

Future Proofing Recent Graduate Bursary

Overview

Part of Future Proofing – a partnership project between Federation of Scottish Theatre (FST) and Scottish Drama Training Network (SDTN) – the Recent Graduate Bursary supports placement opportunities which allow graduates to gain workplace experience that will help with their career progression. It aims to remove some of the financial pressure on the company hosting the placement by covering 85% of the cost of engaging the graduate.

Placement Criteria

A placement may run for a minimum of 3 and maximum of 12 weeks. The host organisation must design a viable programme of work and learning within its current operations. The proposed placement should:

- Allow a graduate to integrate within the professional environment
- Offer a graduate the opportunity to develop the necessary skills and contacts to undertake further work, providing a bridge from formal training to professional employment

Graduates may work in more than one role or department for the duration of their placement, but they should carry out a sustainable role while being supervised by members of staff.

We welcome applications from a range of host companies offering different and varied opportunities – this bursary is not limited to FST or SDTN members.

Graduate Criteria

This bursary is open to recent graduates from an accredited further or higher education course:

- The graduate must have completed their formal education in a FE/HE accredited technical or production skills course
- They should have graduated from a Scottish institution or they should now be based in Scotland and committed to Scottish theatre
- They must have graduated less than two years from the start date of the proposed placement
- Individuals may only receive one Recent Graduate Bursary award and should not apply again

FST does not hold a list of graduates interested in placements, it is the host organisation's responsibility to recruit a suitable candidate once their initial application is deemed successful. The placement opportunity should be advertised and we expect host organisations to apply their equal opportunities policy in managing the recruitment of this role.

Funding Available

A fixed sum of £350 per week will be paid to the successful graduate (this figure is comparable to Equity/BECTU/TMA minimum rates after tax). This is an educational bursary and is therefore tax free.

Host companies are required to contribute 15% of the total bursary. This equates to £52.50 for every week of the placement. The host organisation is also responsible for any travel or accommodation expenses incurred by the graduate, as well as overtime payments for any additional hours they work in the course of their placement.

Application Process

Applications are currently open for 2017-18 funding. The bursary has a rolling application process with no fixed deadlines, but please allow at least two weeks for your proposal to be considered.

Currently, we are able to support placements taking place up until December 2018. Proposed placements should not start within four weeks of this closing date.

The bursary application should be made by the host organisation. To apply, email a completed application form along with a job description and person specification for the placement to Fiona McCurdy, Training and Development Manager on fiona.mccurdy@scottishtheatre.org.

The bursary application process is administered by FST. Proposals will be reviewed by a panel of industry and education professionals and evaluated against the criteria above.

A placement may begin at any time after a host has received confirmation that an application is successful and you have recruited a suitable candidate. When you have completed your recruitment, you will be invoiced for the total contribution for the duration of the placement. The total weekly amount will then be paid directly to the graduate by FST.

At the end of a placement, we would encourage hosts to give us feedback about their experience. We also encourage graduates to comment on their time with the host company.

Crediting

This bursary is made available through Future Proofing, a partnership project between Federation of Scottish Theatre and Scottish Drama Training Network. The wider project aims to support the development of technical and production training, skills and career progression for the performing arts, live events and wider creative industries in Scotland, for further information on the project visit our [Future Proofing webpage](#).

Please credit support on any job adverts for supported placements and in the production programme of any piece worked on by the graduate, with the line:

Supported by a Recent Graduate Bursary through Future Proofing – a partnership project between Federation of Scottish Theatre and Scottish Drama Training Network.

Further Information

If you have any queries or would like more information please contact Fiona McCurdy, Training and Development Manager on fiona.mccurdy@scottishtheatre.org or 0131 248 4842.