



## **GUIDANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS OUTSIDE THE UK SEEKING GRANTS TO STUDY**

### **Introduction**

This information sheet has been produced to help individuals overseas seeking grants from UK trusts and foundations to study (mainly in the UK), find relevant sources of information.

### **Does ACF provide guidance to grant-seekers?**

No. The Association of Charitable Foundations (ACF) is the leading membership association for independent grant-making charities in the UK. ACF's role is to help and support the work of members. ACF itself does not make grants and its remit does not include advising grant-seekers (in the UK or overseas) on suitable funders and/or on individual grant applications. More information on ACF is on our website: *www.acf.org.uk*.

### **Why is ACF listed in some directories as a point of contact for overseas grant-seekers?**

We regret that this is confusing. Unfortunately we know that unsolicited entries for ACF as a point of contact for overseas grant-seekers, or as a clearing house for grant applications, appear in some international directories. This is not a service that ACF can provide and we hope that future editions of these directories will be corrected.

### **How many UK trusts and foundations support overseas grant-seekers?**

Only a small proportion of UK trusts and foundations make grants outside the UK.

### **Where can we find out about UK trusts and foundations that will support individuals seeking grants to study, mainly in the UK?**

#### **1. British Council**

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations. The Council's website (*www.britishcouncil.org*) provides a range of help to students, teachers, young people and adult learners from abroad. This includes information about courses, grants and scholarships. Links to other relevant websites are also featured.

#### **2. The Educational Grants Advisory Service (EGAS)**

EGAS provides advice and guidance to students on sources of funding for entering post-16 education and training in the UK. EGAS helps individuals, particularly those who are disadvantaged, resident in the UK, residents of the European Economic Area (EEA), and overseas students in the UK who are coming to the end of their course. However, they cannot help overseas students from outside the EEA who are making contact from their country of origin. EGAS maintains a searchable database of trusts and foundations that assist students. They also administer over 30 educational trusts, giving small grants primarily to students who study at institutions that are affiliated to their service. Further information is available on their website: *www.egas-online.org.uk*.

### **3. The Council for International Education**

The Council for International Education (UKCOSA) gives help and advice to prospective students from overseas. Their website ([www.ukcosa.org.uk](http://www.ukcosa.org.uk)) includes information about grants and scholarships to support international students, as well as links to other useful sites.

### **4. University of Leeds and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust**

The University of Leeds and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust have collaborated on a project to produce a comprehensive digest of health-related research funding and training opportunities in the UK. Their website ([www.rdinfor.org.uk](http://www.rdinfor.org.uk)) features this searchable database, including information on grants and awards for research, some of which may support international students.

### **5. Graduate Prospects**

Graduate Prospects is the commercial subsidiary of the Higher Education Careers Services Unit. It works in partnership with the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services to offer a variety of services to students and graduates. The Graduate Prospects website at: [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) includes information on sources of charitable funding, including some for which overseas applicants are eligible.

### **6. Support 4 Learning website**

This website - [www.support4learning.org.uk](http://www.support4learning.org.uk) - links to a wide range of charitable funding organisations, but not all of which can support international students. The details of each organisation need to be checked carefully.

### **7. Guidestar UK**

GuideStar UK is an independent charity set up to provide a single, easily accessible source of detailed information about every charity and voluntary organisation in the UK. Currently Guidestar UK's searchable database (accessible via its website: [www.guidestar.org.uk](http://www.guidestar.org.uk)) contains details of the 167,000 registered main charities in England and Wales, including grant making trusts and foundations, some of which may assist international students. In the future charities in Scotland and Northern Ireland will be included.

### **8. Directory of Social Change**

The Directory of Social Change (DSC) is a UK charity which provides information and support to voluntary and community sectors worldwide. DSC publishes a wide range of books and provides various online resources. Their full product range plus details of prices, subscriptions, and how to order publications are available on their website: [www.dsc.org.uk](http://www.dsc.org.uk). Two DSC resources that may be useful for individuals, both in the UK and overseas, seeking education grants are:

- **The Educational Grants Directory** which details a wide range of charitable funds and other support for students in need, up to and including first degree level
- A searchable **website**: [www.grantsforindividuals.org.uk](http://www.grantsforindividuals.org.uk) which combines DSC's **A Guide to Grants for Individuals in Need** and **The Educational Grants Directory** featured above. Please note that this online directory is subscription-based.