

Finding Funding!

Singing students can successfully apply for grants or sponsorship to help you get to Singing School NZ.

There are people and organisations wanting to support young people with the costs of further education in the arts. Approach the search positively as it is good practice for your 'business of singing' - marketing yourself to get singing work, preparing your biographical info, and winning over an audience.

How to apply?

You will need to provide a compelling application, perhaps presenting in person although most likely in writing or online. Find out what the funder's criteria is, what sort of application is needed, and the deadlines, and get your applications in early. Funders can be very helpful with advice as they like to fund worthwhile projects, so check their websites or give them a call!

Be prepared that some funders might want something in return - either a report from you about what you achieved, or perhaps get you to sing at a private function.

Who to ask, where to apply?

Your school or university may have scholarships or other funding programmes.

Your iwi authority can be a good place to ask, if you have tribal affiliations, as they often have scholarships for education.

Ask your theatre, kapa haka/choir/singing group or church if they have scholarships or ask for help with fundraising ideas.

Contact your local service group such as Rotary, Lions and Freemasons as these often support young people.

Community funding organisations get their funds from pub gaming and are required to distribute to the community - usually to clubs and organisations, but it's worth finding which organisations fund in your area and whether you qualify.

Grants from trustee organisations may be an option - Perpetual Guardian and Public Trust are two in NZ, and there'll be others in your area. People leave bequests to be distributed by these organisations, and sometimes the requirement is as specific as "Grant to young person under 21 in such-and-such-area for arts education". These organisations list their grants on their websites with application dates.

If you know of someone who generously supports young people in the arts, especially singers, contact them and talk to them about what fires them up to provide financial support...it could be you!