

WorldSkills UK – Competitor Support Fund

Introduction

WorldSkills UK recognises the level of commitment that is required from its participants as those competitors embark on their journey from participating in UK-wide skills competitions hopefully leading to their involvement in Squad UK.

We will award a small grant to competitors that require additional funding, to support their dedication in participating in WorldSkills UK national skills competition process.

Eligibility Criteria?

A grant contribution for competitors who face financial barriers to enter and participate in the competition cycle.

- Competitors must be participating in a current WorldSkills UK skills competition
- Funds are provided in order to remove any financial barriers to entering competitions this includes but is not limited to; travel, equipment, care responsibilities, employer backfill costs

How much will be awarded?

The grant is to contribute towards the funding of the following (applicants can apply for this funding at the National qualifier stage and then again at the National Final stage).

- Travel to a maximum of £50
- Equipment/ Clothes to a maximum of £100
- Day care to the maximum of £100
- Backfill costs for employers to a maximum of £100 (for SMEs)

Applications for support needs not listed above will be assessed on a case by case basis.

The amount of grant funding available is limited, due to the high volume of applications, please apply early to avoid disappointment.

How do I apply?

Competitor should email supportfund@worldskillsuk.org to express their interest in the funding. A link to the application form will then be sent out via email, competitors are to click on the link and should complete our simple application. Please include any other areas of support that maybe needed such as mental health support or family support within the supporting statement on the form.

Payments?

- For onsite national qualifiers, applications need to be received no less than 3 weeks before the date of the qualifier
- For national finals, applications will need to be received no less than 4 weeks before the date of the final.

- Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application 2 weeks before the national qualifier date and 3 weeks before the national final date. If the application is approved the applicant will be contacted in order to supply their bank details to process the payment.
- Payments are made by bank transfer. Please ensure you carefully check the bank details you submit – incorrect details will cause payment loss or delay
- Grants paid out do not need to be repaid

As a publicly funded organisation, WorldSkills UK must meet strict auditing requirements, so no grant can be paid, without a fully completed application form, please keep receipts as proof of payments. WorldSkills UK reserves the right to withdraw the offer of grant or refuse payment if insufficient information is submitted or if applicants do not meet the submission date.

ALL applications will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.