

# WALCOT FOUNDATION

## Student Advance Programme Guidance for applicants

### Summary

Walcot Foundation are offering a grant of up to £50,000<sup>1</sup> per year over three years to set up and run a new initiative, the Student Advance Programme which will support low-income Lambeth students to remain in further/higher education, make the most of opportunities and make a positive transition from study to employment.

This programme is aimed at Walcot individual grant recipients and former grant recipients that are current students or have recently completed their studies. It will provide career coaching, access to mentoring and assist students to access support and opportunities within their educational institution and from industry-specific networks.

### Programme Details

This support will be available to our student grant recipients and former grant recipients that have left education within the last 15 months. This includes both further education and higher education students who are studying a broad range of subjects at different levels.

This proposal has been shaped through research commissioned by the Walcot Foundation and carried out by the University of Birmingham (see the Invisible Rules report on our [website](#)) and conversations with our grant recipients.

Our view is that the service should consist of these distinct elements:

- a) Promoting Walcot Foundation funded support services and disseminating other news and information through regular e-communication;
- b) Personal telephone calls to student grant recipients at least twice per year;
- c) Development of a Walcot Foundation Alumni (past grant recipients) mentoring scheme, including training for mentors;
- d) Supporting students to be active in identifying career mentoring and internship opportunities;
- e) Provide an employment support and careers checking service;
- f) Support access to and facilitate appointments with university support services.

Walcot Foundation will consider selecting more than one organisation to deliver the grant programme and will take applications from organisations to provide part or all of the work detailed above.

We anticipate the programme will be able to demonstrate impact by helping students:

- Remain and succeed in education;
- Take up services and help on offer from their educational institutions;
- Have greater clarity about the career path they want to take;

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<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that there is no VAT liability on this grant programme. Walcot Foundation do not have legal or regulatory obligation to offer this support to their individual grantees. This is a *freely given grant* for the benefit of individual grant recipients. It is not a benefit/service for Walcot Foundation.

- Access opportunities that will support their transition into good quality, career relevant employment;
- Better plan for the transition from study to employment;
- Have improved whole-life career opportunities.

Year 1 will be a 'test and learn' stage with outputs/outcomes to be revised in light of the learning from the first year for Years 2 and 3. Project outputs are likely to include:

1. 150 students to receive communication via email and/or personal telephone calls at points throughout the year;
2. 50-60 students and past students to actively engage with the Advance Programme. We expect past students to account for approximately 5-10% of this total;
3. 5-10 students in year 1 (rising to 20 students per year by the end of year 3) to engage with the mentoring scheme.

### **Participant Demographics**

For reference, Walcot Foundation awards grants to more than 150 students per year. Approximately 66% of these students are in higher education and 34% are in further education or undertaking other vocational training (predominantly in Lambeth College). All Walcot Foundation student grant recipients are from low-income backgrounds. Currently around 80% are from BME backgrounds, 70% are female and 60% are under 30.

### **Funding Criteria**

The following areas of experience and aptitude will be used to shortlist applications:

- a) Ability to work effectively with both further education and higher education students;
- b) Experience delivering careers advice/coaching;
- c) Experience delivering mentoring schemes, specifically remote/e-mentoring services;
- d) Ability to create purposeful relationships and effective partnerships with other organisations for the benefit of student grant recipients;
- e) A positive approach and attitude to student support that recognises and values individual strengths, talent, knowledge and ambition.

### **Timeline**

Application form: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4728671>

Deadline for Applications: **Midday 3 June 2019**

Interviews for shortlisted organisations: 12 June 2019 (at Walcot Foundation)

Project start date: 1 October 2019

If you have any queries, please contact [Leigh Ogden](#) at the Walcot Foundation by email or on 020 7735 1925.

### **About Walcot Foundation**

An independent grant-making foundation and charity with roots from the early 17th century. Its work is to break cycles of financial deprivation for people living in Lambeth and aims to offer a hand up, not a hand out, and seeks to tackle poverty by creating opportunity. The Foundation has a strong focus on education and employment.