

The Institute of Physics in Wales Grant Scheme

Information and guidelines for making an application

1. Objectives

The Institute of Physics in Wales's grant scheme aims to encourage and support the development of projects that:

- Raise public awareness of, and engagement with, contemporary physics;
- Inspire and enthuse young people, especially those not previously interested in physics;
- Develop relevant communication skills of individuals;
- Reach audiences beyond the classroom and workplace.

2. Eligibility

The grant scheme provides funding for individuals and organisations to organise public engagement with physics activities in Wales. This includes, but is not limited to, members of the Institute of Physics, researchers in academia or industry, schools, museums, community groups and libraries.

3. Criteria for the grant scheme

Applications will be judged against the following criteria and should demonstrate:

- That the project is physics-based and explores underlying concepts and issues, rather than just providing information;
- Awareness of public interest and concerns including the relevance of the project to the target audience(s);
- Targeting of specific public audiences. Projects that target traditionally hard-to-reach groups such as ethnic minorities and geographically isolated communities are encouraged;
- Clear objectives for the project and the potential to make an impact on the target audience;
- Evidence of adequate and appropriate means of publicity to reach the target audience(s).
- Evidence of realistic evaluation commensurate to the project;
- That the activity is dependent on Institute funding or that it adds a significant element.
- Evidence that the applicant has a plan to meet any shortfall in funding not covered by the Institute's award or by other institutions they might have applied to;
- A realistic assessment of practical issues such as copyright, insurance, health and safety issues and working with children and vulnerable adults (if relevant);
- Events should normally be free to the audience;
- Value for money.

Grants will not be awarded to:

- Projects that do not benefit Wales or the people of Wales.
- Meet staff salaries. However, applications to cover the cost of time spent developing new activities by third parties (e.g. freelance communicators or similar) may be considered where it is clear that the activity will be widely accessible and have a lasting impact. In such cases it is unlikely that the cost of delivering the activity (e.g. venue hire) will also be met. Applications to cover the cost of honoraria for speakers or student helpers will also be considered where these costs do not make up the majority of the project costs.
- To cover the cost of general purpose hardware such as digital cameras, video recording equipment or computers etc, unless it is shown to be integral to the project.

Applications from schools are welcomed but projects should involve parents, families and the wider community as well as pupils. Projects that are aimed solely at school children and/or at delivering the school curriculum will not be funded. Schools might also be interested in the [IOP/STFC School Grants scheme](#) which funds projects up to £500.

Applications from science centres and museums in partnership with external physicists are encouraged but applications from organisations on their own will be considered a low priority unless they involve significant outreach work with the local community.

Previous recipients of Institute of Physics grants are welcome to apply for funding, but the Institute of Physics in Wales will look for development of the idea or activity in the new application. The completed final report forms from previous events may be used by the panel during the assessment process.

Applications must be for projects that will benefit Wales. Grants must be used by within 12 months of the date of award. The maximum award is £1,000.

4. Application process

Application forms can be downloaded as a word document from www.iopwales.org/activities/public/index.html.

If you require the forms in a different format please e-mail physics@iopwales.org.

Completed forms should be submitted electronically to physics@iopwales.org with the subject line 'Application for IOPW Support'. Applications will not be acknowledged unless a receipt is specifically requested.

Applicants wishing to discuss their ideas before applying can contact the National Officer for Wales (physics@iopwales.org).

Incomplete forms will NOT be considered. Please do not attach any supplementary material with your application.

There are three closing dates during the year:

31 January

31 May

30 September

Applications will be assessed by the Institute of Physics in Wales Committee.

5. Successful applicants

Successful applicants will be notified by e-mail of the outcome within 6 weeks of the closing date. All grant payments will be made by BACS once the successful applicant has confirmed their agreement to the grant conditions.

Reporting

As a condition of the acceptance of a grant successful applicants will need to submit a report / article to the Institute of Physics in Wales (including photos where possible). Sections of the application form and final report may be made public on our website.

Recognition of the Institute of Physics in Wales funding

Recipients of grants are required to acknowledge the Institute of Physics in Wales sponsorship on all of their promotional materials. The Institute logo will be sent to all successful applicants. Copies of promotional material and any press cuttings of your project should be included with your final report.