

Aspire Awards Terms and Conditions

General Aspire Awards Terms and Conditions:

- To apply for an Aspire Award you must be living in a Guinness property or have been using Guinness services for at least six months.
- You must be named on the tenancy or lease agreement, or be the child of the tenant/leaseholder/shared owner and living at the property at the time of submitting your application and receiving your award.
- Applicants must be aged 16 or over.
- Only completed application forms with the correct supporting paperwork will be considered.
- Funding is paid directly to the supplier or training provider and is non-transferable. Payments will not be made retrospectively for courses or equipment previously paid for.
- Grants can only be used for the intended purpose. If we believe any fraud has taken place in relation to your grant, you will need to repay the full sum of money.
- Where equipment, tools or clothing are being funded, Guinness reserves the right to provide a similar product to that requested.
- Guinness will make checks when considering your application, including looking at your rent account and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) record. If you are in rent or service charge arrears you must have a payment plan in place and be adhering to this for your application to be considered. If you are found to be a perpetrator of ASB your application may be affected, but this will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- The Aspire Awards are not open to employees of entities within The Guinness Partnership Group.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to check the validity of the training provider.
- Guinness does not accept responsibility for management of the relationship between the applicant and any course provider.
- Awards will only be granted once per financial year to an applicant or project.
- We will keep your details on file and may share your information with external auditors.
- If successful, we may contact you to ask you to share your story with us, for example to use on our website and in our publications. You are under no obligation to take part, and this has no impact on any current or future funding.
- The Guinness Partnership Ltd. reserves the right to refuse or withdraw funding at any time. The decision of The Guinness Partnership Ltd. will be final and no further correspondence will be entered into.
- Courses must be booked and an invoice issued and payments for equipment made within 6 weeks of you being notified that your application was successful

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Into work Terms and Conditions:

If applying for an 'Into work' Aspire Award grant the following terms and conditions shall apply alongside our general Terms and Conditions:

The 'Into work' grant is available to help residents and service users who want to complete training to help get into employment or improve their career prospects but are unable to do so due to lack of money. Grants will only be considered where there is no other source of funding available.

This includes:

- training fees
- reasonable transport costs to attend training
- job-specific equipment including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), books or uniforms.

But excludes:

- driving lessons, unless there are exceptional circumstances or the application is linked to a specific career – eg HGV driving or training to become a driving instructor
- funding gap years, groups or organisations, salaries or course fees for undergraduate courses
- travel abroad
- laptops, computers or software – unless there are exceptional circumstances where the course is so bespoke that applicants are able to demonstrate that they are unable to complete the course without one.
- Masters or other post graduate degrees
- accommodation costs – unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Specific Terms and Conditions

- Awards are capped at £1,500 per applicant per annum.
- Where a training course has been approved, Guinness will only pay for a year or one module of the course per application – and is unable to commit to funding further years in advance.
- If successful the applicant is responsible for booking onto the course and asking the provider to issue an invoice to Guinness for payment or providing an itemised list of items with the details of the provider to Guinness.

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Into education Terms and Conditions:

If applying for an 'Into education' grant the following terms and conditions shall apply alongside our general terms and conditions:

Our 'Into education' grant is available to support two customers per annum who are aspiring to start or complete an undergraduate degree. The fund will reward customers who are role models in their local community. Degrees that link to the work Guinness does will be considered favourably ie law, housing, property or finance.

- Tuition fees are only paid where a student loan is not available and you can prove you can fund the remainder of your degree.
- Awards are capped at £10,000 per applicant per annum.
- Guinness will support a maximum of two applicants per financial year.
- This fund is available for one year of fees or associated costs only and does not commit Guinness to fund further years.
- The applicant is responsible for booking on to the course and asking the provider to issue an invoice to Guinness for payment.

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In the community Terms and Conditions:

If applying for an 'In the community' grant the following terms and conditions shall apply alongside our general terms and conditions:

Our 'In the community' grant is available to support customers or local groups who want to make a difference through a one-off project or longer-term initiative. You will need to demonstrate how the project will help make the local community, block or scheme a great place to live. This could include building community spirit, helping to resolve a local issue or addressing an area of particular need. The initiative needs to benefit Guinness customers first and foremost and show that it has the support of the local community.

- Only applications with proven support from the local community will be considered.
- Awards are capped at a maximum of £10,000 per project per year.
- Applications may be made by any resident, group of residents, service user, advocate, or a recognised group of service users.
- If an individual is applying on behalf of a community group, they will need to clearly demonstrate how the project will benefit Guinness service users.
- Applications can be made on behalf of residents or service users by a permanent employee, however, employees cannot be the benefactor of the project.
- Only one application will be considered per project.
- Applicants who have received grants in previous years are able to apply for further grants, however, preference will be given to those that have not received funding before.
- At least 80% of the beneficiaries must be Guinness residents or service users.
- The funding is not available to cover salaries or other staff overhead costs.