



Registered Charity Number 313789



## About the Social Workers' Educational Trust

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SWET was established as an independent charity in 1972 on the initiative of the British Association of Social Workers. It remains independent of BASW, with its own trustees. Rapid changes in the nature of social problems, in legislation and in social services means that social workers must seek new knowledge and skills. In addition, there is an urgent need to support innovatory practice-based research and to encourage the development of new approaches to providing social services.

The Trust aims to assist qualified social workers to develop their knowledge and skills, encourage research into social work practice and education, and educate the public in the nature of social work.

## Grants and Scholarships

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The Trust provides grants of up to £500 that we hope will make a tangible difference to the applicants. The trustees consider grant applications at three meetings each year (February, June and October).

We also award three annual scholarships of £3,000 each:

- **Elizabeth O'Dell Memorial Award**  
to enable practitioners, working within an established project, engaged in innovative practice that is designed and informed by principles intended to uphold the dignity and respect of older people, to share their knowledge and experiences with others
- **Anne Cummins Memorial Scholarship**  
for a study/research project on health-related social work.
- **SWET Research Scholarship**  
for research in relation to developing and improving social work practice

## Support for team education and learning

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Learning within teams is an important way in which social workers can develop their skills and knowledge.

The Trust can provide financial help of up to £1,000 to assist team learning. We would welcome applications from teams in all areas of practice who may wish to organise an event such as a team day, or a series of shorter events. The grant might go towards the cost of a speaker, a facilitator, organisational costs, or books and other resources. All applications will include how relevant diversity issues form part of the learning. Due to a specific bequest, applications from Wales would be particularly welcome.

## Guidance for applications

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**Please read the following Guidelines carefully before completing the application forms:**

- The Trust CANNOT assist with funding for initial qualifying courses in social work. Enquiries for these can be addressed to the appropriate Social Care Council for your locality.
- Applications for scholarships should NOT be made using the grants form!
- ALL sections of the application form must be completed. Failure to do so will affect the trustees' ability to consider the application and may result in delay while the form is returned to the applicant.
- Applicants should be qualified and registered social workers who have completed at least two years of post-qualifying social work practice, working or intending to work in the UK.
- Assistance with training courses or projects that will develop the applicant's social work practice in the UK can be considered. Details of the course/training should be included with the application form – usually a brief course description issued by the provider. Applicants should include whether the course/training is towards the Post Qualifying or Advanced Award in Social Work.
- The sum requested from the Trust can be used for fees or expenses incurred (e.g. travel, presentation of dissertation, books etc.).
- Grants for courses that will have been completed or conferences/events that have taken place before a trustees' meeting will not be considered.
- Where the total sum needed is higher than that requested from the Trust, an indication of ability to meet the balance of the fees/costs from other sources, including employers, MUST be given.
- Grants for courses of more than 1 years' duration are made on an annual basis, and their continuation depends on the applicant's successful completion of the year's training and the level of Trust funds.
- Application may be made at any time of the year and will be considered at the next meeting of the trustees. These normally occur in February, June and October. Please ensure that your application is submitted at least 7 days before a trustees' meeting – dates are on the website.
- The trustees expect that successful applicants will inform the Trust on completion of their course/project and give some feedback of the benefits gained.
- Although there is no limit to the number of times you can apply to the Trust, no further application will be considered within 12 months of an award being made.
- The Trust's complaints policy can be found at <https://socialworkerseducationaltrust.org.uk/complaints-policy-and-procedure/>

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**Go to <https://socialworkerseducationaltrust.org.uk/>**  
for application forms, guidance notes, criteria, and more information