

## General Introduction to the TK Foundation – Maritime Grants Program

The program is open to applications from registered charities and non-profit organisations and has five key focus areas:

### 1 **Maritime Youth Education and training.**

Projects that increase access for young people to and enhance the quality of, maritime education and employment. This may include projects that promote training for merchant sailing, the yachting industry, and education and training opportunities within the maritime sector for disadvantaged youth including possible scholarships.

The TK Foundation will identify maritime organisations developing projects that will support young people entering the industry. For example, funding can act as a project incubator or directly support youth whilst they go through a mixture of education and career path training including educational institution fees. Consideration will be given to how our funding can address financial barriers to working at sea.

Key elements:

- **Employment.** Maritime education and training programs must be clearly able to identify how the proposed training and education links into possible maritime employment – preferably supporting a direct link between an employer and the young person. This might be part of the ‘exit strategy’ for the grant but needs to be a core element of the funding agreement.
- **Disadvantaged Youth.** Priority for applicant organisations that can demonstrate the delivery of training and education (and the identification and support of disadvantaged youth) as part of a development process for young people who would otherwise be unable to access the opportunities of a maritime career.
- Potential types of projects supported:
  - Maritime education and training bursaries / scholarships
  - Short courses to provide necessary qualifications to enable young people to pursue a career at sea
  - Specific education projects leading to career at sea
  - Projects to overcome barriers to young people pursuing a career at sea
  - Projects that support the education and development of current seafarers.

### 2 **Disadvantaged Communities**

Projects that support the use of maritime activities to benefit disadvantaged populations, possible projects being sailing projects for disadvantaged youth, medical and emergency aid delivered by maritime means.

Potential types of projects supported:

- Sailing projects that build life skills for disadvantaged youth
- Support of organizations providing maritime delivered medical or humanitarian aid to disadvantaged populations

### 3 **Maritime Welfare**

Projects that improve the health, safety, welfare or well-being needs of seafarers.

- Potential types of projects supported:
  - Seafarers’ welfare program seeking projects that have identifiable and measurable long-term benefits for a group or community of seafarers – either at sea or in port.

- Emergency grants programs – The Foundation currently works in partnership with other delivery partners to operate emergency grants program e.g. the ISWAN Emergency Seafarers Fund. *The TK Foundation is not able to support requests from individuals.*
- Welfare Projects that show a link between education / training and welfare or well-being e.g. health and safety courses, safety at sea courses, first aid at sea, mental or physical health for seafarers etc
- Possible ‘one-off’ capital requests to provide or develop a specific facility or service.

#### **4 Maritime Heritage and Maritime Collaboration**

Projects that support the development of understanding of maritime heritage and support organisations that develop national and international collaboration and understanding between maritime non-profit organisations.

#### **5 Youth Sailing**

The TK Foundation currently funds a youth sailing program which is managed on our behalf by the *Orange County Community Foundation’s (OCCF)*. The program seeks to support nonprofit organisations to deliver youth<sup>1</sup> sailing programs that will reach motivated disadvantaged youth<sup>2</sup>. The program priorities are to offer young people an opportunity to develop a personal relationship with the ocean, provide young people with opportunities to challenge themselves in an ocean environment, teach responsible seamanship and help develop important life skills. For more information or to apply, please see the Youth Sailing section of the TK Foundation website. If you have any questions, please contact Austin Muckenthaler at [amuckenthaler@oc-cf.org](mailto:amuckenthaler@oc-cf.org) or (949) 553-4202 ext. 248.

