

Frequently Asked Questions

Can a Catalyst Award pay for salary costs?

No, Catalyst Awards are solely for project costs. Development Awards of up to £15,000 are available which can be used for living expenses for the lead person behind the project.

Can a Catalyst Award pay for course fees and bursaries?

No. Awards are made to individuals for projects that address identified social problems.

Am I eligible if I study/work at a non HEFCE funded Higher Education Institute?

No, please view the list of eligible HEIs available on the website www.se-awards.org.uk.

Do I have to already have a Catalyst Award to be eligible for a Development Award?

No. Catalyst Awards are for new projects. Development Awards are for established projects. Please also note that receiving a Catalyst Award does not make you automatically eligible for a Development Award, as the criteria are very different.

If my application is not successful, can I re-apply?

Yes. If you are unsuccessful we would encourage you to contact your regional Development Manager who will help you to understand why your application was unsuccessful so you can work towards a successful application.

Can I apply for funding to develop curriculum?

We are not able to support course or curriculum development. We aim to encourage ideas that may emerge from developments in the curriculum which could be turned into practical action to address a particular social issue.

What are the deadlines for submitting application forms?

For Catalyst Awards, there are no deadlines. Applications can be submitted at any time, and a decision is usually made within around 6 to 8 weeks. Awards will be made ten times per year with the exception of August and December.

One of our group members is not working/studying at a HEFCE funded HEI, is this ok?

Only students or staff at HEFCE funded HEI's can make an application for an Award. Other members of the organising group that do not fall within this criteria can still be involved in the delivery but would not be eligible to apply in their own right.

The beneficiaries of the project I would like to apply for funding for are not based in the UK, is this ok?

The project would have to have majority benefit for people in the UK. We do have projects that indirectly benefit people in other countries but they do have to mostly benefit UK residents.

Can Awards be used to fund feasibility studies?

No, not if the study is to establish need and achievability; need should already be evident. All proposals must have an activity, product or service that will be delivered.

Does the project have to be directly related to the staff member or student's area of study?

No, it doesn't need to be related to their area of academic study, but the individual does need the support of the HEI via a reference from a member of staff.

Can Awards fund student societies?

The Awards are made to individuals and are for projects that address identified social problems, rather than to fund the generic work of a student group. However an individual or small group (up to three people) may be able to apply to develop a project that has been inspired by their involvement with a student society.