

Education and Development Grant Scheme

Who Can Apply?

This scheme is open to anyone between the age of 16 and 30 years who fits the following criteria;

- a) a member of Nottinghamshire Young Farmers, Newark & Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society or any other Nottinghamshire show society who wishes to complete a personal development project funded in full, or partially, by this scheme, i.e. attending a specific conference in the UK or overseas that would benefit their personal development or training, work or future career in the agricultural industry or
- b) a student undertaking a course directly related to agriculture, horticulture or rural crafts at a college in Nottinghamshire or
- c) a Nottinghamshire resident attending a relevant course at a college elsewhere in the UK

The highest priority is given to Nottinghamshire residents who are studying agriculture or related courses at a Nottinghamshire institution and **are current, paid-up members of a Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society or Notts YFC.**

What is the Value of the Grant?

The maximum value of these grants is £750 per applicant, depending upon an individual person's circumstances but, in order to qualify for a maximum grant, the applicant **must be a member** of the Newark & Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society or willing to take out membership before the award is granted. **Applications from non-members of a qualifying Society will be limited to 50% of amounts awarded to a member and to a maximum of £250.**

Having been awarded an amount of less than £750 does not preclude an applicant from submitting a subsequent request for further funds at a later date, to a maximum of £750 in total, providing they still meet the criteria above. Anyone who receives a first grant over £250, but less than £750, must still have current membership of the Society when applying for a subsequent award. Such "top-up" awards will only be granted to full members.

How to Apply

You should submit your application - either handwritten or typed - with a covering letter to:-

**Chief Executive Officer,
Newark & Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society
The County Showground
Winthorpe
Newark
Notts
NG24 2NY**

Please note that email applications will NOT be accepted. Your application should be no more than 600 words long and must include the following information:

- To which Notts Agricultural Society or Notts YFC branch you belong
- Why you want to do/are doing your chosen course/project
- How it fits in with the charitable aim of the Society which is to promote agriculture and the agricultural industry
- How a grant/scholarship would make a difference to you
- What you plan to do after the course/project ends
- How the Society would benefit if you were successful in obtaining a grant
- What is the amount of grant money you are applying for
- The proposed costs of the course, programme or event and how much funding you already have towards it, if any
- General background information about yourself
- Any work experience or voluntary experience that you may have
- Any other information relevant to the application
- Contact details for two referees who will be contacted
- Complete the attached contact details, and Consent Section which allows third parties to access your references

An up-to-date CV should also be submitted with your application, which must be signed and dated.

When is the Closing Date?

The closing date for applications is **Friday 30 December 2011**.

How will the Grant be Paid?

Applicants will normally not receive any funding until receipts or invoices have been submitted. Please note that this award does not cover expenditure on accommodation, tuition fees, Trades Union, political or Student Union fees. Any claims that are found to be fraudulent will immediately result in the loss of the award and disqualify the student from any future awards from the Society.

Please note that any grant is offered on a competitive basis, and therefore, not all applications will be successful. Grants will be made to those applicants whom the Panel feels are most deserving of a grant. The Panel's decision is final.

Applicants applying for a grant in excess of £300 will be required to attend an interview prior to confirmation of any award. **The interviews will be held at Newark Showground on a Saturday morning in mid-January.** You should treat this as a formal interview and candidates are encouraged to dress appropriately.

Presentation of the grants

Grants will be formally awarded at a public occasion, by the President of Society either at the annual County Show, held on 12 and 13 May 2012, or at the Society's Annual General Meeting on 3 December 2012, depending on whether a presentation is required.

Applicants should be aware that they may be required to give a demonstration, or create a suitable display relevant to their project/work, at the County Show, or to give a presentation at the Annual General Meeting of the Society. A presentation will be normal for larger awards i.e. over £500. Grants will be given in the form of a cheque.

Attendance at one of these events is a fundamental condition of the scheme. Failure to attend the appointed presentation ceremony will result in forfeit of the grant.

Under no circumstances will grants be paid in advance.

THE FOLLOWING FORM SHOULD BE COMPLETED, PRINTED AND ATTACHED TO YOUR APPLICATION. YOU ARE ADVISED TO HAVE A TUTOR OR SPONSOR CHECK YOUR APPLICATION BEFORE POSTING.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

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.....**POST CODE:**.....

Tel **No:**

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Mobile Tel No:

Email Address:
(Please print clearly)

DOB: **Amount of Grant Applied For:**

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Name and relationship to you of the person who checked your applications:

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Please date and sign this Consent Section to confirm that you agree with the following statement:-

I consent to the Society taking up my references and confirm that the referees are aware that they might be contacted in respect of this grant application.

I also consent to my details and, if successful in obtaining a grant, my photograph being used for publicity purposes. I understand that my personal details will not be held or used for any reason other than as a direct result of my application for a grant and that, under no circumstances, will they be passed to a third party.

Name: (Please print)

Date:

Signature:

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