



Yarnton Gospel Workers Trust

Advanced Training Grants

Principles for Awarding Grants

General

1. The vision of the Yarnton Gospel Workers Trust (Yarnton) is to multiply gospel workers across England and Wales, to serve in local churches, reaching the lost.
2. The movement will embrace Anglicans, Independents and Others.
3. For Anglicans, Yarnton will support people training on the alternative complementarian pathways in the Church of England that constitute meaningful action to achieve meaningful structural provision – currently Ebbsfleet and Reach South Africa – and with the training pathways in Gafcon’s Anglican Network in Europe (ANiE).
4. Yarnton will not support people who receive funding for their training from the Church of England.
5. Yarnton is positively complementarian – God’s pattern for the good of His Church. The Women in Ministry Ethos Statement of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches (FIEC) reflects the position of Yarnton.
6. Since Jesus Christ leads His Church primarily through His Word, the focus of Yarnton is training gospel workers who will serve full-time in local churches exercising a significant word ministry.
7. Grants are awarded to individuals for foundation and advanced training.
8. While grants are awarded to individuals, they can either be paid to individuals or to the churches where they are training. This is a matter to be decided by the individual in consultation with their training church and indicated on the grant application form.

Unless requested otherwise, Yarnton's default will be to make payment directly to the individual.

9. Foundation training is a full-time training role, often as an Apprentice or Associate, in a local church for 2 years, in partnership with an external training provider approved by Yarnton. The external training provider could be a Gospel Partnership training course or a portfolio of distance-learning courses. The approval of a training provider is at the discretion of the Yarnton trustees.
10. In exceptional circumstances Yarnton may consider awarding a grant to an individual where the training is undertaken entirely by the local church.
11. In exceptional circumstances, Yarnton may consider awarding a grant to an individual where foundation training is shortened to 1 year.
12. The expectation is that 80% of people completing foundation training will go on to advanced training, then full-time gospel work. Key factors in this are the purpose, rigour and investment in the programme, and the careful selection of people to train. But not all will continue to further training and gospel work. Yarnton recognises that foundation training is a useful opportunity to test gifts and calling and accepts that in the light of their experience not all will conclude that full-time ministry is for them. The training they have received will not be wasted: it can be used in a variety of ways in their ongoing involvement in church life.
13. Advanced training is either:

Route 1: Full-time Leader in Training (or equivalent) role in one or more local churches over 3 or 4 years, in partnership with an external training provider.

or

Route 2: Full-time theological study over 3 or 4 years. For a number this will be residential theological study.

The expectation is that 100% of people completing advanced training will go on to serve in full-time gospel work in local churches.
14. In addition to foundation and advanced training grants, Yarnton will consider applications for a small number of enabling grants. Enabling grants are support for individuals who are making a positive impact in developing a healthy training culture in local churches or networks of churches.

Advanced Training

15. Yarnton expects individuals applying for advanced training grants:

- to be converted men and women, with a saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ
- to be in agreement with Yarnton's position on biblical complementarity
- to have a desire to deepen their understanding of God's Word and gain experience of leadership in a local church
- to be deemed likely to benefit from the training and experience they receive, and
- to be committed to full time ministry in a local church.

16. Yarnton does not itself vet applicants for advanced training grants to ensure they meet the personal criteria set out above. It leaves that to local churches, requiring that applicants must have secured an appointment on an advanced training programme in a local church that

- is in sympathy with Yarnton's aims and demonstrates willingness to align itself with Yarnton and promote its vision
- provides church-based training which complements the external training and is rigorous and well supervised
- is focused on training people in word ministry

17. For the Leader in Training route for advanced training, training churches are required to complete an advanced training programme questionnaire, which they are asked to update, as necessary, from year to year. In this way, Yarnton ensures that the training individuals are receiving is rigorous.

18. For the residential theological study route, Yarnton will require that applicants have the endorsement of a sending church that is in sympathy with Yarnton's aims and demonstrates willingness to align itself with Yarnton and promote its vision.

19. The training provider must be approved by the Yarnton trustees. Relevant factors considered by the trustees include:

- that the training provider is in sympathy with Yarnton's aims and demonstrates willingness to align itself with the Yarnton and promote its vision
- provides training which is rigorous and well supervised
- is focused on training people for word ministry

20. In the course of the year recipients of an advanced training grants may be asked to confirm to Yarnton that the training they are receiving is in accordance with the information contained in the advanced training programme questionnaire completed by their training church. In this way Yarnton monitors their actual training experience.

How grants are awarded

21. Grants are awarded for one year at a time, and an application must be submitted for each year of training. Where the training schedule extends beyond the current year, a successful applicant is told that a further grant (or further grants) may be made but is not guaranteed. This protects the Trust from overcommitting itself, given that current expenditure is essentially funded out of sacrificial donor income.
22. Yarnton will not fund an individual on advanced training for more than four years.
23. Yarnton grants will be awarded on a matched funding basis. As a minimum, the grant will need to be matched by the training church or sending church in the case of fulltime theological study / residential study. The Trust will also look for evidence of a third source of funding, ideally at the same level. In summary:
 - 1/3 Yarnton
 - 1/3 training or sending church
 - 1/3 personal support raised by the individual / given by Gospel Patrons / other trusts

For local churches, unable because of their demographic, to match fund, Yarnton Trust may consider giving an enhanced grant.

24. The maximum annual amount of grant is reviewed every year.
25. Grants are not means tested, but Yarnton asks individuals not to apply for funding where there is no financial need.
26. The amount of grant given to an individual may be further constrained in any year in which the funds available to Yarnton for disbursement are insufficient to cover the total amount of the grants which would otherwise be made.
27. Once made, the decisions of Yarnton are final unless:
 - there is a material change in a successful applicant's circumstances in the course of the year, or
 - a successful applicant gives up his or her training commitment or changes his or her training provider, or
 - a change of training church is proposed.

In these circumstances Yarnton should be informed at the earliest opportunity and will consider how that impacts payment of the grant for the rest of the year and whether any grant already paid needs to be repaid.

Application process

28. The approved online grant application forms must be used for grant applications. The deadline for submission is 30 June for 2026-27. In exceptional circumstances forms submitted after the closing date may be considered at the discretion of the Yarnton trustees.
29. Yarnton is committed to objectivity and equity in grant decisions.
30. Yarnton aims to inform applicants of the decision reached on their application by early August.
31. Grants will be paid in in three instalments in September, January and April.
32. Grants can be paid directly to the individual or to their training church if appropriate