

# DENMAN TRUST GRANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

## 1. Who can apply?

Federations within England, Wales, Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man will be eligible to apply for a Denman Trust Grant.

## 2. Eligibility criteria for the Denman Trust Grant Scheme

Federations will be ineligible to apply for the Denman Trust Grant Scheme if:

- I. The federation is not recognised by the NFWI.
- II. The federation plans to use the funds to carry out statutory obligations.
- III. The federation plans to use the funds to cover the costs of projects that have already taken place.
- IV. Any elements of the project conflict with the WI constitution, campaigns, NFWI policies and ethical practices.
- V. The federation application is received after the stated deadline.
- VI. The scope of projects is anticipated to extend beyond 18 months.
- VII. The federation has been successful in securing a Denman grant within the preceding three years, individually or as part of a group.
- VIII. The federation plans to use the funds to support any illegal activity.
- IX. The federation is unable to provide a breakdown of the associated cost.
- X. The Federation Chairman and Treasurer have not signed the application form.

## 3. How do I apply?

All information regarding the Denman Trust Grants can be found on our website at [www.learninghub.thewi.org.uk](http://www.learninghub.thewi.org.uk)

Please read through the complete application information document before completing the Denman Trust Grant Application Form.

Send the completed form either by email to [denmangrants@nfwi.org.uk](mailto:denmangrants@nfwi.org.uk) or by post addressed to Director of Learning & Development, Denman Trust Grant Scheme, to The Lambourn, Wyndyke Furlong, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 1UJ.

## 4. What activities will the grant support?

The Denman Trust is making a financial award in the form of grants to further its charitable objects which is *'The provision of education, residential or otherwise for the members of the Women's Institutes in accordance with the objects of the body corporate called The National Federation of Women's Institutes of England, Wales, Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man.'*

As a registered charity, the Denman Trust can only award grants to support an activity which is charitable in law. Grants will always be restricted for the specific charitable purpose of education to all WI members at a local level.

The Denman Trust Grant Scheme will support federations who wish to expand or provide new educational services, with an emphasis on quality, effectiveness and reach. We are particularly keen to receive applications for projects that will build organisational capacity to strengthen the organisation's ability to deliver on its mission now and in the future thereby enhancing its ability to have a positive impact on the lives of members and communities. Distinct capacity building projects, such as identifying a communications strategy, improving volunteer recruitment, ensuring thoughtful leadership succession, updating the organisation's technology to deliver education, and building the capacity of Denman Trust to effectively fulfil its mission.

**Examples of projects:**

- **Volunteer Training and Capacity Building Program:** Create a volunteer training program that teaches members essential skills such as event organisation, effective community engagement. Create a program that explores succession planning to fill any gaps in skills, experience and knowledge that the board of charity trustees will need to oversee the charity now and in the future. Use training to enhance the potential of your members to become your charity's future leaders. This could help increase your charity's volunteer capacity and effectiveness.
- **Micro-Entrepreneurship Training for Women:** Develop a program focused on women's empowerment that teaches business and entrepreneurship skills. The program could include business planning, marketing, and access to small startup loans.
- **STEAM Learning Hub:** Partner with a charity focused on gender equality or education to establish STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) clubs. The project could provide hands-on learning in coding, robotics, or science experiments, aimed at increasing female participation in tech and science fields.
- **Mental Health Program:** Collaborate with a mental health charity to provide workshops locally that focus on emotional well-being, stress management, and coping strategies. The project could also include training those interested in how to support on mental health.

We encourage federations to be innovative, think out of the box and beyond Denman-style retreats. In all cases, applicants must have a strong case for support. That means being able to explain what you will do with the grant, who will benefit and how you know the work will make a difference to WI members and the WI community.

**5. How soon can I re-apply for a grant?**

Federations that have been awarded a Denman Trust Grant will not be eligible to apply for additional funding within three years of receiving the award. This restriction applies to federations applying both individually and as part of a group.

**6. Do I need to provide a costings breakdown?**

When preparing a costings template for a grant application, it is essential to create a clear and detailed budget that shows how the funds will be allocated

**7. What support is available from the Denman Trust for federations applying for grants?**

The Learning and Development team will facilitate regular support sessions for federations to attend. A further FAQ document is available on the WI Learning Hub.

**8. What funds are available?**

The upper limit of the Trust grant is £10,000 per federation. Where federations group together, the upper limit would remain £10,000 per federations.

*(NB. the total available annual budget from the Denman Trust is £150,000)*

**9. Who will review my application?**

The Denman Trust Board has appointed a panel of independent external professionals to ensure that no conflict of interest occurs when awarding the Denman Trust Grants. The panel of experts consists of individuals with expertise from a range of backgrounds including finance, project management, community development, fund raising and grant giving. This panel will be responsible for evaluating all applications.

**10. When will I get a decision?**

We aim to contact you within 12 weeks of the closing date with our decision: during this period we may contact you for more information if required. If we receive an overwhelming number of applications this timeline may be revised. We will be as transparent as we can be about the reasons for our decision and provide you with feedback on your application.

**11. What if my application is rejected?**

This will depend on the reasons why your application has been unsuccessful. You may wish to appeal the decision through the appeals process and information on this will be provided to you at the time.