

JOHN WATSON'S TRUST

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The John Watson's Trust has its origins in 1762 in the original bequest by John Watson, Writer to the Signet, of the residue of his Estate for charitable purposes connected with children. Subsequently a refuge or hospital for children was established and administered, and thereafter a school, John Watson's School. The school closed in 1975 and the buildings have now become the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. The Trust now operates its disbursements under the John Watson's Trust Scheme 1984 (S.I. 1984 No. 1480).

Scope of the Trust Scheme:

Under the Trust Scheme the governing body of Trustees apply the income of the Trust for the benefit of children and young persons up to 21. Assistance will not continue past the age of 21. The grants must be for educational purposes.

1. Grants for Boarding Education:

Under the Scheme some John Watson's Scholarships are available to assist towards the cost of providing boarding education for children ordinarily resident in Scotland who are orphans or who are children of one parent families or who are, in the opinion of the Governors, subject to some other special family difficulty, which is not purely financial, and whose circumstances are such that the governing body consider it would be in their best interest to have such education.

General Notes:

1. The governing body is not authorised to incur expenditure which would in the absence of the Trust be incurred from public funds; nor can the amount of the grant be such as to cause any reduction in any scholarship, bursary or other allowance paid out of public funds.
2. There are always many more applicants than grants available. This means that the application forms will ask on a confidential basis for comprehensive information about income.
3. It is important that referees chosen are able to give as full a picture of the child's situation as possible, e.g. teacher, social worker, GP rather than family friend.
4. Children of one-parent families could include not only children with only one parent living or identified in the birth certificate but children whose parents are divorced and who are living with one parent not remarried, children whose parents are legally separated and children living with one parent because of an informal separation or desertion.
5. Grants awarded only ever cover part of the overall fees.
6. If intending applicants have any queries, they should contact the Administrator. The address is: Administrator, John Watson's Trust, The Merchants' Hall, 22 Hanover Street, Edinburgh EH2 2EP (0131-220-1640) and completed application forms should be sent there.

Boarding grants (F1 application form)

Please refer to the explanatory notes which set out the objects of the Trust's work in this category, and indicate the qualifications which help an application. Should you decide to apply, please complete and return the application form. It is important to have two referees - one who has been involved in the child's education and one general referee. Would you please ask them to write directly to me at the Trust.

Details of family income are also required on page 3 of the form and supporting evidence (photocopies of wage slips/benefit payments including council tax and housing benefits and photocopies of accounts if self-employed) is necessary. I should also point out that any grant made is only ever a contribution towards fees and never the whole amount, that no grants are made for day school fees and that boarding grants are only awarded where the family situation necessitates a boarding education.

Iola Wilson
Administrator