MILLENNIUM POINT TRUST

Grant Application Guidance

MILLENNIUM POINT TRUST

This guidance is intended to assist organisations in applying for funding from the Millennium Point Trust's STEM grants programme and does not cover any of our other funding streams.

Millennium Point Trust is a charity that supports the growth and advancement of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) within the West Midlands.

Millennium Point Trust has funded numerous initiatives across the region and made many donations in support of STEM initiatives.

Millennium Point Trust receives its funding from Millennium Point Property Ltd a wholly owned subsidiary of Millennium Point Trust

We are an inclusive charity that aims to support STEM initiatives for all young people.

Whether you receive a grant or not, we want you to get involved in our STEM network. Our network spans across the West Midlands region from local schools right through to business leaders, all working towards the same goal.

Being part of our network means you can get involved with events, initiatives, and future opportunities to rais your profile for the benefit of furthering STEM. For more information, please speak to a member of our team.

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WHAT WE FUND

MPT awards grants to organisations situated in Local Authorities that are members of the West Midlands Combined Authority. MPT supports projects that fall within the following three categories:

Implementing a creative and interactive STEM Curriculum in education

- Projects which introduce exciting and innovative STEM projects or activities into the classroom which in turn engage pupils of all ages from Nursery up to school leavers
- Projects which inspire an interest in STEM subjects in schools
- Projects which open up STEM learning opportunities to under-privileged groups
- Projects which have a strong STEM focus across the curriculum

Purchasing of STEM Resources

- Projects which purchase STEM equipment for schools or Nurseries or other organisations to enhance STEM education
- Projects which purchase STEM literature / books to improve pupil's knowledge and are linked to a STEM project
- Projects which provide digital resources for pupils – i.e. Laptops/ iPads/ Google chrome books etc
- Projects which aim to reduce digital poverty

Promoting STEM Careers

- Projects which target young people to pursue careers in STEM from an early age
- Projects which deliver 'STEM-centric' events to engage young people
- Projects which encourage parents and or teachers to learn more about the STEM opportunities and STEM career choices open to young people
- Projects where schools develop programmes of work to showcase STEM career opportunities

We will be funding projects that commence in September 2025 as our grants cycle is an annual programme.
We therefore request applicants to be aware of this when completing their application form and planning their project.
We are unable to release funding any earlier.

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ELIGIBILITY

We accept applications from:

- Schools
- Voluntary or community organisations
- Registered charities
- A constituted group or club
- Not-for-profit company or community interest company
- Community Interest Company/Social enterprise
- Statutory body (including town, parish and community council)

We do not accept applications from:

- Universities
- Hospitals or hospices
- Individuals
- Companies or sole traders that are aimed at generating profits primarily for private distribution
- Organisations based outside the UK; we only accept applications from the geographical area covered by the West Midlands Combined Authority
- Applications made by one organisation on behalf of another
- More than one application per organisation

If we receive more than one application per organisation, we will accept and consider the first application received from you.

We accept applications from organisations situated in Local Authorities that are a member of the West Midlands Combined Authority. We have put together a list of Local Authorities that are members of the WMCA. Please ensure your organisation is located in the WMCA area. The responsibility for identifying if your organisation is within the WMCA lies with the applicant. Please ensure you check on the WMCA website: https://www.wmca.org.uk/who-we-are/. We reserve the right to exclude applications that are outside the WMCA.

Constituent Authorities

- Birmingham City Council
- City of Wolverhampton Council
- Coventry City Council
- Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council
- Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
- Walsall Council

Observer Organisations

- Herefordshire Council
- Marches LEP

Non-constituent Authorities

- Cannock Chase
- North Warwickshire Borough Council
- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
- Redditch Borough Council
- Rugby Borough Council
- Shropshire Council
- Stratford upon Avon district
- Tamworth Borough Council
- Telford and Wrekin Council
- Warwickshire County Council

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FUNDING & TIMING

We fund projects that are aimed at meeting our charitable objectives.

We award grants from £1,000 up to £20,000 to organisations that form part of the WMCA. The project must also be carried out in the regions covered by the WMCA. The grant is a one-off payment to fund projects that conclude **within 12 months** of payment.

We do not support applications for projects that require funding over several years.

We welcome applications from organisations that are requesting smaller grants.

If requesting funding for any IT equipment please ensure any equipment that you request funding for is compatible with any current organisational systems before requesting a grant.

Any application must be supported by the lead figure in the organisation and we may make contact with this figure in the case of queries or problems. It is therefore essential that CEOs, Head Teachers, Heads of Organisations are fully aware of the project timeline and project details when applying for a grant and have approved the application

If your application is successful, please make sure that you complete the project as outlined in the application form. No changes can be made to how the grant funding is spent, and the funds should be used in accordance with the approved application form for the resources/services listed within the budget section. If any issues arise, MPT must be contacted for advice and guidance on how to proceed.

Our funding is an annual programme which opens once a year. The funding round for 2024/2025 will open on the 14th October 2024 and close on the 6th December 2024.

Only application forms received within this period will be considered for a grant.

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APPLICATION PROCESS

We have tried to make our application form as easy as possible to complete. There is one form which can be downloaded from our website, which you can save on your computer or laptop.
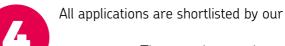
Please ensure your application:

- Clearly states what the aims of the project are and how those aims will be achieved. Please also include details on how success will be measured (the use of SMART objectives is helpful)
- Details what activities will take place and when and where they will be carried out
- How the project will benefit the proposed target group
- Explains the link between the project and the selected category choice of the application
- Contains a well detailed budget plan
- Supplementary attachments or documents will not be considered as part of the application

We would urge you read this guidance and our FAQs before completing the application.

There are 5 stages to our application process.

1 Complete our online application form, which can be downloaded via our website. Please complete all of the sections in as much detail as you can as this will help us when our team begin to shortlist applications.

2 Submit your competed application to us by email: STEMgrants@millenniumpoint.org.uk on or before the 6th December 2024. We prefer applications to be submitted by email.

3 Once you have submitted your application to us via e-mail to STEMgrants@millenniumpoint.org.uk, we will send you an email acknowledging receipt. You will not hear from us again until a decision has been made regarding your application. This is likely to be around July 2025.

4 All applications are shortlisted by our grants team. They are then moderated by a separate panel and finally presented to our Trustees who will make a final decision as to successful applicants.

5 Successful applicants will be notified in July 2025 by email informing them of our Trustees' decision. In order to receive the funding, successful applicants are then requested to sign and return a copy of our grant agreement with accompanying documentation. Payment of the grant will then take place in September 2025.

Unsuccessful applicants will also be notified by email of our Trustees' decision.

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MEET OUR TEAM

Should you have any further queries that we have not addressed in this guidance or our FAQs, then please contact us via any of the methods at the bottom of the page and we will be happy to assist you.

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CEO

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