

FPSSA guidance notes for applicants – March 2022

Before you start, please have your documents ready for uploading.

Attaching files – there must be **NO** special characters or spaces in the file names. Files must be **Word or Pdf**. Example of file name: joeblogs_CV (you can use underscore but not hyphens).

The 5 minimum documents you will need:

- A website link, a brochure or a flyer relating to the course/conference etc. (if the amount you are applying for does not match the amount on the website link, brochure or flyer please explain why e.g. 'The conference fees are £300.00, and the train fare is £70.00, hence my application is for £370.00.' Please state where you found your estimated travel costs from, e.g. National Rail etc. Please add any other explanation on the amount you have applied for.
- An up-to-date CV. CV's that take the form of a study leave application or an application to the training body are not accepted.
- Brief supporting statement from the applicant (no more than ½ a side of A4) and further information if needed and where applicable. **What's this?** 'A short statement from you explaining what you believe to be the benefits to young people from the training you would like to undertake or from the conference you would like to attend.
- Statement of support from a professional referee. **Who's this?** This can be a peer/colleague – somebody who can vouch for you and your integrity. This must be signed and on headed paper identifying that person's place of work or employing authority.
- Written confirmation of support from employer, line manager, professional body or organisation but specifically, the operational day to day manager who is responsible for your post. This must indicate support and must clarify how the acquired skills will be used or applied in your current role and/or in service development. This must be signed and on headed paper as described in the previous paragraph.
- What the trustees look for in a **reference**: 'how long the referee has known/ worked with you for, skill level, professional integrity, why they support your application, support that you will receive so you can give the commitment to the training. We would also like to see evidence that the training has been identified as part of an appraisal or personal development plan.
- Study leave forms cannot be accepted

- References may come by email directly from the referee to the secretariat secretariat@foundationpsa.org.uk and they must be up-to-date. References must demonstrate which age group the applicant is working with.
- References must relate specifically to the course you are applying for.
- Applications will not be processed if references are submitted without being on headed paper and or without signature. FPSA does not accept electronic signatures.
- Age range (**11-18**) please state the contact time you have with this group.

Decision making:

The trustees meet three times each year and meet within 2 weeks of the end of each deadline dates.

- When will I receive a response?
With a week of the trustees meeting, for further details Please see this link <http://foundationpsa.org.uk/page.asp?ID=17>
- What is the written report for?
This is your feedback on the course/training/conference and its benefits. This will be shared with the trustees and added to the FPSA website for public viewing. You can look at the report writing guidance notes and previous reports listed on the website to give you guidance on what to write. Guidance can be found here <http://foundationpsa.org.uk/reports>
- Reasons your application maybe rejected:
 - 1) Not adhering to the above guidance notes
 - 2) Not completing each section of the application form in full where applicable
 - 3) Unsuitable references
 - 4) Absence of a clear breakdown of costs
 - 5) Lack of a personal statement, please note that personal statements must give information on service focus

Should you need any further help, please contact Katy Thorne (Secretariat) on tel: 01295 750 182 or secretariat@foundationpsa.org.uk