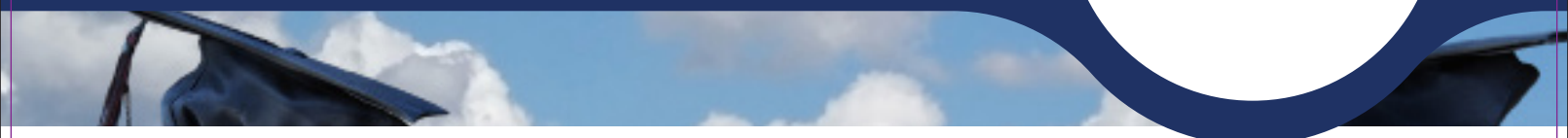
2027

Practice Grant

For small-scale projects on Work Based and Placement Learning



We are pleased to announce applications are open for our 2027 Practice Grant

Proposals are invited from members to fund a current undergraduate, master's student or recent graduate to carry out a small-scale project examining an aspect of your **institutional practice**, or **exploration of a new initiative** with the goal of sharing the learning with the ASET Community.

What kind of projects does ASET fund?

You might want to:

- Explore an idea for innovation in Work Based and Placement Learning practice
- Develop and trial a Toolkit, to share learning across the ASET community
- Evaluate data already collected, making suggestions for enhancement to practice
- Evaluate a small-scale innovation or pilot project, with recommendations for the sector

Previous projects have looked at; motivations for embarking on a placement course, the evaluation of a pilot work shadowing scheme, opportunities for students in non-traditional workplace settings and development of guidance to support students with mental health needs. Final project reports are available here

This grant was introduced in recognition of former ASET President Dr Geoffrey Copland's valued leadership and his dedication to advancing Work Based and Placement Learning.

Award Details and Conditions

The total award is **£5,500**, comprising **£3,750** to support the employment of a student researcher, **£750** to support the lead applicant's attendance at the 2026 ASET Conference, and **£1,000** allocated by ASET to cover the student researcher's travel, accommodation, and conference attendance.
(This final amount is intended solely for the student's use, is not claimable by the host institution, and will be paid by ASET against eligible student expenses).

1. Applicants must be employed by an ASET member institution for the 2027 membership year.
2. Applications will be blind reviewed by the ASET Research Group. Feedback will be available on request.
3. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by 31 March 2027.
4. Research must be conducted between 1 April and 31 August 2027.
5. Both the lead applicant and the student researcher are expected to attend a mid-point review with ASET.
6. The student researcher must present their work, both as a presentation and a poster, at the 2027 ASET Conference, and the final project report must be submitted by 9am, 11 October 2027.
7. Students must be hosted within an appropriate department of the applicant's institution. They may be engaged on a part-time or full-time basis, up to a maximum of 40 days / 300 hours. The host institution must ensure full compliance with all relevant employment legislation.
8. Payments to the host institution will total £4500 (£3750 to support the student researcher and £750 towards the supervisor's conference attendance), made in two stages:
   - £1,750 on confirmation the student has started the project
   - £2,750 following acceptance of the final report by ASET
9. Final project reports will be published on the ASET website.

Project Proposals

Proposals should be a maximum of 1500 words and must clearly indicate:

- Why the project is important, including objectives and proposed methodology
- An outline of planned activities, demonstrating how the project will be completed within the agreed timescale
- The student's role in the project, with details on how their individual learning objectives will be defined and included
- The supervisor's role, supported by evidence of their research expertise (for example; organisational role, experience, qualifications and/or publications)
- Confirmation of support from an appropriate senior manager
- An explanation of how the project may be of value to the wider sector

How to apply

Complete the application form and submit before the deadline for applications 9am, 22 February 2027.

For more information please contact:

The Work Based and Placement Learning Association, The Burton Street Foundation
57 Burton Street, Sheffield, S6 2HH T: 0114 234 5197 E: aset@asetonline.org **www.asetonline.org**

Updated November 2026