



London International Youth Science Forum

LIYSF 2026 FUNDING & SCHOLARSHIP PACK

**Helping Students Access
the World's Most Prestigious STEM Summer School**

Introduction

LIYSF is an impartial, accredited not-for-profit social enterprise founded in 1959, and has transformed the lives of over 25,000 students worldwide. It has a long history of empowering young scientists by creating opportunities, networks and role models that help them thrive.

As the longest-running STEM event of its kind, LIYSF remains modern and forward-looking, embracing new technologies and launching a hybrid digital option to make the experience accessible to more students internationally.

LIYSF is committed to widening participation, supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds, championing female scientists and ensuring broad cultural and ethnic representation. Its growing scholarship scheme is a key part of this mission.

We are proud to have the trust of leading scientific organisations and inspiring researchers, as well as the enthusiasm of our students, who motivate us to continually grow. We welcome ideas from our global community as we work to increase our impact.

LIYSF has already set a strong precedent, and its influence can be seen across generations of students. This is an exciting time to be ambitious, inclusive and future-focused as we continue shaping scientific education together.

Richard Myhill
Chief Executive



About LIYSF

The London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF) is a two-week residential STEM programme for students aged 16–21, hosted at Imperial College London and The Royal Geographical Society.

It brings together 500 of the brightest young scientists from over 90 countries, supported by UNESCO and under the Royal Patronage of HRH The Princess Royal.

Programme Dates: 23 July – 6 August 2026

Application Deadline: 31 May 2026

Website: www.liysf.org.uk

Contact: info@liysf.org.uk



Our Commitment to Access and Inclusion

LIYSF is a not-for-profit social enterprise, dedicated to ensuring that students from all backgrounds can participate. We recognise that travel and participation costs can be challenging and will support as much as we can students as they seek funding to attend our programme.

Funding Pathways:

- External Sponsorship
- School or Government Sponsorship
- Crowdfunding



1. External Sponsorship

Students are encouraged to seek sponsorship from:

- Local businesses or community organisations
- STEM societies or charitable foundations
- Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, or regional education trusts
- Universities or professional institutes

LIYSF provides template letters and guidance to help approach potential sponsors.

Tip: Sponsors often support students who share their values of education, innovation, and global citizenship.

Example message for sponsors:

“By sponsoring [Student Name] to attend LIYSF 2026, your organisation will be supporting the next generation of scientists and innovators. This global STEM programme brings together 500 students from over 90 countries for lectures by Nobel Laureates and visits to top UK research institutions.”

2. School or Government Sponsorship

Many schools and education ministries support participation directly or through national science competitions.

Encourage your school’s STEM coordinator or head of science to enquire about departmental or local education funding opportunities.

3. Crowdfunding

Crowdfunding allows friends, family, and your community to contribute small amounts that add up.

Platforms like **GoFundMe**'s Educational Fundraisers make this easy. Share your story and progress through photos, videos, and posts.

💡 **Reward ideas:** thank-you messages, small science project posters, or photo updates from London.

“There are large groups of people who want to see you succeed, alumni, teachers, and family. Crowdfunding is your digital village.”

Start your campaign today:

<https://www.gofundme.com/start/education-fundraiser>

What the Fee Covers

- Accommodation and all meals for 14 days
- All lectures, seminars, and specialist visits
- Cultural and social programme
- Pastoral care and full-time supervision

(Travel to/from London is not included.)

Tips for Successful Fundraising

Start Early

Most donors need 6–8 weeks to process applications. Some donors have fixed schedules and may even work months in advance

Documentation

Request an official invitation letter from LIYSF to include in your sponsorship pitches.

Try Multiple Routes

Combine bursaries, sponsorships, and personal fundraising.

Mix Your Funding Sources

Aim for contributions from a few sponsors rather than one.

Present a Project at the LIYSF Science Bazaar

Sponsors love seeing passion and initiative.

Highlight the Impact

Explain how attending LIYSF benefits your school, community, or region.

Involve Your Teachers

They often have great connections and advice.

Personalise Your Sponsorship Request

Explain your academic goals.

Offer to Share Your Experience

Write a short post-event report or presentation.

Example Sponsorship Letter Template

Subject: Sponsorship request for student attending LIYSF 2026

Dear [Sponsor Name],

I have been selected to attend the London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF), a two-week residential STEM programme at Imperial College London bringing together 500 students from over 90 countries.

This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend lectures by Nobel Laureates, visit top UK research institutions, and represent my school and country on a global stage.

I am seeking sponsorship to help cover participation costs. Your support would make this experience possible and demonstrate your organisation's commitment to education, science, and youth development.

I would be delighted to share my experiences with your organisation after the event through a presentation or report.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Student Name]

[School Name]

[Contact Information]

The LIYSF recognises educators who inspire, mentor, and elevate young scientists toward global STEM opportunities.



– Head of Science, UK school

“Our school has sponsored students to attend LIYSF for several years, the experience profoundly impacts their confidence and ambition.”

info@liysf.org.uk

LIYSF CIC, 85 Great Portland Street, London W1W 7LT

www.liysf.org.uk

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FAQs

Who can apply?

Students aged 16–21 with a strong interest in STEM and good English proficiency.

Do teachers need to attend?

No, though group supervision is possible for school groups.

Is LIYSF academically recognised?

Yes. Supported by UNESCO and aligned with A-Level, IB, and national STEM curricula.

Is LIYSF safe?

Yes. Students stay in secure accommodation with 24/7 supervision and DBS-checked staff.

What does it cost?

£3,295 including accommodation, meals, programme access, visits, and events (travel not included).

How are students supervised?

On-site staff, welfare support, and secure, monitored halls of residence.

Key Information and Dates

Programme Dates

19 July – 1 August 2026

Application Deadline

31 May 2026

Location

Imperial College London & The Royal
Geographical Society (with IBG)

Participants

500 students from 90+ countries

Eligible Ages

16-21

Website

www.liysf.org.uk

Social Media

@liysf

Downloads & Useful Assets

- Parent 'Toolkit (PDF)
- Student Flyer



liysf.org.uk

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