



Applying for Funding

10 Tips to Improve Your Funding Applications

1. Go to the right society for the right project - see our recommendations on page 2. Check out the society's website and see what they fund, and what they don't.
2. Check that your project is within the geographical area covered by the society and that it meets their funding criteria.
3. Be clear about the timing of your project and how it fits in with the grant cycle. Societies can't fund retrospective costs (i.e. invoices you've already paid).
4. Make sure the application process is coordinated within your organisation and filtered through one person or a finance committee, especially when applying to more than one society for different projects.
5. Clearly state the purpose of your application highlighting how it will benefit the community. Societies have hundreds of applications to go through and will appreciate clear, simple answers.
6. Be prepared to spend some time and energy on completing the application properly. Answer all questions and provide any required information and supporting material, such as quotes, financial statements, resolutions and evidence of non-profit charitable status. A well-prepared and thought-out application gives the society considering the application confidence that the applicant organisation is well run and has a clear and worthy purpose for the grant.
7. Make sure you keep a complete copy of your application and supporting documents.
8. If you have a question, look at the FAQs on the society's website first. Chances are someone has asked the same question before.

9. If in doubt, contact the society. Building a relationship with a grant manager can be useful in navigating your way through the application process.
10. Putting together a successful bid and proving that you meet the funding criteria takes practice. Don't take it personally if your first application is unsuccessful. If you are declined, reapply. You may have been declined because funds were allocated already, and it was just the timing of when your grant was received.

Funding success story Toko Playcentre

The team at Toko Playcentre were fed up with damp, dull, and dangerous bark surfacing.

They knew they had to do something about it, but finding the funds for a redevelopment was going to be easier said than done. Kate and her team realised they needed to look beyond the playcentre's immediate community for help if they were ever going to reach their goal of replacing the old bark playground with a tidy, new surface.

Kate applied to two funding societies - Taranaki Electricity Trust and TSB Community Trust.



With a \$20,000 grant from Taranaki Electricity Trust, a \$30,000 grant from TSB Community Trust, and some savings and funding from the Ministry of Education, Toko Playcentre was able to transform the playspace into a safe, exciting, and inviting place of play.

Funding Societies

The Lion Foundation

The Lion Foundation is one of New Zealand's oldest Charitable Trusts. Since 1988 they have returned over \$850 million back to the community.

Funding cycle: Monthly
lionfoundation.org.nz

Pub Charity Limited

Pub Charity Limited hosts gaming machines in their member hotels and taverns and distributes donations all over New Zealand.

Funding cycle: Monthly
pubcharitylimited.org.nz

New Zealand Community Trust

NZCT has a strong sports focus, but also support other worthy community activities, including local government projects.

Funding cycle: Monthly
nzct.org.nz

Four Winds Foundation

Four Winds Foundation has venues nationwide and supports a variety of non-profit community groups, including educational organisations.

Funding cycle: Monthly
fourwindsfoundation.co.nz

BlueSky Community Trust

BlueSky Community Trust raises funds through gaming machines. BlueSky's gaming venues are located in Auckland, so it gives priority to grant applicants based in Auckland.

Funding cycle: Monthly
bluesky.org.nz

Grassroots Trust

Grassroots Trust was established in 2003 to support sport, education and community sectors. They donate 75% of their funds to sport and 25% to community and education.

Funding cycle: Monthly
grassrootstrust.co.nz

Pelorus Trust

The Pelorus Trust is a charitable trust based in Lower Hutt which raises funds for charitable, philanthropic and sporting purposes through the operation of gaming machines.

Funding cycle: Monthly
pelorustrust.net.nz

Trillian Trust

Trillian Trust was formed to provide support to other New Zealand based charitable and not-for-profit organisations through grants for specific purposes that benefit the community.

Funding cycle: Monthly
trillian.co.nz

Infinity Foundation

Infinity Foundation is a Hastings based gaming trust. Each year they approve more than 3,500 grant applications and return \$16 million to various community groups throughout New Zealand.

Funding cycle: Monthly
infinityfoundation.co.nz