



JEANS FOR GENES

Grant Programme

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT 2026

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**JEANS
FOR
GENES**

Jeans for Genes Grant Programme

About the Campaign

Our campaign, Jeans for Genes®, is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals and families affected by genetic conditions. Through our grant programmes, we support frontline charities across the UK to strengthen their organisations, improve services, and increase the impact they have on the genetic condition community.

Recently celebrating its 30th anniversary, the Jeans for Genes Campaign has raised over £45 million to support charitable services and research into genetic conditions. Founded by the CGD Research Trust in the 1990s, we are committed to spreading to benefit and impact of the campaign to as much of our genetic condition community as we can.

[Visit our website to see previous Jeans for Genes funding in action.](#)



| Our supporters sporting their jeans

About the Grant Programme

We're pleased to announce that the Grant Programme will be open for applications on 2nd February 2026. We are offering flexible, unrestricted funding between

£3,000 and £5,000

to support genetic disorder charities and their communities across the UK.

This programme has been designed to help charities meet their most pressing needs. We recognise that unrestricted funding is vital for sustainability, allowing organisations to cover core costs, respond to challenges, and invest in areas that will strengthen their impact. Funding can be used where it will make the greatest difference, whether that is staffing, service delivery, development, or projects.

We want to fund work that creates meaningful and lasting changes for people affected by genetic conditions. As part of the application, we'll ask you to tell us about the difference this funding will make for the people you support, and how you will understand and learn from those changes over time.

Spotlight Charities

This year we are running a pilot programme to build closer partnerships with three "spotlight charities," who will be offered a larger grant of up to £10,000 to work with us to improve the awareness of genetic conditions. This option is open to all applicants, regardless of size.

These partners will work with us to build a patient or family story, looking at how their condition affects them and how the charity is serving the needs of their community.

See *Criteria, Conditions & Reporting* for more info.

Criteria, Conditions & Reporting

Our grant programme is aimed towards **genetic condition-specific charitable organisations**, or those whose beneficiaries are solely those with genetic conditions and/or their families. For the purposes of this grant programme, we define a genetic condition as one caused by a gene or chromosome alteration, absence, and/or addition.

We recognise that there are wider, complex health conditions that may have a genetic component, but we reserve the right to prioritise primary genetic condition organisations, as our funding is limited.

If you are unsure as to whether your organisation would qualify, please contact us at grants@jeansforgenes.org.

General criteria for all applicants:

1. Organisations must be registered with either:
 - a. The Charity Commission for England & Wales,
 - b. The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland; or,
 - c. The Scottish Charity Regulator.
2. Organisations must be based in and deliver the majority of their work in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
3. Organisations must be a genetic condition-specific charitable organisation, or whose beneficiaries are solely those with genetic conditions and/or their families.
4. Organisations must be at least 18 months old and have published their first set of annual financial statements.
5. Organisations must have an annual income of less than £1 million as reported in their most recently published financial statements.

Conditions for 'spotlight charity' applicants:

The Spotlight programme is a pilot for 2026 to build partnerships and develop stories to improve the awareness of genetic conditions amongst the wider public.

These stories will then be available to both the spotlight charity and Jeans for Genes to use for their own purposes. We expect this to involve:

- Regular communication with our team by email or video call to discuss story content, format, and patient/family interest.
- The charity to find a willing individual or family to be part of this project, including providing their name, story, and photograph.
- The spotlight charity to work with our team and the individual or family to build and develop the story.

At The CGD Society we have prepared numerous family and patient stories in recent years, so we can guide the partner through obtaining appropriate permissions and crafting an impactful and enlightening narrative.

We would also expect that the spotlight charity helps to promote the Jeans for Genes campaign on their materials and/or media accounts, including displaying our logo on certain materials to be agreed as part of the offer.

If you would like to apply to this programme, please tick the relevant box in the application form. If you are unsuccessful for this enhanced grant total, ***you will still be eligible and automatically submitted for the standard grant.***

Reporting requirements:

As part of our grant programme, we request that charities awarded a Jeans for Genes grant submit an **End of Grant Report** 12 months after receiving their funding. This report should highlight the quantitative and qualitative impact of your work. To bring your achievements to life, we also encourage you to include case studies, quotes, and videos that highlight the difference this grant has made.

