



## Richard Oatley Agriculture Bursary Scheme

The Richard Oatley Foundation are proud to launch the Richard Oatley Agricultural Bursary Scheme, a new initiative supporting the next generation of farmers and agricultural workers in Somerset and Wiltshire

Developed and delivered in partnership with the Frome and District Agricultural Society, the bursary scheme is aimed at young people with an ambition to work in farming and agriculture, and those currently in the sector who want to push themselves to the next level.

The Richard Oatley Foundation want to encourage and support young people who see agriculture and farming as their future, by providing one-off bursaries of up to £3,000. Bursaries can be used to support education and training costs, business research and development initiatives, or travel to experience other farming environments and practices.

Applicants must have genuine interest in farming and agriculture and will be able to demonstrate how a bursary award will enable them to progress towards a career in the sector or help them take the next step in their careers.

The Richard Oatley Foundation is looking to award up to six bursaries in 2026 to young people aged between 18 and 25.

Recipients of a bursary award will be asked to provide a brief report, a video or a blog piece to demonstrate the benefits of the Foundations support and how they met their objectives. This may be used in promotion of the bursary scheme in future years.

Send your application to [info@fromescheeseshow.com](mailto:info@fromescheeseshow.com)

## Who can apply

Applicants must:

- Be actively involved in farming or an agricultural- related business **Or** looking to undertake training or education at a recognised agricultural college or linked university course
- Be resident in Wiltshire or Somerset
- Be aged between 18 and 25
- Have a clear plan for a project involving training and education, business development or travel related learning which requires financial support.

## What the bursary fund will support

Bursary funding may be used to support one of the following:

- **Education and training**  
This could be a contribution towards costs of attending an agricultural college or linked university course. Eligible costs include course fees, accommodation and living costs, or study materials and equipment. In addition, vocational or shorter-term training and personal development, such as specialist machinery, IT training or business skills are eligible for support
- **Business improvement and initiatives**  
For costs relating to new business ideas aimed at improving the sustainability of farms. This could include new crops or livestock practices, direct sales, technology, land sustainability, environmental initiatives. Farm and business diversification will be considered where the core aim remains agriculture and farming. For example, tourism, housing, or office space provision would not be considered eligible.
- **Travel related learning**  
This could include UK or overseas travel to experience other farming activities and practices.

## Key dates

- **Application window opens:** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026
- **Application window closes:** 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026
- **Successful applications announced:** June 2026
- **Presentation event:** Frome Agricultural and Cheese Show 12<sup>th</sup> September 2026

## How to apply

- Complete the application form below or download a version from [richardoatleyfoundation.org](http://richardoatleyfoundation.org) or [fromecheeseshow.com](http://fromecheeseshow.com)
- Complete and return the form by email to [info@fromecheeseshow.com](mailto:info@fromecheeseshow.com)
- Email any supporting information you wish to provide, this could include:
  - Course details or an offer letter from a college or university
  - A simple outline of your business plan
  - Details of any travel you wish to undertake
  - A short video or link to social media content

## Terms and conditions

- Application will open on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026
- The closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026, applications received after this date will not be considered
- Supplementary information provided by email will be acceptable and considered only when submitted with a fully completed application form.
- Recipients of a bursary award will be asked to provide a brief report, a video or a blog piece to demonstrate the benefits of the Foundations support and how they met their objectives. This may be used in promotion of the bursary scheme in future years.
- Successful applicants will be asked to appear in publicity for their bursary. This means that you consent to be involved in promotional activities, including but not limited to use of your photograph, biography, and quotes.
- You may also be asked to support the promotion of the bursary in following years by appearing in or submitting video or written content, including social media, websites and print publications where appropriate.
- The Richard Oatley Foundation and Frome and District Agricultural Society do not accept any liability for any applications which are lost, delayed, or corrupted as a result of any technical malfunction whether through a website failure, virus, or other technical malfunction.
- Applications will be accepted after the closing date but will not be judged until all other applications have been reviewed and decisions made. Therefore, late applications may not be considered for funding during this financial year, but may be considered for future years programmes.

## GDPR Privacy Statement

The information you provide in this application form will be used solely for the administration, assessment, and management of the Richard Oatley Agricultural Bursary Scheme. Your personal data will be processed in accordance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Your information will be shared only with authorised representatives of the Richard Oatley Foundation and the Frome & District Agricultural Society for the purpose of assessing applications and administering the scheme. We will not share your data with any third parties for marketing purposes.

If your application is successful, limited personal information (such as your name, photograph, and project details) may be used for publicity purposes, as outlined in the bursary terms and conditions.

You have the right to access, correct, or request deletion of your personal data. For any queries or to exercise your rights, please contact us at: [contact@richardoatlyfoundation.org](mailto:contact@richardoatlyfoundation.org)

[richardoatlyfoundation.org](http://richardoatlyfoundation.org)