmost importance to the Trustees,

The Trustees review all funding applications and invite the most outstanding potential Leaders to present to them in person in London. These meetings are held twice a year, in the Spring and in the Autumn. If you are invited to present to the Trustees, you will be provided with interview guidelines.

All travel expenses (but not accommodation) will be reimbursed to applicants who are asked to travel to Central London to present to the Trustees. Receipts must be provided.

Unsuccessful applications will be notified following the Trustees’ regular meetings. The Foundation’s decisions are final and feedback will not be provided.

Unfortunately the Foundation is not able to enter into any further communication with unsuccessful applicants. However, there is no restriction on reapplying.

**Successful Applicants**

Successful applicants will be asked to prepare a Shackleton Leaders’ Agreement (SLA), which outlines the key ways in which the project will be managed and what Leaders will share with the Shackleton Foundation in exchange for their Award (a draft SLA is available for successful applicants).

THE SHACKLETON FOUNDATION

LEADERSHIP AWARD APPLICATION FORM

*The Shackleton Foundation supports individuals rather than projects. We seek to identify Leaders who have a challenging idea (we call it their ‘Antarctic’) about which they are passionate, and believe they can make a difference, particularly to disadvantaged and socially marginalised young people. With that in mind we want to get a feel for you as a person; as a Leader; and to understand what your “’Antarctic’ is, why it’s important to you, and why you need our financial support.*

Please do not complete this form until you have read the Foundation’s grant-making guidelines.

**Section 1.1 – About You**

|  |
| --- |
| **Full Name** (Please underline your surname)**:**  **Preferred first name:** |
| **Home address:** |
| **Phone (daytime/mobile): Phone (evening):** |
| **Email:** |
| **Where do you work at present?** |
| **Do you have a previous connection with the Shackleton Foundation or any of its Trustees?** |
| **How did you hear about the Shackleton Foundation?** |

**1.2** *Please answer each of the next questions in no more than 100 words each.*

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| **How would you describe yourself?** |
| **What do you consider to be your strengths?** |
| **What do you consider to be your weaknesses?** |
| **What do you consider to be your greatest achievement?** |
| **How do you define leadership?** |
| **What do you think makes you a Leader?** |

**Section 2 – What is your ‘Antarctic’?**

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| **Tell us about your project.**   * Briefly outline the project and the inspiration behind it * What sets this project apart? * How many disadvantaged and socially marginalised young people do you expect your project reach? * What is your ambition to grow the project? * Is your project a charity, not-for-profit or limited company? * How much funding are you seeking? (please provide a basic breakdown) * What would this Award be used for? (please provide a detailed breakdown) * What other sources of funding have you identified/approached/secured? * How do you see this project becoming sustainable in the long term? * How will you know if the project is succeeding? * What will happen to your idea if you are not successful with this application? * When do you plan to start the project? * How much time will you commit to this project, and are others directly involved in the budget? * Please add any additional points you would like to make (in no more than 200 words)? |

**Section 3 – References**

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| **Please provide the names and addresses of two referees.  Referees should know you, and know and support your project / organisation.** **Referees should not be involved in the project and should not be directly related to you.**  **Referee One**  **Name:**  **Daytime telephone number:**  **E-mail address:**  **Why have you chosen this person as one of your referees?**  **Referee Two**  **Name:**  **Daytime telephone number:**  **E-mail address:**  **Why have you chosen this person as one of your referees?**     |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | |

**PLEASE NOW RETURN THIS EITHER**

1. **BY E-MAIL to** [**applications@shackletonfoundation.org**](mailto:applications@shackletonfoundation.org) **or**
2. **BY POST to: Applications Administrator, The Shackleton Foundation, c/o 52 Mount Street, London W1K 2SF**