

SOROPTIMIST WOMEN EDUCATION FUND



EXPLANATION AND GUIDELINES FOR APPLYING FOR AN INDIVIDUAL STUDY GRANT

This document contains:

- the criteria for applying for a study grant
- instructions for completing the application form (applicant)
- the application procedure and conditions upon acceptance
- guidelines for the role of the supporting Soroptimist club

Please read this document carefully in its entirety before submitting your application.

1. Criteria.

We aim to support women and girls worldwide whose studies are impeded by financial obstacles. We support women and girls in achieving their educational goals. The subject of the study must be aimed at achieving economic independence (empowerment).

For whom is the grant intended?

- The target group consists of women and girls..
- The geographical scope is worldwide.
- There must be a financial barrier preventing the applicant from pursuing the study..
- The study must contribute to achieving economic independence.
- The grant is meant to cover expenses of one year only. For each following year a new application form must be submitted.
- A maximum amount of € 2.000 (or the equivalent in foreign currency) may be requested.

Additional conditions for application:

- The applicant must submit a motivation letter together with the application form.
- Only applications supported by a Soroptimist club will be considered. For this purpose, the support declaration on the application form must be fully completed and signed (see item 6 of the application form).
- The study grant is not intended for applicants who also receive an allowance through DUO.
- The applicant must have her own bank account in her own name. The grant will be transferred directly to the beneficiary's bank account.
- The grant must be awarded in accordance with Dutch laws and regulations.

2. Instructions for completing the Application Form

This section provides further explanation of items in the application form and specifies which documents must be enclosed (if applicable).

- Certificates and documents in languages other than English, French, or Dutch must be accompanied by a translation.
- **Item 2:** Please include a copy of your most recently obtained diploma; if available, also include diplomas/certificates from previous education or training programs (maximum of three). Please also indicate the period during which these programs were completed.
If applicable, also mention internships or (part-time) employment that are or were part of the study program.
- **Item 3:** If the applicant has already been accepted by the institution or has a guarantee of acceptance, please include proof.
If the applicant intends to pursue a program in a language other than her mother tongue, she must provide proof of proficiency in that language (reading, writing, and speaking).
- **Item 5:** Costs for travel, accommodation, and living expenses are not covered, but may be taken into account in the overall assessment.
- The first application round for 2026 closes on **15 May 2026**.

3. Application Procedure

1. Download the application form from the [Soroptimist Women Education Fund website](#).
2. Complete the form in full and ensure that all required signatures are provided. Attach the requested documents (see above). Incomplete applications will not be considered. If the support declaration from a Soroptimist club is missing, the application will be deemed invalid.
3. Applications for the first round are reviewed during a board meeting of the Women's Fund in June. After this meeting, applicants will receive a decision:
 - If approved, you will receive an acceptance form requesting your bank details. Upon receipt, the amount will be transferred directly to you by the treasurer.
 - Rejections will be explained with reasons. In the event of an objection, a one-time request for reconsideration may be submitted.

4. Binding conditions upon acceptance

Upon receipt of a study grant, the applicant agrees to the following conditions:

1. She will confirm receipt of the funds.
2. She will immediately inform the president of the Soroptimist club that nominated her and the Soroptimist Women Education Fund if:
 - i. she is compelled to change her study plan;
 - ii. she is unable to use (part of) the study grant.
3. She will repay the funds in whole or in part if she is unable to meet the conditions attached to this study grant.
4. Within six months after the end of the period for which the grant was awarded, the applicant must submit a report (downloadable from the Soroptimist Women's Fund Foundation website) to the

president of the nominating Soroptimist club and to the Soroptimist Women Education Fund. This report must provide information on the results achieved during the study period and how these results will be used.

5. Role and responsibilities of the supporting Soroptimist Club

By submitting a support declaration for an applicant, the club nominates the candidate to the Soroptimist Women Education Fund and declares its willingness to:

- maintain contact with the applicant where necessary and provide moral support or access to a network;
- if the candidate comes from a country other than the Netherlands and there is also a Soroptimist club in her home country, maintain contact with that club;
- ensure that a report is submitted after completion of the study period (see section 4 above);
- ensure that the funds are returned if the beneficiary must interrupt her studies or does not use (part of) the grant;
- complete a Program Focus Report (using a partially pre-filled format – identical for all grants) before the end of the calendar year in which the grant was awarded;
- appoint a contact person within the club with whom the Soroptimist Women Education Fund can consult if necessary.

We hope this information will assist you in applying for financial support for your study or educational project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to receiving your application.

Soroptimist Women Education Fund

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