

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**WHAT IS THE SHACKLETON FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP AWARD?**

The Shackleton Foundation Leadership Award is early stage venture capital funding for social entrepreneurs. We invest in entrepreneurial ideas, inspirational projects and budding leaders with the power to make a difference. We provide up to £10,000 of seed funding to enable aspiring leaders and social entrepreneurs to establish their own ventures to help the disadvantaged and socially marginalised in society. We look for long-lasting, far-reaching projects with the potential to provide solutions to intractable social problems.

**WHERE DOES THE FOUNDATION GET ITS MONEY FROM?**

In October 2008, descendants of Sir Ernest Shackleton’s original band of Antarctic explorers mounted an expedition to celebrate the centenary of the Nimrod Expedition. They succeeded in reaching the South Pole in January 2009, covering some 920 miles in the process, and in so doing, completed unfinished family business on behalf of their forebears. This expedition was The Shackleton Foundation’s first major fundraising event, and was mounted to raise awareness of the Foundation.

The Shackleton Foundation celebrates Shackleton’s legacy of endurance by supporting leaders and social entrepreneurs who are making a difference to the lives of people in need and to local communities.

**AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE SHACKLETON FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP AWARD?**

The Shackleton Foundation provides seed funding to inspirational leaders and early stage social entrepreneurs with the potential to make a real difference to the lives of disadvantaged young people.

Eligible ideas must:

* Be innovative and fresh
* Fulfil a clear need and demand
* Be in the first year of development
* Have a real social impact
* Have well-defined outputs and goals
* Have the potential for real growth and sustainability
* The beneficiaries of the work must be predominantly based in the UK

**WHO HAS THE SHACKLETON FOUNDATION PREVIOUSLY FUNDED?**

You can find information about the Shackleton leaders that have received funding from the Shackleton Foundation [here](http://shackletonfoundation.org/what-we-fund/shackleton-leaders/).

**HOW CAN I APPLY?**

To apply for funding please [complete the online application form](http://shackletonfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/SFLA_Application_Form.doc) which can be found on the website. Applications should set out how the applicant matches the spirit of Shackleton. They should explain what the applicant’s vision is, and how this vision meets a clear need to benefit the disadvantaged and socially marginalised. Applications should also outline the aims, outputs and goals of the project and how it will sustain itself in the future.

**WHAT IS THE TIMEFRAME FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS?**

Applications are considered by trustees four times a year, and applicants that are short-listed will be invited to present at one of the Trustees quarterly meetings. Dates can be found on the website.

**WILL I RECEIVE** **FEEDBACK?**

Yes, whether your application proceeds or is unsuccessful you will receive feedback from the Foundation’s administrator.

**IF I AM SUCCESFUL WHAT AM I REQUIRED TO DO?**

* Attend the annual Shackleton Leaders Forum in the first two years of your award, and try to attend additional forums thereafter.
* Speak at a Shackleton Leaders Forum, if asked
* Sign up for our mentorship program. In the first two years of your award, you agree to be mentored by an alumni Shackleton Foundation Leader. Three years after your award, we request that you become a Mentor for a new intake of Leaders for their first two years. We anticipate each mentoring session will be up to 60 mins per quarter.
* Attend at least two of the three Leaders Information and Advice Surgeries in the first year of your award (approx. 45-60 mins per event)