



spectris
FOUNDATION

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THE SPECTRIS FOUNDATION STEM GRANT GUIDANCE



UNRESTRICTED DOCUMENT



Introduction

Thank you for taking an interest in The Spectris Foundation. This document aims to give you an overview of The Spectris Foundation and clear guidance on our application criteria and process for STEM grants.

If you have any questions please contact the Foundation on spectrisfoundation@spectris.com.

About The Spectris Foundation

Who we are

The Spectris Foundation was established in July 2021 by an endowment of £15,000,000 from Spectris Plc. The Foundation predominantly supports access to a high quality education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) by distributing grants in these fields.

Spectris Plc operates in 36 countries across the world and have seen first-hand the need to remove barriers to STEM education. It was decided the foundation will have a core focus on giving access to STEM education in the key areas Spectris Plc operate; the UK, the United States, Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, China, Brazil, South Korea, Japan and India. Once the board began reviewing applications, it was clear there is a high need in other countries and the foundation therefore added “and other jurisdictions in which a grant would be beneficial” to its funding agreement with Spectris Plc to ensure effective grant making.

Vision, Mission & Values

We are looking to work with like-minded partners who share our vision mission and values, and can work to create a more equal and brighter future for anyone looking to study STEM education.

Our vision is to engineer bright futures.

Our mission is to support charitable initiatives through grant-making, with a particular focus on enhancing and improving access to quality education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM); to empower students from all backgrounds.

Our values;

Quality; To ensure all charitable initiatives deliver quality initiatives, to high standards as agreed by the foundation.

Inclusion; To champion diversity, equity and inclusion, with a particular focus on supporting beneficiaries from disadvantaged communities.

Permanency; To create a legacy through committing to sustainable funding opportunities, and by working with Plc employees to engage and embrace the foundation.

What are STEM grants?

STEM education is a vast subject and every year we allocate 80% of funding to providing access to quality education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Our grant-making program enables organisations to give people from across the world access to these subjects.

There is no maximum grant amount, however a typical STEM Grant is between £10,000 to £50,000 per year, for one to three years. The Foundation has funded many excellent projects and initiatives for both higher and lower amounts. We value transparency with budgets, and are prepared to award unrestricted funding.

The types of initiatives we will consider:

1. Multi-year grants which lead to longer-term benefits in advancing STEM education
2. Smaller-scale pilot projects which have the capability for scalability and which illustrate The Spectris Foundation's mission.
3. University Outreach

Focus:

The Spectris Foundation has a keen interest in;

- Widening participation in STEM education
- Removing barriers and inequalities for underprivileged and underrepresented groups in STEM education
- Bridging the gender gap in STEM education
- Increasing diversity and inclusion within STEM education

The Spectris Foundation will not fund:

- Contributions to general appeals or circulars;
- Religious activity which is not for wider public benefit;
- Activities which solely support animal welfare;
- Activities which have already taken place.
- Grant making by other organisations
- Privately owned and profit-distributing companies or limited partnerships.
- Individual Challenges

Pre-application questionnaire

Please complete the pre application questionnaire. If you do not pass this stage, you are unfortunately ineligible for funding.

Expressions of Interest

If you have passed the pre-application questionnaire you will be asked to complete an expressions of interest form. This is a short form which should take no longer than 30 minutes to complete.

The purpose of the expressions of interest is give us an overview of your organisation and the funding you require. The Spectris Foundation values building relationships with our grantees and we will reach out directly once we receive this form.

Invitation to Formal Application

Overview

Organisations invited to complete a formal application meet our initial funding criteria. You will receive an email link to your application. All applications will be reviewed by Foundation Staff and Spectris plc Ambassadors who then shortlist applications and put forward recommendations to The Spectris Foundation Board.

We endeavor to contact you with the outcome of your application no later than 2 weeks after the board meeting date.

The formal application should take no longer than 2 hours to complete.

Contact and Organisational information

You will be asked to complete a short introduction to your organisation along with key contact information. If this contact information changes please let the foundation know. You will be asked to provide trustee information along with the structure of how your organisation is run.

Financial Information

This is the financial information section where you can outlined your organisation's financial position using your most recent set of accounts. Please attach these accounts at the end of this application.

You will be asked for your project budget information in this section – please attached your budget at the end of the application. You can use our budget template, or your own.

Funding Request Details

Please use this section to describe your funding needs, we want to understand the full picture so please be transparent with your organisation's ambition and needs.

References

You will be asked to provide two references of previous funding partners or project partners.

Attachments

Please ensure you send us a copy of the following documents:

1. A copy of your latest audited accounts
2. A project budget

3. A copy of your safeguarding policy
4. A copy of your anti-bribery policy
5. Any additional materials or publications you feel support your application (i.e. theory of change, project lifecycle, case studies).

If these documents are too large to attached, please send them via email to the foundation on spectrisfoundation@spectris.com

Declaration

You will be required to confirm that you are an authorised representative of the organisation applying for a grant through The Spectris Foundation. The declarations asks to the best of your knowledge the information provided in this application is correct.

By entering your contact details you agree to allow The Spectris Foundation to retain the personal and organisational data you provide in your application on our database.

Timeframe and Contact us

Timeframe

The application process from start to finish may take up to 4 months. Once a formal application has been submitted, we aim to contact all applicants within 2 weeks of the board meeting date.

Contact us

If you have any questions please contact us on spectrisfoundation@spectris.com or call us on +44 (0) 75 0092 4521.