**DT Student Experience Fund**

The University of Aberdeen Development Trust SCIO (or the ‘DT’) receives tremendous support from our worldwide family of alumni, friends, and benefactors, including through our programme of regular giving.

With these donations, the DT Student Experience Fund aims to provide the resources to fund modest and achievable projects which will enhance the student experience for current and future generations of students at the University of Aberdeen.

Extra-curricular activities and student support initiatives are an important part of your university experience. We can help you broaden your horizons and live student life to the full by supporting activities, projects, initiatives, and services, both on and off campus.

From Medical Martial Arts to Nightline, The Gaudie student newspaper to the Aberdeen Law Project, the DT Student Experience Fund is here to help.

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**Criteria for Funding Applications**

**Applications can be made by:**

* Current students and employees of the University of Aberdeen
* Permanent members of staff at the Aberdeen University Students’ Association (AUSA)

Please note that applicants are only permitted to submit one application; we will not consider multiple applications from the same applicant.

**Applications cannot be made by:**

* Student clubs and societies registered with AUSA. Funding for these groups is disbursed through AUSA. Applications from clubs and societies registered with AUSA will not be considered and should be submitted to AUSA as part of the AUSA Student Fund. For more information, AUSA sports clubs and societies can contact [societies@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:societies@abdn.ac.uk)

**Applications can be submitted for:**

* Modest and achievable activities, projects, initiatives, or services which:
  + Enhance the student experience and/or support the welfare of students.
  + Focus on extra-curricular activities.
* Activities/projects/initiatives/services that will benefit the wider student community.
* Activities/projects/initiatives/services that will utilise the funding in full by 31 July 2025.

**Applications cannot be submitted for:**

* Staffing costs.
* Tuition fees.
* Hardship support.
* Galas, balls, or purely social events.
* Activities/projects/initiatives/services that are curricular-embedded e.g. mandatory field trips.
* Activities/projects/initiatives/services that benefit individuals or a narrow group of students.
* Activities/projects/initiatives/services that have already taken place.

*If you require financial support or advice, please contact student.support@abdn.ac.uk.*

**Applications should demonstrate, and will be judged on, their:**

* Financial need.
* The ability to impact on the wider student community.
* The impact and difference that receiving the requested funding will make.
* Initiative in fundraising from other avenues, where possible.
* Where applicable, satisfactory reporting on previous DT SCIO awards.

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**Completing your Application**

**Applications must:**

* Include a detailed breakdown of budgeted costs as well as a total amount requested. Applications without this breakdown of budgeted costs will not be considered.
* Confirm that any relevant University departments have been consulted prior to applying and have given their endorsement.
* Where the applicant is a member of staff, provide details regarding how students have been consulted during the development of the proposal.
* Be completed – typed, not handwritten – using the relevant Word.doc application form.
* Be emailed to [giving@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:giving@abdn.ac.uk) with the subject line ‘DT Student Experience Fund’ no later than 9.00am on Monday 28 October 2024.
* Be submitted by the deadline. Please note that applications received after this time and date will not be considered, and no later amendments can be made.

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**Terms & Conditions of Funding**

**If successful, the funding you receive:**

* Will be for one academic year only and is not a guarantee or indication of future funding, *unless* you are a previous beneficiary of the DT Student Experience Fund with an established initiative and wish to be considered for multi-year funding over three years i.e. 24/25, 25/26, and 26/27.
* Will be for a maximum of £5,000 (per annum for multi-year funding) to support modest and achievable projects unless there are exceptional circumstances.
* May be granted a portion of the amount applied for if there are insufficient funds for disbursement or if the Disbursement Committee deems it appropriate.
* May only be used for the purposes for which it was intended.
* Will require the applicant to provide a budget or account details for the transfer of monies.
* Must be drawn down and spent by 31 July 2025.

**As recipients of funding, you:**

* Will acknowledge DT SCIO support in any media releases or events.
* Will make sure DT SCIO branding is used to highlight the University of Aberdeen and the DT whenever possible.
* Will be required to submit a report at the end of the academic year detailing where the money has been spent, the impact of the donation, and the success of the activity, project, initiative, or service.
* May be required to attend donor events where appropriate and convenient.

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**What happens next?**

* Confirmation of receipt of your application will be sent out by Friday 1 November 2024. Should your application not meet the stated criteria, you will be advised of its rejection.
* The Disbursement Committee, made up of members of the University of Aberdeen Development Trust SCIO’s Board of Trustees, will meet as soon as possible after the deadline to review eligible applications and make their decisions and recommendations.
* Should further information be required to support final decisions, you will be contacted as soon as possible after the meeting, with a short deadline by which to respond.
* Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications as soon as it is feasibly possible. Please refrain from enquiring about the progress of your application unless you have not heard by Friday 29 November 2024.
* Successful applicants will be sent terms and conditions to review and sign and will be notified of the deadline of their return.
* Thereafter, funds will be made available for draw down via the approved disbursement process.

***Please note that unsuccessful applicants will not be given feedback on their application as standard practice; however, individual feedback will be available on request.***