

## David Powlison Memorial Grants

### What is on offer?

Each year, Biblical Counselling UK offers two grants of (up to) £2,500. One grant is offered in the Spring, the other in the Autumn.

### What is the purpose of the grants?

The grants are designed to promote advanced study / research, at academic institutions, into relevant, contemporary fields in order to further the growth of biblical counselling in the UK.

### Who can apply?

The grants are open to graduates of:

- The Biblical Counselling UK Certificate Programme
- The Biblical Counselling UK Intern Scheme
- Similar biblical counselling programmes at other like-minded organisations

Applicants must also be involved in biblical counselling in the UK, be in good standing with both Biblical Counselling UK and their local church and free from any safeguarding / criminal convictions that would hamper the work of biblical counselling. They need to be capable of studying at an advanced (usually postgraduate) level; have a passion for furthering the work of Biblical Counselling UK and, in particular, be passionate about the application of biblical counselling to the British local church context. They need to demonstrate that their proposed course of study would be impossible or significantly challenging should the grant not be approved.

### Who can't apply?

No employee or trustee of Biblical Counselling UK is eligible to apply without special dispensation being sought (though individuals who have a worker, volunteer or secondment agreement with BCUK for tutoring, grading or similar activities are eligible to apply). Applicants living and working outside of the UK will not be able to meet the selection criteria – specifically the criteria that requires the applicant to be active in biblical counselling in the UK. Successful applicants cannot re-apply within 3 years.

### What can be studied?

The grants are designed to facilitate advanced / postgraduate study. Grant applications are welcome from:

- those wishing to undertake postgraduate research into aspects of biblical counselling or allied fields at a fully accredited theological college
- those wishing to undertake advanced study / research into allied secular disciplines at universities or colleges where such learning could be used to further the work of biblical counselling through critical analysis, synergy or adaptation

Whatever the route proposed, applicants need to be able to demonstrate how their studies could benefit the growth of biblical counselling in the UK.

Please note that grants cannot be used to fund initial training in biblical counselling at any institutions. These grants are for advanced, specialist training only.

## How can the grant be spent?

Whilst it is anticipated that the majority of the grant would be used for course fees, it is permissible to use up to 20% of the grant for travel, purchase of books and periodicals and allied conference fees. Students must give a breakdown of how the money will be spent at application.

## What is the application process?

Applicants need to complete the application form and return it to the [grants@bcuk.org](mailto:grants@bcuk.org) address by the application deadlines below.

There are two application points each year, with the following the timelines:

End Feb: Application deadline	End Jun: Application deadline
End Mar: Applications sifted	End Jul: Applications sifted
End May: Decision made and communicated to applicants	End Oct: Decisions made and communicated to applicants
(Suitable for September intake courses)	(Suitable for January intake courses)

Decisions will be made (on the basis of the criteria above) by the grant-making team - which is led by Andrew Collins, Director of Counselling Ministry and is responsible to Steve Midgley, Executive Director of Biblical Counselling UK.

## What happens once a grant is awarded?

Once awarded a grant, the successful applicant will need to provide a letter of acceptance from the academic institution in question, bank details and also sign a contract stating that the money would be returned should the student fail to begin the course of study within 12 months. The successful applicant will also need to discuss and agree with the grant-making team how they can - in due time - use their learning to support the work of biblical counselling in the UK. This will potentially include resource production for BCUK.

## What support does the grant team offer?

Throughout their period of study, grant-recipients will be assigned a liaison from the grant-making team who will periodically (approximately once a term) meet with, encourage and pray for them.

## What are the anticipated outcomes?

Through supporting postgraduate study, it is hoped to grow the pool of well grounded, articulate biblical counsellors who can write, train and offer supervision in more specialist areas. It is hoped that such people will grow to be the British thought-leaders in the academic arena and active in raising up the next generation of biblical counsellors.

## Who was David Powlison?

David Powlison was a dear friend of many within the British biblical counselling movement. He was a teacher, a counsellor, a mentor, an author - and the Executive Director of CCEF from 2014-2019. His passion for thinking biblically, incisively, academically and practically about biblical counselling has inspired many and we are keen to equip others to continue in that process of thinking carefully about biblical counselling here in the UK.

For further information or to ask questions, please contact [grants@bcuk.org](mailto:grants@bcuk.org)