



OPEN SOCIETY
FOUNDATIONS

APPLY FOR THE COMMUNITY YOUTH FELLOWSHIPS 2017

Part 1 About the Community Youth Fellowships





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About this booklet



This booklet tells you about the Community Youth Fellowships.

There is another booklet to read after this called **Part 2 How to apply and what happens next.**



The Community Youth Fellowships help young people do exciting projects that make the world a better place.



A project is an idea you have about how to make your community better.



If you have a project you want to do you can apply to us.

This means you can ask us for money

for your project.

About the Community Youth Fellowships

Who can apply for project money?

Young people aged 18 to 25 can apply.

You must have a project you want to do.



It does not matter if you have not done a project before.

But you must want to:

- learn new skills
- do important work to change things in your community and make it better





What projects do we give money for?

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This is for young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities anywhere in the U.S.



You may have an exciting project you want to do to make your community better.

Your project can be about anything to do with human rights.



Any young person with an intellectual or developmental disability can apply.

You just need a good idea for a project.



You do not have to do your project alone.

It does not matter if you need a lot of support.

You will get all the support you need to plan and do your project.



What should your project do?

Your project should try to solve a problem that makes life hard for people in the community.

For example, there could be a problem with:



- crime and keeping safe



- jobs and the rights of people who work



- education



- health



Or there could be a problem with:

- housing



- support for people who have to leave their country because of problems like war or violence



- something else that you and people in your community think is important

Other things about your project

How you can do your project

You can do your project in lots of ways.

For example you can:



- join with other people where you live so you can change things together
- teach people in your area things and give them information

How long can projects last for?

The projects can last for 1 year or a year and a half.

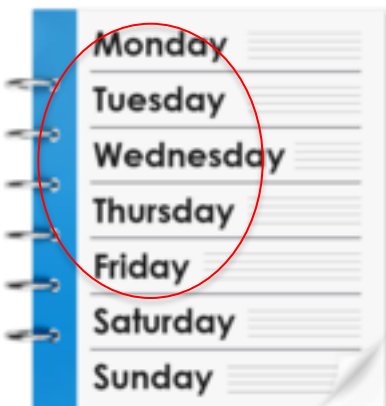


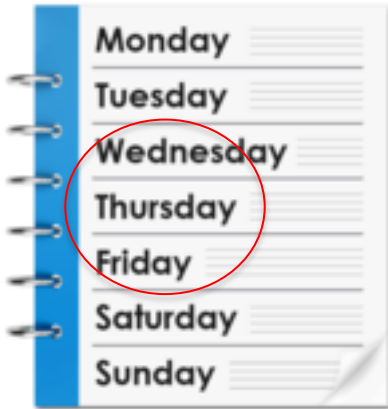
Projects can start between June and November 2017.

You can work on your project **full time**.

This means for most of the week.

For 35 hours a week or more.





Or you can work on your project **part time**.

This means for some of the week.

For 20 hours a week or more.

How much money do we give?



We give up to \$60,000 for projects that are full time and last for 1 year and a half.

We give up to \$40,000 if your project is for 1 year full time.

If your project is part time we will look at how many hours you will spend on it and work out the right amount of money.



We can also give you money for other things to help with your project like:

- travel
- support with your project
- health insurance

- meetings

Help with your project

Finding an organization to help



You can have an organization to help you with the project.

This is called a **host organization**.



It is a good idea to find a host organization to work with.

But you do not have to.

We can try to help you find one if you want.

The organization you could work with

There are lots of organizations you could work with, like:



- groups in your local area that support people's rights

- universities or places where people study and find out things



The organization should help you with things like:

- a space for you to work in
- computers to work with
- meeting people who can give you ideas and advice about your project



The organization may also support you with your project in other ways.

If you work with a host organization

You have to choose how to work with the organization.

For example, you can plan your project with them.

Or you can plan it on your own first.





You have to give us a letter from the organization that says how you will work together.



You can change the organization you work with. Or you can do the project without them.

But you have to ask us first.

A person to help



It is a good idea to find someone to help you for the whole project.

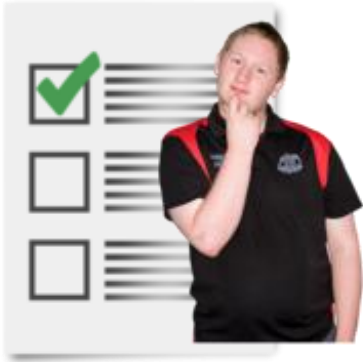
This could be a person from the host organization you work with on the project. Or someone else.

It is good if this person knows a lot about your project.



This person can:

- give you advice
- support you with the project and the things you want to learn



Can you apply?

Here is a list to help you know.

You can apply if:



You are 18 to 25 years old.

Your project is about the things from pages 5 to 8.



You can do the things in the project with support if you need it.



You want to do the work.
You really want to change things.

You want to learn new skills
and learn about how to change things
in the world

You can apply if:

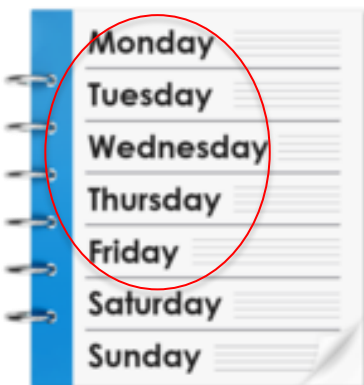
You can spend 1 year
or a year and a half on the project.

You are **not** studying full time
or working full time in a job.

Full time usually means
Monday through Friday.

It is good if:

- you know a lot about the people
your project is helping





- or you know a lot about the problem that your project is working on
- you have not done work like this before. But you want to learn



We do not give money for:

- helping you go to college or university to study
- projects where you try to get the government to change something



For more information

Please also read the booklet called:

Part 2. How to apply and what happens next.

For more information you can email:
youth.exchange@opensocietyfoundations.org

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