Alaskan Scottish Club
Education Assistance Program

1. The Education Assistance Program is a major activity of the club providing education grants to selected applicants in efforts to increase new membership and interest in the Scottish Club.

2. The Purpose - The Education Assistance Program encourages and assists interested applicants in developing an understanding, appreciation and study of Scottish lore in music, sports, dancing, traditions, heritage, literature and art.

3. Education Assistance Committee - Each year at its first regular meeting following the Annual General Membership meeting the Board appoints this committee. Its purpose is to:

    a. Receive applications and recommend to the Board necessary action to be taken on each application. It is intended that the committee will take the necessary initiative to make appropriate inquiries concerning the applicant and activity being pursued.

    b. Review annually the program for granting awards and make recommendations to the board concerning appropriate changes to the program.

4. Awards and Grants:

    a. Applicants must submit an application at least 30 days prior to the event in which they are participating and such that the application is received by the Board of Directors for consideration by the 15th of the month prior to that period of time.

    b. Applications will be received by the Education Committee for evaluation and any further inquiry prior their recommendation and submission to the Board of Directors for approval.

    c. Applicants must fill out a grant application (see grant application form). Applicants who are minors must have the permission and countersignature of their parent or legal guardian. Applicants should attach supporting documents concerning the activity that they are pursuing, i.e. brochures, seminar content, independent study plan, etc.

    d. Applicants should be prepared to demonstrate either in person or in writing that the activity they are pursuing is suitable their level of accomplishment or interest. If an applicant is associated with a recognized organization of the same activity for which the applicant is requesting financial support, an endorsement from that organization should be submitted with the application.

    e. Applicants should show proof or intent of their continued State of Alaska residency.

5. Award Criteria:

    a. Grants may be awarded for any activity which would further the Club's aims in education as outlined in the purpose above and which are within the Club's financial ability at the time of application.

    b. Activities that will not be funded through this program include:

        1) Activities that would not in the Board's opinion further interest in Scottish culture.

2) Any activity designed for monetary profit for the applicant.

3) Fees for individuals to take regular classes, i.e. piping, drumming, etc.

4) Travel costs for competitive events.

c. Eligibility: Applicants are not required to be members of the club. A club member must sponsor applicants who are not members in order to be eligible to apply.

d. Applications are considered without regard to age, gender, race or religion.

6. Board Approval:

a. Regardless of the number of applicants, the board will approve only the number of applications it has the ability to fund at the time of approval. Applicants not selected for funding may re-apply at a later date upon submission of a new application in accordance with guidance outlined above in Awards and Grants.

b. Grants awarded to applicants are not at a fixed rate for a particular activity and may vary in size as determined by the Board at the time of approval.

c. Notification to the applicant will be made by the board following their decision using a Decision Form citing reasons for the applicant's acceptance or rejection to include the club's inability to fund the request at the time of application if applicable.

7. Grant Amounts:

a. Individual grants may be up to $500 per applicant for schools or workshops, and up to $1,500 for post-secondary education at an Alaskan post-secondary educational institution. Individual applications may request grants less than the maximum based upon the activity cost and or the applicant's financial ability.

b. Grants for more than one individual (group) may be up to $500 per group. Application for grants less than the maximum may be made based upon the activity cost.

c. Total number of grants (Individual and Group) are based on the amount of each award and monies available to the club for the Education Assistance Program and may vary from year to year.

d. Grants will be paid to individuals upon presentation of receipts showing the individual's completion of the activity for which he or she was seeking relief. Exceptions to this policy may be made by the Club Treasurer in cases of extreme hardship and evidence of costs to be incurred.

8. Activity Evaluation: Applicants are to appear at a Scottish Club event or board meeting to share what they have learned from this experience, and to provide a one-page post activity evaluation for which the grant was made. This information is valuable to the Board considering futures grants for these activities.

Alaskan Scottish Club
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Request Form

Applicant's name:_____

Contact information (email or phone #):_____

Parent or Guardian (if applicant is under 18):_____

Area of interest: _____

Type of grant requested:

     ____ Educational assistance (maximum $500)

     ____ Academic Post-secondary education (maximum $1,500)

Name and location of school you plan to attend:_____
_____

Dates of school:_____

Class(es) you plan to take:_____

Please describe how you contribute to Scottish culture in Alaska:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Describe how you intend to use the money from the grant to further your education or contribute to Scottish culture in Alaska:

_____

_____

_____

_____

I agree to appear at a Scottish Club event or board meeting to share what I have learned from this experience.

Applicant Signature:_____