



Practice Development Grant (PDG)- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

We will add to these FAQs as and when we receive and respond to any enquiries from applicants. If your question isn't covered here, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Our Practice Development Grants (PDGs) are aimed at enabling UK-based settings / schools to develop an aspect of practice underpinned by Froebelian principles.

Can I apply for a grant?

Applicants should be able to answer yes to the following questions:

- Do you work in a setting or school in the UK?
- Do you have a leadership role and the capacity to explore and develop practice across your setting?
- In your setting is there a member of the management team, plus at least one other practitioner / teacher, who has completed a Froebel course at University of Edinburgh or the University of Roehampton; or at least five elements of the Froebel short course delivered by Travelling Froebel Tutors?
- Are you confident that you can lead a practice development project?
- Can you demonstrate a sustained commitment to a Froebelian approach to early childhood education and care?
- Have you got a great idea that Practitioner Support Grant would help you to explore and develop?

I work with, but not in, settings / schools. Can I apply for a PDG grant?

Lead applicants must work in a setting or school but can partner with others. So you can be involved but you cannot be the lead applicant.

I work in a setting outside the UK. Can I apply for a PDG grant?

Practice Development Grants are only available to lead applicants who work in the UK. But you can partner with a UK setting / lead applicant to be part of their project if this is likely to be mutually beneficial and will enhance the project.

How much funding can I apply for?

These are small grants with an expected maximum of £5,000 per award with less than 20% of the budget allocated for physical resources. Human resources are not included in the 20%. We will pay for staff costs and training costs.

In deciding whether to support travel to events, the Trust will give serious consideration to the benefits to the project versus the environmental impact.

What does expected maximum mean?

While it is unlikely that we will be able to make awards of more than £5,000, the Trustees will not exclude a really excellent application for a grant with a budget that exceeds £5,000.

Please note: projects budgeting for more than 20% for resources will automatically be excluded from the shortlisting.

In addition, we do not fund:

- Proposals by individuals who are not affiliated with a specific organization
- Projects that are not connected to a Froebelian ethos and philosophy
- Requests for financial help for capital costs. The projects are primarily for research activities, and we expect that most of the budget will be for staff time.

Who is included in a leadership post?

A member of the leadership team can be a room leader, a key stage lead, the head of the school/setting or someone in the setting that has an influential pedagogical role in leading practice in your school/setting and whose application benefits from the full backing of the head of the school/setting.

We know that projects are likely to have greater success and more lasting benefits if they have the support and involvement of senior management. If you don't have a senior manager role, please make sure that your senior manager is backing your application and will support the project.

How long should my project last?

It takes time to develop practice. We expect projects to take 12-18 months, although we hope that projects will have lasting, positive effects. Projects must start between August 2022 and must finish by March 2023.

How do I apply?

We are accepting application forms to be submitted online by 4pm on 11 May 2022. After this process, we will scrutinise the applications with the support of experts in Froebelian principles and practice who will assess the applications using a scoring matrix. Shortlisted applicants will then be awarded a grant to develop their project.

We will host two online workshops on **Wednesday 6 April 2022 6.30pm and Thursday 5 May 2022 8.30am** to get you started with writing the proposal and answer any questions you might have. **Please register for the webinars by emailing office@froebeltrust.org.uk no later than 4pm on 5 April 2022 specifying the date you would like to book.** Successful awards will be confirmed and announced by mid-June 2022.

Can I talk to someone about my application?

We are always happy to help. At any stage you can reach us by emailing our Programme Officer Valeria Scacchi or our Finance Manager Oksana Lissovets by emailing office@froebeltrust.org.uk.

Can I partner with other settings?

Partnering with other settings is permitted and encouraged where this will enhance the project. The

eligibility criteria only apply to the lead applicant and the mentor, but everyone should understand what is involved in a project, have the capacity to play their part and have the backing of the senior managers.