

PACE Youth Theatre Bursary Fund

Application Guidelines

What is the PACE Youth Theatre Bursary Fund?

The PACE Youth Theatre Bursary Fund has been established to enable young people who find themselves in financially challenging circumstances to take part in youth theatre activities. The fund is supported by generous donations from parents, businesses and the local community and supported by Renfrewshire Council.

Objectives

- To enable young people, age 3 – 18 to engage in youth theatre
- To provide access to arts opportunities that may be economically prohibitive

What is a bursary?

A bursary is a non-repayable award allocated on the basis of financial need and without undue emphasis on academic standing. A full bursary includes:

- A fully funded place at PACE Youth Theatre for one year
- A fully funded place on two one-week events during school holiday festival events *(subject to availability)*
- A PACE t-shirt and PACE casting membership

The current total value of the full bursary is approximately £450. The bursary is paid directly to PACE Youth Theatre and not to the recipient of the award.

How do I apply?

Applications are submitted to PACE Youth Theatre via a downloadable form at www.pacetheatre.com/bursary or requested by phoning 0345 130 5218.

The completed, signed form must be posted to PACE Youth Theatre, Spires Drama Studios, School Wynd, Paisley, Renfrewshire PA1 2DA or handed in to a member of staff at the same address. All applications will be treated confidentially.

When do I apply?

Applications can be made at any time during the PACE year (Sept – June) and the award will be pro-rated depending on time of application.

How do I know I am eligible to apply?

You are eligible to apply if you want to join PACE Youth Theatre, are aged between 3 – 18 years of age living in Renfrewshire and can provide evidence of genuine financial need.

You can already be taking part in PACE Youth Theatre, wish to join for the first time, or would like to re-join after some absence.

What evidence is required to prove my financial need?

We will need to see relevant documentation as evidence of your current financial status. Any of the following will be accepted and must not be more than six months old: a benefits letter, a letter from your GP, school, social services, a permit visa or a supporting letter from your lawyer or support worker.

Who can be my referee?

It is important to have a reference to support your application. Please ask someone who knows you well and knows what it means to you to be able to join the youth theatre. A referee may include any of the following: a parent or guardian, a foster carer, a social worker, youth worker, teacher, drama tutor. We may need to contact your referee for additional supporting information so please make sure they are willing to be contacted and provide daytime contact details.

How will you decide who will receive bursaries?

A panel made up of experienced staff will assess the applications using a matrix to score eligibility based on age, residential address, financial need, strength of case and the supporting reference.

How will I know if I have been successful?

Successful applicants will be contacted by email or letter. Places are limited and offered for a full year and we would ask that you commit to the full period. However, if your circumstances change we would ask that you inform us so we can ensure that most people benefit from this opportunity.

Can I re-apply if unsuccessful?

You can reapply once per year, or if your financial circumstances change.

What happens at the end of the bursary period?

After a year you can reapply again if you wish. Further funded or concessionary places would be subject to availability.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0345 130 5218 or by emailing bursary@pacetheatre.co.uk