



## Academic Sanctuaries Fund

### Application and Frequently Asked Questions

The Application Form can be found [here](#). Before you apply, please read the FAQs below.

What is the purpose of the Academic Sanctuaries Fund?

- Overall, the goal is to help deliver more and better academic sanctuary places for students and researchers forced to flee their homes due to the war in Ukraine.
- As well as this, there are five additional criteria for applications:
  - Create scalable models that can be easily adopted by universities
  - Support home universities and communities, especially in Ukraine
  - Support the diaspora to thrive, then return home when they are able
  - Build infrastructure and improve co-ordination of academic sanctuaries
  - Encourage other donors and policymakers to support academic sanctuaries

Who can apply for funding?

- The fund is open to universities and registered charities in any country. Unfortunately, we cannot accept applications from individuals, although we may be able to signpost individuals to relevant initiatives.

What is the value of the fund?

- The fund will be up to £15m in total. We expect to provide £5m per year over the next three years, although this may be flexible depending on applications.
- We expect that around 80% of funding will go towards directly provided places and the remainder towards capacity building and innovation projects.

What can funds be spent on?

- Directly provided places cover any type of place that students and researchers typically undertake, e.g. undergraduate degrees, masters degrees, research positions, teaching positions.
- For directly provided places, all places must provide an academic component, e.g. degree, fellowship, research position. They must also include organised sanctuary support, e.g. cost of living, housing, welfare. It is up to applicants to determine the total amount and breakdown of funding.

- By capacity building projects, we mean improving or expanding what organisations are already doing. By innovation projects, we mean trying new things and sharing the results to improve the evidence base.
- We are open to capacity building and innovation projects taking a range of forms, e.g. hiring native speakers, developing online resources, piloting new initiatives, running events, influencing policymakers etc.

Is there a minimum or maximum level of funding?

- There is no minimum or maximum level of funding. We expect typical grant sizes to be between £25k and £1m for directly provided places, and between £20k to £200k for capacity building and innovation projects.

Is there a minimum or maximum time period for funding?

- There is no minimum time period. We prefer that directly provided places for students last for the full duration of a course, and that academic positions (e.g. research, teaching) last for at least six months.
- There is no maximum time period either. Funds will be disbursed between July 2022 and June 2025. All projects will need to start by October 2024 at the latest.

Should applications focus on particular subjects, groups of people etc?

- The fund is broad in remit and exists to support students and researchers from Ukraine, Russia and Belarus. While applicants need to specify which group(s) their application relates to, they will not be marked up or down for listing any one group.
- Projects can support any subject(s). However, we expect that at least half of the total funding will go to support projects that focus on maths and science.

What is the application process?

- There will typically be up to three stages in the application process:
  - 1) Write a short and factual application
  - 2) If shortlisted, have a 1:1 call with a member of the review panel
  - 3) Then, answer any supplementary questions in writing.

What is the review and decision process?

- Applications will be reviewed promptly by XTX Markets, with input from a small panel of advisors. Each application will be assessed against the criteria outlined above, as well as its cost-effectiveness and the gap it is looking to fill.
- Ukrainian and Russian voices have been represented throughout the development of the fund and the intention is for this to continue on the panel.

When should I expect to hear back?

- We will usually review applications and reply within 1-2 weeks. If you have not heard back after two weeks from the date of application, please email to follow up.

What is the contracting process?

- XTX Markets will issue a standard grant agreement to all recipient organisations. This agreement will not be varied, unless exceptional circumstances apply.
- All recipient organisations must also pass the relevant compliance checks.

What if I have further questions?

- You can email [philanthropy@xtxmarkets.com](mailto:philanthropy@xtxmarkets.com) if you have any questions that are not addressed here. But be aware that we are a small team so please keep questions brief and expect brief answers in reply!
- We will normally ask you to submit an application form before we arrange to speak.