#### **Process for seeking funding from TKF**

For programs 1 – 4 above, the Foundation operates a two-stage assessment process. In stage one, applicants who have approached the TK Foundation for a grant and where we think the proposal fits within one or more of the key focus areas and might be something the Board of TKF might wish to support, are invited to complete a Letter of Enquiry (outline proposal) Form (available from the Maritime Program Officer – see details below). This collects some basic information regarding the organisation, the project (including an outline of likely costs, project duration, what the project is seeking to achieve, and how the project might fit within the overall aims and program objectives (focus areas) of the TK Foundation. When we have received this information, a report is prepared for the Board of Directors of the TK Foundation and they decide whether the proposal should proceed to full assessment. The full assessment form provides more detailed information to assist TKF Directors to make a final decision regarding the project. Applicants should note that the first stage (Letter of Interest - outline proposal) of a two-stage application process is NOT an agreement to fund. Rather, it indicates that the Directors of the TK Foundation wish to see more detail on the proposed project and the organisation is therefore invited to submit further information. Grants are not awarded at the Letter of Interest – outline proposal stage but rather those felt to be of the highest priority are invited to proceed to a more detailed assessment. This is a competitive process where the application is considered in competition with other requests from other organisations.

Having said all of the above, if your organization has a project or proposal that might meet one of the program aims but you are unsure, please email Dennis Treleaven – Maritime Program Officer at the TK Foundation: [dennis@tkfoundation.bs](mailto:dennis@tkfoundation.bs) with an outline of the proposal who will assist.

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<sup>1</sup> Youth Aged 15 - 24

<sup>2</sup> Applications need to demonstrate how they will identify and target youth from a disadvantaged background

Applicants should note that the TK Foundation is keen to see - wherever possible - evidence of matched funding (cash or in-kind) or working in collaboration / partnership / consultation with local groups or organisations in the area where the project will be based.

### **The Project:**

The primary focus of the TK Foundation Maritime Grants Program is - at least initially - on maritime youth education and training leading to a career / employment at sea – particularly for those from disadvantaged communities and from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The development of skills / training for sailing or sailing organisations where the primary purpose is as a recreational activity is not something the TK Foundation is currently supporting under this program. However, we are supporting through our youth sailing program (see above) projects that offer young people an opportunity to develop a personal relationship with the ocean, provide opportunities to challenge themselves in an ocean environment and teach responsible seamanship and help develop life skills. We are also interested in projects where sail training might lead to a career (for example within the Yacht industry).

The support of fishermen or fishermen's groups where the primary purpose is as a recreational activity is not something the TK Foundation is currently supporting under this program. However, education / training / welfare projects within the commercial fishing sector might be of interest. However, applicants should note that the current primary focus of this program is on Merchant seafarers and commercial fishing is currently a lower priority.

General welfare projects for seafarers are eligible either at sea or in port will be considered.

Projects that support the development or understanding of a nation's maritime heritage or collaboration between maritime non-profit organisations are eligible.

The TK Foundation is also looking at possible maritime welfare research projects, and if you have a project in mind, we suggest you contact the Maritime Program Officer in the first instance to discuss.

### **Grant Size:**

There is no budget minimum or maximum, however, past experience suggests that projects much over circa \$50 - \$80K USD per annum and up to 3 years (\$150 - \$240,000 USD over three years) will need to be very clear in their proposed outcomes and the longer-term benefit or difference they will make. Projects may need to be longer if they are education sponsorship or bursaries but we are also interested in short training courses for seafarers for example to update or add to their skill sets.

As part of the assessment process, consideration will be given to whether there is any matched funding either from the organisation or a third party (including volunteers or other 'in kind' support). TKF will fund 100% of project costs but Value for Money will be a consideration.

Project sustainability is of great importance to the TK Foundation and must demonstrate longevity beyond the duration of the grant.

### **Next Steps**

Within the Maritime Grants Program, the role of the Maritime Program Officer is to provide advice to potential applicants, identify potential program partners, work with them to develop initial ideas / proposals and then conduct an initial assessment of potential projects for consideration by the TKF Board (see 'process' above). If you feel you may have a project that meets one of more of our focus areas, please – in the first instance – email the Maritime Program Officer at the address below.



The maritime grants program is continually evolving with broad outlines and priorities emerging as the Foundation carries out its 5 year strategic plan.

Dennis Treleven  
Maritime Program Officer  
TK Foundation

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