

Friend's Trust Guidelines and Criteria

Updated September 2017

The UCL Friends' Trust awards grants to student societies, clubs and associations. The Friends' Trust also give financial support for UCL projects and amenities which could not otherwise be funded. Retrospective applications for funds are not usually considered.

The Friends' Trust invites applications from both recognised Union Clubs & Societies and individual students for awards made in November and February of each year to enhance and encourage extracurricular activity at UCL.

In carrying out the object of the Trust as stated in the Trust Deed of 16 December 1953 (“to make provision for such projects as would enhance the prestige and reputation of the College as an educational institution and would promote its corporate life as such”).

The Trust will consider applications from members of the UCL community for the award of funds in accordance with the guidelines set out in the following paragraphs:

1. Applications for funds will be expected to be for projects of demonstrable benefit to UCL students and/or the UCL community in general.
2. Applications will be considered for projects including (but not limited to) the following:
 - » Activities and amenities associated with recognised Union societies or UCL societies;
 - » Amenities for the improvement of the UCL environment or operation, excluding capital projects;
 - » The acquisition of items of specific relevance and value to UCL as an institution.
3. Grants of funds for any single project will not normally exceed 10% of the total sum which UCL expects to disburse in any one financial year. The Trust's disbursement over the current financial year is not expected to exceed £25,000.

4. In considering an application UCL will normally take into account the number of students likely to benefit from the project and/or the more general benefit to the UCL community.
5. Funds will not be provided to support academic projects being undertaken as part of an academic programme of study.
6. Applications which appear to be contrary to the principles of equal opportunity will not be considered.
7. UCL may award funds in the form of a grant, a repayable (interest-free) loan, an underwritten sum of money, or any combination of these.
8. Awards which have not been taken up by the end of the financial year (31st July) will normally be cancelled.
9. The application should be limited to not more than 1000 words. It is vital that within this the application has VERY clear aims and objectives. If the applicant will be making a contribution to the funding then this must be CLEARLY stated on the application. Unclear applications will be rejected.
10. Successful applicants are invited to be available to present on the use and impact of the grant at an annual donors' reception in May each year.
11. Decisions made by UCL stakeholders and the advisory group shall be final.