Please note that this report is a condition of your grant, and if a grantee fails to communicate with us and/or provide us with the requested report then this may impact the organisation's ability to apply for funding in the future.

We ask for you to include an acknowledgement of the contribution by Jeans for Genes in your annual report and on your website (if you list your funders on your website). We also ask that you share your Jeans for Genes Day grant in your organisation's communications and tag Jeans for Genes, as this helps us reach further out in the sector and encourage more funding applications in the future.

Summary of grants and requirements:

Standard grants	'Spotlight Charity' grants
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paid up-front in 1 instalment.• End of Grant Report required 12 months after payment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paid in 2 equal instalments.• First payment on award of grant.• Second payment after 3 months, conditional on working with us to complete a draft patient or family story.• End of Grant Report required 12 months after first payment.
<p>For both standard and 'spotlight charity' grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funds must be spent within 12 months of payment.• Funds are unrestricted.	

How to Apply

To apply for a grant, please find the 2026 [application form here](#) or on our website.

Applications should be submitted by email to grants@jeansforgenes.org, including the following in attachment:

- Your completed application form,
- Your latest published financial statements/report; and,
- Your safeguarding policy (if applicable).

The deadline for applications is **11:59pm on Monday 2nd March 2026**. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

If your application is missing any of the requested information or documents then it will not be reviewed by our panel, however we will make efforts to contact you in advance of the deadline if something is missing.

We can only accept one application per organisation each year. Receiving a grant in a previous year does **not** exclude you from applying this year.

If you have any queries, please direct these to grants@jeansforgenes.org.

Once a decision is made

If your application is successful, we will email you with an offer letter outlining the terms and conditions of your grant and the next steps.

If your application for funding is declined, then we will indicate in your rejection letter when/if you are eligible to apply for funding again. Please note that all decisions are final, and we cannot revisit any decisions.

We are a small team but will try to offer verbal feedback to unsuccessful applicants if requested. If you would like feedback, please email us at grant@jeansforgenes.org.

Application timetable

Milestone	Date
Application window opens	2 February 2026
Closing date for applications	2 March 2026
Applicants notified on outcomes	April 2026
Payments will be made by BACS	May 2026

Questions, Feedback, and T&Cs

FAQs

The Frequently Asked Questions page on our website provides answers to some questions about our application process.

We hope this guidance explains the application process for the 2026 Jeans for Genes Grant Programme in a clear and transparent way.

However, if you have a question that is not answered in this document or any feedback/ suggestions regarding the grant programme and/or the application process, please email us at grants@jeansforgenes.org.

We cannot guarantee grants to all organisations that meet these criteria, as funding is limited. The grant panel will review and assign funding based on strength of application and relative need.

Expectations

Whilst our funding is unrestricted and may be used flexibly by the grantee for the purposes they deem most necessary, we do expect that funds are used in line with the purposes and aims as described in the application.

We do not consider building up reserves to be usage in line with the grant's aims. If we believe funds are not being spent (for example, if total spend in the year is significantly less than income), then we may ask for evidence to show that these funds have been spent in line with our conditions.

For charities that work with children and vulnerable adults, Jeans for Genes would expect that appropriate safeguarding policies are in place, a copy of which is required to accompany your application.

Programme ownership

The *Jeans for Genes*® fundraising campaign and the associated Grant Programme are run by The Chronic Granulomatous Disorder Society (The CGD Society), registered charity number 1143049 and registered company number 07607593.

The Grant Programme is assessed and awarded by a review panel consisting of both representatives of The CGD Society as well as representatives from other charities in this field. Please note that organisations which are represented by a member of the review panel, or for whom a panel member holds a controlling interest, are ineligible for a Jeans for Genes grant.

All payments of Grant Programme awards will be made by bank transfer by The CGD Society, subject to a confirmation of the grantee's bank account information by a representative of The CGD Society.

Rights reserved

The CGD Society and the members of the Jeans for Genes Grant Programme review panel reserve the right to disregard applications from organisations who have failed to follow the conditions or requirements of previous grants, including failing to provide an End of Grant report. If this is the case, The CGD Society will notify the organisation by email.

Jeans for Genes® is the registered trademark of
The Chronic Granulomatous Disorder Society
(CGD Society), 46-468 East Street, Epsom,
KT17 1HQ.

Registered charity number 1143049.

Registered as a company limited by guarantee
in England & Wales number 07607593

