**The Leathersellers’ Foundation Undergraduate Student Grant 2025-26  
Application Question Guide (Brief)**

Please note: this document provides **only** the headline details of the questions /sections that require more thought/detail, and longer answers to give you the best chance of success.   
  
The other questions on the form ask for factual details about your previous education/employment history, future education plans, living arrangements etc. Full details of the process and application form are available [on the website here](https://leathersellers.co.uk/grant/education-student-grants/). If you have any questions, please contact us on [studentapp@leathersellers.co.uk](mailto:studentapp@leathersellers.co.uk).

**Eligibility Criteria**

To apply you must be going to be studying an undergraduate degree at a UK university in the year 2025-26 (because you are currently studying, or have an offer to do so)

AND

- are care experienced (definition on website), or / and  
- are a current/ former student of the Leathersellers' Federation of Schools or Colfe's School.

**Assessment Criteria**

Your application will be assessed on how well it meets our core social mobility focused criteria:  
- Additional funding would support you to make the most of studying your course at university  
- You don’t have access to that money otherwise  
- You are committed to making a positive impact on society in the future **Key questions: Personal Statement**

Why did you choose to enrol onto this course and this university(\*)?  
*2000 character limit (including spaces). This is a maximum limit for the software we use - you do not have to use all of the characters.*

How would you see your career/studies developing after you complete this course? Please tell us more about what you hope for the future and how you think you might be able to contribute to society. (\*)  
*2000 character limit (including spaces). This is a maximum limit for the software we use - you do not have to use all of the characters.. This is a maximum limit for the software we use - you do not have to use all of the characters.*

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about why you are looking for support from the Leathersellers? Are there any particular reasons you are in financial need or feel that your circumstances may prevent you reaching your full potential without additional help? And is there anything that this funding would help you to do at university (or not do) that won’t be possible otherwise? (\*)  
*2000 character limit (including spaces). This is a maximum limit for the software we use - you do not have to use all of the characters.*

We are always keen to know more about you as a person. Aside from your studies, what are your hobbies, interests and commitments? Please include any charitable, sporting or community work you are involved with and hope to continue to enjoy whilst studying. (\*)  
*2000 character limit (including spaces). This is a maximum limit for the software we use - you do not have to use all of the characters.*

**Academic or Professional Reference**

You are also asked to provide an academic or professional reference from an individual who knows you from school, university, a mentoring or access programme, a social worker or personal advisor, or from a job or volunteering role. We are not looking for a personal reference from a relative or friend.

Your reference should be a separate document – if from a school, university or local authority it should be on headed paper -, and should contain a brief statement (max 1 page) explaining:  
- how long they have known you  
- in what capacity they know you  
- why they think the Leathersellers' should consider supporting you with a student grant  
- who they are (an email signature can be useful here)

We ask for this to add something extra to your application, so please consider who is best to ask for this.

We will only contact a small number of referees each year to verify the reference and will delete this contact information after your application has been processed. We will never share their name or email address with any other party.   
  
**Finances**

Please complete your budget on the [Excel template, available here](https://leathersellers.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Leathersellers-Foundation-Student-Grant-Budget-Form-25-26.xlsx) and upload on the online form when complete.   
  
Your completed budget will show you what your annual projected shortfall is for 2025-26. If your budget does not show a shortfall, (that you will need more money than you have available in the coming year), you are unlikely to reach the interview stage.

How much of this shortfall are you asking Leathersellers' to fund? (max £5,000) (\*)

Number of years you are seeking funding for (max 4) (\*):

How do you hope to fund the shortfall if the Leathersellers do not make you an award? (\*)  
*500 character limit (including spaces). This is a maximum limit for the software we use - you do not have to use all of the characters.*

**Additional Information**

Is there anything else that you would like to tell us that you haven't had the chance to?  
This question is completely optional and is here in case you wanted to add anything else - you do not have to fill it out unless you would like to.  
*2000 character limit (including spaces). This is a maximum limit for the software we use - you do not have to use all of the characters.*

**Deadline to apply (via the full online application form): 5pm, Tuesday 11th March 2025**