

The Religious Society of Friends – Te Hāhi Tūhauwiri

Testimonies Fund grant application for individual Friends

If your application is on behalf of an organization, whether Quaker or non-Quaker, please ask us for the appropriate form for an organisation instead of this one.

For individual Friends, the first step is to share your application with your local Meeting to assist in the discernment process, and to ensure that you will have a support and accountability structure in place. When that is done, please send us your completed application. To get a version of the form to fill in please click on the option to download .docx form.

Please answer the questions below, using as much space as you need while maintaining the structure of the form.

Name of applicant:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

What has been the nature and extent of your grounding and practice in Quakerism?

Have you previously had Quaker funding for this project or a similar one? If so, please detail it.

Please write a short description of your project including:

1. Aims and objectives of what you plan to do.
2. The discernment process you have used in regard to these plans, and what indications of Quaker support you have had for them.
3. Please add the names and contact details of the appropriate officer of your Meeting who is involved in the discernment process and can act as a referee for you.
4. Please describe the location and nature of those to be benefited by your project.
5. Prospective start and finish dates.
6. The budget for the project, including your personal contribution if any, any contribution from your Meeting, and the amount of financial support available or expected from other sources.
7. The amount requested in this application (we ask for a realistic request, i.e. not inflated).

8. The name and details of the bank account concerned.
9. Where else have you applied for funding for this project? At what stage are those applications?
10. Please describe the structure you and your Meeting will use to support your project and provide accountability.

If your application is successful we expect a report at completion of the project or an article (with acknowledgment of the Testimonies Fund) in the Aotearoa New Zealand Friends Newsletter.

Additional notes for Friends applying for grants from the Fund

Take as much space as you need to give us a clear picture, and if an item seems inappropriate to you then tell us why. If there's something we need to know that isn't covered in our form, please add it. It's very difficult to devise application forms to cover all projects and situations, so please don't treat our forms as straitjackets.

Above all, we do want to support Friends to be both creative and responsible in putting Quaker testimonies into action. We realise that, in asking for discernment processes and for ongoing support and accountability strategies, we are searching for that difficult balance between individual inspiration and collective wisdom which has marked Quaker decision-making throughout Friends' history. You will find help in the Quaker Handbook on testimonies, concerns and meetings for clearness. *The Handbook is available on the existing Quaker website, quaker.org.nz. In the search box, type "quaker handbook". Concerns and testimonies are covered in sections 2.3 and 2.4, and meetings for clearness in 6.4.*

We remember and treasure the advice of the Elders of Balby, as relevant now as in 1656: "Dearly beloved Friends, these things we do not lay upon you as a rule or form to walk by; but that all, with a measure of the light, which is pure and holy, may be guided: and so in the light walking and abiding, these things may be fulfilled in the Spirit, not in the letter, for the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life."

Please send your application to testimonies.fund@quaker.org.nz, or to The Clerk, Testimonies Fund Committee, 260 Wicksteed Street, Whanganui 4500. The present members of the Committee are: Adrian Skelton (Hawkes Bay), Liz Remmerswaal (Hawkes Bay), Jan-Louise Hamblyn (Whanganui) and David James (Whanganui). You can discuss possible applications with any of them.