

Heritage Crafts Endangered Craft Fund

Round 15 - Autumn 2026 - Application questions

For reference only. Please apply via: <https://heritagecrafts.org.uk/ecf/>

Heritage Crafts invites craft practitioners and organisations in the UK to apply for small grants to fund projects that support endangered crafts (the craft must be listed as [endangered or critically endangered](#) on the current [Red List of Endangered Crafts](#)). A number of grants are ringfenced for Essex, East Sussex, West Sussex, and Brighton and Hove, however those outside of these areas are also eligible to apply.

Heritage Crafts published the fifth edition of its groundbreaking [Red List of Endangered Crafts](#) in May 2025, the first research of its kind to rank the UK's traditional crafts by the likelihood that they will survive into the next generation. The report assessed 285 crafts to ascertain those which are at greatest risk of disappearing, of which five were classified as extinct, 93 as 'endangered' and a further 72 as 'critically endangered'. As a result of this alarming threat to our cultural heritage, Heritage Crafts set up its Endangered Crafts Fund in 2019 and 79 grants have been awarded nationally in that time.

***Applications for the Endangered Crafts Fund are strictly for crafts listed as at-risk as per The Red List of Endangered Crafts 2025.** Therefore, it is a requirement that you read the Red List and identify whether your craft is listed as at-risk. If it is not listed as endangered, critically endangered or extinct then you will not be eligible for this grant. If you are unclear whether your craft is eligible, then you can contact Rae to enquire, in advance of the deadline: rae@heritagecrafts.org.uk

Applications may, for example, include:

Implementing changes that will ensure the longer-term viability or survival of heritage craft skills, for example:

- developing a new, innovative approach to heritage craft skills;
- investing in more efficient machinery;
- developing new routes to market;
- exploring the use of sustainable alternative materials while maintaining the heritage character of your practice.

Direct and indirect skills transfer, for example:

- taking on a trainee or apprentice;
- preparing to teach courses, including the creation of training materials;
- online or video content to support skills sharing and documentation;
- specialist tools and equipment to facilitate training.

Continuous professional development, for example:

- acquiring the knowledge and skills required to run a successful small business;

- acquiring the advanced craft skills or allied craft skills necessary to make a craft practice more viable, e.g. through a training course or self-directed learning.

In addition to the funding you will receive support from Tess, the Recipient Engagement and Impact Lead and rest of the Heritage Crafts team to ensure that your project is a success. This will be unique to your project but it could include mentoring support, business support or signposting to other opportunities.

We encourage you to take time to **read the full FAQs before applying**, which includes deadlines and a list of what cannot be funded:

- [Frequently asked questions](#)
- [Watch a recording of our most recent Q&A session here](#)

Application Questions -

About you

- First name
- Last name
- Business or organisation
- Email
- Phone number
- Address, including postcode
- Website / social media (if applicable)
- On 5th Jan 2026, will you be aged over 25, or 25 years and under?
- If you have applied to Heritage Crafts previously, what was it for and when?
- Are you a Heritage Crafts member? (yes or no)

About the project

- Which endangered craft does this project relate to?
 - Heritage Crafts is currently providing support for the crafts listed as critically endangered or endangered on the Red List of Endangered Crafts.
- Is the project based in Essex or Sussex?
 - Projects can be based anywhere in the UK, but projects based in Essex or Sussex can be considered for ring-fenced funds offered in partnership with a charitable trust.
- Please give your project a short title that summarises what you plan to do
- Give a brief outline of your project idea? (max 350 words)
 - How will this help to make an endangered craft more viable for the future? (max 350 words) For example:
 - Endangered crafts skills and knowledge will be passed on to the next generation
 - A new craft product or specialist technique will be developed within an existing business
 - A new supply chain or route to market will be developed
- What experience and knowledge do you have to deliver this project? (max 250 words) We are interested in knowing about your experience of craft and making, as well as work experience and qualifications.
- How do you think your project's impact will be felt in five years' time? (max 350 words)
 - Please take into account the difference the project will have made to your

own practice, as well as to other individuals, communities and the environment.

- Heritage Crafts is actively working to reduce barriers to participation, increase inclusivity for under-represented groups, and reduce environmental impact – so if you think your project might have contributed to these aims in five years' time, please let us know.

Images and supporting documents

Please send up to three images of your work, or the project that you want to fund. Please provide these images as jpeg files, no larger than 10Mb per image. You may also upload business plans or wider documents to support your application. Please clearly label the images or documents with your full name and numbered 1-5.

Project costs

- Total project cost
- How much funding are you requesting from the Endangered Craft Fund?
 - You can apply for a maximum of £2,500 but please bear in mind that the funds are limited and not all applications will be successful.
- Please give a breakdown of how the money will be used (specify individual items of expenditure and the costs associated with them)
 - If you are asking for a part-contribution to the project, please include the full project costs and highlight the elements this grant would support.
 - If you are developing a training offer to share skills, please include the breakdown of costs for this including how much you would charge trainees and all associated costs.
 - Please ensure costs include delivery, VAT or other additional expenses associated with the purchase.
- Do you have any other funding secured? Where is this coming from? This includes any funding that you commit yourself.
 - Do you plan to raise any other funds? If so, what?
 - This includes any other planned funding bids and/or income from courses run as part of the project.

Declaration

Thank you for completing this project outline form. Eligible projects will be invited to progress to the next stage in collaboration with Heritage Crafts and all applications will be judged by a panel. Please note that this is a competitive process and not all applications will receive funding.

If you are submitting a video application, or have any questions and would like to talk over your project idea, please email Rae Weaver at rae@heritagecrafts.org.uk.