

## Grant Making Policy

The Social Workers Benevolent Trust is the UK's only charity dedicated to helping social workers and ex-social workers when times are difficult.

The Trust offers financial help to social workers and ex-social workers – and their dependents – in times of hardship, for example when experiencing sickness, bereavement, family difficulties or sudden catastrophe.

SWBT is a charity with limited funds, and it aims to provide small grants that will make a tangible difference to the applicants.

The Trustees consider grants at their bi-monthly meetings, and applicants need to complete an **application form** if they wish to be considered for a grant.

Grants will be given to persons who:

- *Hold a professional social work qualification recognised in the UK,*
- *Have been engaged in professional social work in the UK, or*
- *Are partners, widows/widowers, dependent children or any other dependents of the above or their estate,*
- *And, who are currently normally resident within the United Kingdom.*

Applicants are required to demonstrate that they are experiencing hardship.

Applicants are asked to demonstrate that any co-beneficiaries are financially dependent on or co-dependent with them.

The Trust will normally only make one grant to an applicant in any twelve month period; a further application within twelve months of a grant being approved will only be considered if the applicant can demonstrate a significant change in their circumstances.

Students on courses leading to a social work qualification are not eligible for a grant.

September 2021

Applications will be accepted from third parties either where:

- the beneficiary of any grant is unable to make the application themselves, ie they lack the capacity to do so as defined under national legislation, and the third party is authorised to act on their behalf, or
- the beneficiary of any grant is aware of and in agreement with the application being made.
- Or the application is made for help following the death of a social worker.

**Reasons why a grant application *may be* rejected or deferred  
(the following is shown on the How to Apply page of the website)**

1. You may not have read and used the information contained in the Essential Notes when completing the Application Form.
2. Your Application Form may not have been received by our Administrator at least two working days prior to the meeting of the Trustees (although we would then consider it at the next meeting or prior to that meeting if very urgent).
3. You have reapplied within 12 months of a previous successful application.
4. You were or are engaged in a role that sometimes social workers perform but do not require a professional social work qualification.
5. You are a student seeking a social work qualification.
6. You are seeking help with the costs of private education, private health care or private social care where otherwise available through State or local government provision.
7. You are seeking supplementing income to cover *daily* living expenses.

If you are uncertain about any of the above, please contact us by email using the Comment form on the website.