

SWEF Eligibility Criteria: Start up Grants

(Updated September 2024)

START-UP GRANTS – for business who have been trading for less than 6 months or at the pre revenue stage

- Applicants need to be between the age of 18-30 years old.
- Applications need to be for UK businesses only.
- **Applications are for businesses at the pre-revenue stage, or within a month or two of starting to trade.**
- **Start-up grants are awarded up to £500.**
- Grants must be spent within one month of receipt of funds.
- **Grants are only paid into a business bank account.**

Who is eligible to apply?

- The business idea has the potential to be profitable and to be the applicant's sole work focus.
- Applications solely for 'business ideas' will not be considered. Applicants must be able to give evidence of significant steps taken to get the business off the ground.
- Applications that clearly explain how a grant will transform a business and take it to the next stage are the most likely to be successful.
- Applicants must demonstrate a financial need for the grant.
- Applicant should have enough relevant experience/training to potentially succeed.
- Specific weblinks and costs for the grant items requested must be provided.

How you can use the grant:

(This is not an exhaustive list)

- Equipment that will help a business achieve increased revenues.
- Equipment that will help a business increase production where there is proven demand.
- Materials/stock.
- Website/booking system build.
- Training.
- Product development.

Please note that SWEF does not provide grant funding for the following:

- Salaries
- Debt repayment
- Software businesses/App development
- Rent and utilities
- Invasive beauty treatment
- Ongoing software subscriptions
- New computers, phones, tablets (second-hand versions may be considered)

NB on a match funded basis, SWEF will consider applications for refurbished technology. However, in order to be successful, the applicant will need to explain why the laptop, tablet or phone will transform their business. A link to the refurbished item will also be required, with an explanation of why they need this piece of specific technology.

SWEF Eligibility Criteria: Business Grants

(Updated September 2024)

BUSINESS GRANTS – trading for longer than 6 months and have a trading history

- Applicants need to be between the age of 18-30 years old.
- Applications need to be for UK businesses only.
- **Applications can be for grants up to the value of £2,000.**
- Grants must be spent within one month of receipt of funds.
- **Grants are only paid into a business bank account.**

Who is eligible to apply?

- Applications must come from a majority shareholder.
- A business must be an applicant's sole work focus or they should be able to demonstrate that it will become so shortly.
- Applications can only be from sole traders/partnerships/limited companies/CICs limited by shares that have been trading less than 2 years.
- Applications solely for 'business ideas' will not be considered. Applicants must be able to give evidence of significant steps taken to get your business off the ground.
- Applications must demonstrate a financial need for the grant.
- Applications that clearly explain how a grant will transform a business and take it to the next stage are the most likely to be successful.
- Applications must detail a specific use for the grant funds with links to/quotes for how the funds will be spent.
- Applications that involve 'match funding' and/or the purchase of second hand items are particularly welcome.
- Applications can only come from businesses that have a business bank account.
- A contribution towards a grant item of over £2,000 may only be awarded of up to 25% of the total amount required by applicant.

How you can use the grant:

(This is not an exhaustive list)

- Equipment that will help a business achieve increased revenues.
- Equipment that will help a business increase production where there is proven demand.
- Materials/stock for a new product line.
- Website/booking system build.
- Training.
- Product development.

Please note that SWEF does not provide grant funding for the following:

- Salaries
- Debt repayment
- Software businesses/App development
- Rent and utilities
- Stock for an existing product line
- Invasive beauty treatment
- Ongoing software subscriptions
- New computers, phones, tablets

NB on a match funded basis, SWEF will consider applications for refurbished technology. However, in order to be successful, the applicant will need to explain why the laptop, tablet or phone will transform their business. A link to the refurbished item will also be required, with an explanation of why they need this piece of specific technology.