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## City of Edinburgh Council – Parental Employment Support Fund Grants – Service for Young Parents

**Following funding from Scottish Government’s** [**Parental Employment Support Fund**](http://www.employabilityinscotland.com/policy/current-policy-developments/)**, The City of Edinburgh Council (Business Growth and Inclusion) would like to invite applications for Third Party organisations to deliver a service for Young Parents. This project will be integrated with our existing Employability Third Party Grants Programme,** [**NEST**](https://www.joinedupforjobs.org/service-providers/nest) **(Network of Employment Support and Training).**

**1 Invite for applications**

Applications are invited for provision of services at stages 1, 2 and 3 of the Strategic Skills Pipeline which will support **parents who are under 25** to progress into employment.

One grant will be awarded up to a maximum of £20,000

All applications should make reference to the Strategic Skills Pipeline – a copy of the Pipeline can be found [here](https://www.joinedupforjobs.org/uploads/store/mediaupload/236/file/Strategic%20Skills%20Pipeline%20FINAL%20MASTER%20(Nov-20).pdf).

Applications should be emailed to [kate.kelman@capitalcitypartnership.org](mailto:kate.kelman@capitalcitypartnership.org)

**The deadline is NOON, Friday 26th February 2021**

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Applications will be assessed by a group made up of representatives from the Local Employment Partnership and will be informed of the outcome by **Friday 12th March**

**2 Impact of Covid-19**

The coronavirus pandemic has resulted in a public health emergency and the public, private and third sector response to the crisis has been immense. It is now clear that the economic impact and road to recovery should become our new priority. Job losses and employment insecurity are now at an unprecedented scale and opportunities are more scarce. Crisis-hit families require support to access and sustain employment in labour market sectors that are more robust to distancing requirements.

In May 2020, Edinburgh Poverty Commission published an interim report ‘[Poverty and Coronavirus in Edinburgh](https://edinburghpovertycommission.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/20200518_EPC_Coronavirus_Report.pdf)’. The report discusses the disproportional impacts on low-income families who were more likely to work in shutdown sectors, women, young people and BAME families.

The Edinburgh Parental Support Grants will engage with these families and progress will be reported to the Edinburgh Child Poverty Group which is focussing on the recommendations of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission.

Fair work and sustainable long-term employment will be a goal of this fund, contributing to the economic recovery of the City and families’ economic resilience. Grant-funded projects should aim at supporting individuals into sectors where there is likely to be jobs and growth in the short to medium term. This is likely to be in care (child, health and social care), online retail and distribution, and digital. Detailed information on potential growth sectors can be found in Skills Development Scotland’s analysis ‘[Covid Impacts Edinburgh and South East Scotland’.](https://www.joinedupforjobs.org/uploads/store/mediaupload/195/file/COVID-19%20Impacts%20-%20Edinburgh%20and%20South%20East%20Scotland_.pdf)

Grant applicants should ensure that all provision is carried out within health and safety guidelines and risk assessments should be carried out. Scottish Government guidance on social distancing must be adhered to. Online and telephone-based delivery will be acceptable if face-to-face methods are not possible.

**2 Focus of grant programme**

We invite proposals from organisations to engage with 12 young parents who are currently unemployed. Provision should include a blend of support around, employability, advice (including benefits, childcare housing advice) and parenting issues. This could be through group work or one-to-one support and should be person-centred and holistic. Applicants should consider how the service might meet the needs of young fathers, parents with additional support needs and young parents from BAME communities. The service should link with other funded employability provision to equip parents to progress to further education, employment or training. It is likely that a number of referrals will be via Family Nurse Partnerships and Health Visitors; applicants should establish referral protocols with these services.

**3 Delivery of services**

Applicants should be aware of the following parameters for this grants programme:

* All individuals in receipt of support must be parents domiciled in Edinburgh City with dependent children and be under 25 years of age at the point of engagement.
* All participants should be supported to develop an action plan with milestones based on a strengths-focussed assessment.
* Participants should engage with the grant-funded programme for a minimum of 5 hours per week.
* Grant-funded services should include a range of supports and include: skills development, health support, money advice and motivational support with the goal of either entering employment, education or training.
* Support should continue for the duration of the programme, clients who are engaged as unemployed and subsequently enter employment should be supported to move to higher paid or higher-skills level jobs.
* Projects mustdemonstrate a clear pathway to enter or progress within key growth sectors.

The total funding available is £20,000 for the period of April 1st 2021-31st March 2022. One project will be awarded funding.

# 4 Contract Management

The successful applicant will be issued a funding agreement by Capital City Partnership on behalf of the City of Edinburgh Council. Council Standard Conditions of Grant will apply. Reporting will be quarterly, and providers will be required to use the Caselink Management Information System for client tracking.