

## Criteria - September Grant Round 2025

### INTRODUCTION

#### How our funding works

When donors establish a fund with Top of the South Community Foundation, they can choose who or what their generosity will benefit. Our funding priorities align with the preferences of those community-spirited individuals, families, and organisations that have set up funds with us.

#### Introduction to the TSCF Rounds 2025 -26

As TSCF grows, the funding we have available will support a wider range of kaupapa and in different locations. This year, to make it clearer what you can apply for and when, we are splitting the TSCF annual grant round into smaller grant rounds. In previous years, we have had only one grant round.

#### September Grant Round

The following TSCF funds are open for applications:

Name of Fund^	Criteria	\$ available per grant*	Total available
Nelson Tasman Environment Fund	Projects that help our native species to thrive in Nelson and Tasman	\$1,000 - \$5,000	\$22,500
Golden Bay Fund	Projects to support the community and natural environment in Golden Bay	\$1000 -\$3000	\$10,000
General Fund	Projects that support charitable purposes across Te Tau Ihu (Marlborough, Nelson, Tasman) with a focus on helping those who need a hand up.	\$1,000 - \$3,000	\$11,500
Youth Development Fund	Youth Development initiatives in the Tasman Region, targeting those who need support to thrive	\$1-2000	\$4,000
Employment Support Marlborough	Employment support initiatives in Marlborough that help people on their journey into meaningful employment.  This fund accepts applications from any organisation working to a charitable purpose	\$2,000 to \$5,000	\$24,000
Marlborough Environment Fund	Projects that support our natural environments in Marlborough <i>Extra details below</i> This fund accepts applications from any organisation working to a charitable purpose	\$2-\$10,000, generally \$5-7,000	\$30,000

\*These funding levels are provisional and may be slightly adjusted based on applications received

^Please note the name of the fund you are applying for the application form

## **1) Further criteria for the September Grant Round**

- i. To apply for these funds, you must be a charitable trust, or a charitable trust must act as a fundholder for your application, unless indicated in the criteria above (*Employment Support Marlborough Trust, Marlborough Environment Fund*).
- ii. Organisations acting as fundholders can submit an application on their own behalf and also on behalf of other organisations.
- iii. You can only apply for one fund in this grant round (unless you are a fundholder)
- iv. The above grants are available for one year (ie not multi-year funding)
- v. We can cover some operational costs as a contribution to the whole project, but we will not fund operational costs exclusively
- vi. Organisations must be based in our region, or provide a direct service to our region
- vii. We can fund 100% of a smaller project or contribute to a larger project. If your request is for a contribution to a larger project, please briefly explain how you will cover the other costs
- viii. The project can be an ongoing service you offer. If it is a new project, please briefly describe similar work you have undertaken that shows us you can deliver on the outcomes you describe in the application.
- ix. We favour organisations that demonstrate an adaptable approach that responds to current community need
- x. The longer-term impact of the project is important, either through direct results or by linking to other kaupapa (outcomes question)
- xi. We will prioritise financially sustainable projects and organisations

## **2) Additional information Marlborough Environment Fund**

Any organisation, working with charitable purpose and with an environmental focus, based in Marlborough can apply.

Priority will be given to projects focused on:

- Public land
- Protecting and restoring under-represented native ecosystems that are relatively unmodified. Examples include wetlands and coastal areas.
- Small local groups working on small to medium projects, particularly those with a strong volunteer component
- Innovation or trialling new approaches

- Financially sustainable projects and organisations.

Projects can include:

- a focus on a specific species, particularly less well funded species
- the control of plant and animal pests as part of ensuring native ecosystem health.

*Application form – please select ‘**other**’ for this fund*

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#### **TSCF does not fund:**

- Religious or Political advocacy.
- Activities primarily focused on fundraising or regifting.
- Core education.
- Individuals (except for scholarships).
- Activities outside Te Tau Ihu, unless indicated by a specific donor.
- Retrospective claims

#### **Timeline**

- Applications open from 1 to 30 September 2025. For instructions on filling in the application form, please see our website and the ‘Tips For Applicants’ document
- October - The Distribution Committee reviews all applications and may request additional information, especially from first-time applicants.
- October / November - Decisions are finalised and communicated to applicants, we aim to distribute grants by the end of November.
- A short accountability report is due 12 months from the date of an offer letter

#### **Other things to note**

- Due to limited funds, we are unable to fund all applications.
- Please see our Tips for Applicants for more information on TSCF, terms and conditions and how to apply (accessing the portal etc). Available on the ‘receiving a grant’ page of our website.