**Career Development Fund: Advertised Call for Grant**

IDCC 2026

The Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC) is pleased to offer a Career Development Fund grant for a DPC Member to attend the [20th International Digital Curation Conference (IDCC26)](https://www.dcc.ac.uk/events/idcc26), taking place in Zagreb, Croatia between 16-18 February 2026.

This Career Development Fund grant will cover 100% of the conference registration fees and provide a contribution towards travel and accommodation. More details are provided below.

**About the IDCC26 Conference**

The [International Digital Curation Conference (IDCC)](https://dcc.ac.uk/events/idcc), organised by the Digital Curation Centre, is an established annual event with a unique place in the digital curation community, reaching out to individuals, organisations and institutions across all disciplines and domains involved in curating data and providing an opportunity to get together with like-minded data practitioners to discuss policy and practice.

The main theme of IDCC this year (IDCC26) is [AI, austerity, and authoritarianism: contemporary challenges in digital curation](https://www.dcc.ac.uk/events/idcc26/conference-theme). The conference will be held from 16-18 February in Zagreb, Croatia. To find out more, please visit the IDCC26 conference page at <https://www.dcc.ac.uk/events/idcc26>.

**About the DPC Career Development Fund Grant**

This Career Development Fund grant will cover 100% of the fees for IDCC26 conference registration.

The grant will also provide funding to help with expenses incurred attending in person. This may be used towards any one or all of the following expenses:

* Hotel booking for up to five nights (Sunday 15th February – Wednesday 18th February) based on suggested/preferred hotel list of conference organizers
* Contribution towards travel expenses (e.g., economy flight, train and/or public transport to/from Zagreb)

The amount of funding is at the discretion of the review panel and will be explicitly stated in the grant offer letter to successful applicants.

**Eligibility:**

DPC Members are eligible for this Career Development Fund grant. Grant applications are invited from officers, staff and affiliates of the organizations listed as members of the DPC on the Coalition’s website: <https://www.dpconline.org/about/members>.

**Please note that a DPC Member may submit a maximum of one application for this advertised grant** **for IDCC26** (e.g., one application for a person representing the DPC Member organization). The main DPC Member contact will have final approval for who may apply on behalf of their organization. We recommend that any member organization which supports an application discusses appropriate outcomes and benefits for the organization prior to submission.

Individuals associated with consortia or funded through agencies that are members of the DPC are eligible. However, they must confirm their application with the main DPC contact within the agency before applying. The DPC may pass the details of applications to the main DPC contact within these organizations as part of their assessment.

Honorary Personal Members of the DPC are eligible to apply for this grant.

Allied Organizations are not eligible to apply for this grant.

**Please note that this DPC Career Development Fund grant is not available to non-members.** Prospective members are eligible if their membership application is approved by the grant application deadline of 07:00 UTC on 7 October 2025. For information about joining, see <https://www.dpconline.org/about/join-us>.

**Conditions of Grant:**

It is our aim that the grant will primarily deliver benefits to an identifiable DPC member organization, but that there should also be a benefit to the broader DPC community. Therefore, recipients will be asked to produce outputs that will help disseminate the information or skills they have learned for the wider benefit of the DPC Membership. Outputs will be proportionate to the size of the grant awarded. For this grant, it may include, but is not limited to, a blog post on the DPC website and/or coverage of an event (e.g., Mastodon, Bluesky, Twitter, LinkedIn) or another output discussed with the Training and Grants Manager subsequent to the award.

We recommend that any member organization which supports an application discusses appropriate outcomes and benefits for the institution before submission.

**How to Apply:**

The form below should be used to apply for the advertised grant from the DPC Career Development Fund to attend the IDCC26 conference, Zagreb, Croatia, 16-18 February 2026.

All sections of the application form should be completed and returned to the DPC Training & Grants Manager ([amy.currie@dpconline.org](mailto:amy.currie@dpconline.org)), accompanied by explicit approval for attendance from a supervisor via email or attached letter, by **07:00 UTC on 7th October 2025** [(click here to see the application deadline in your local time)](https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixedtime.html?msg=DPC+Grant+Deadline+-+IDCC26&iso=20251007T07&p1=1440).

The information provided in the application form will be used by a grant review panel to assess the applicant’s eligibility and the impact attendance will have on the applicant’s professional development and the digital preservation work of their organization. Applications will be reviewed by the panel on these criteria whose decision is final. The panel is typically formed by the DPC’s Training and Grants Manager, Head of Workforce Development, and at least one member of the Workforce Development Sub-Committee with no conflicts of interest in relation to the applicants. Additional members may be added to the panel if required. More information about the review process and assessment criteria is provided in the [full Career Development Fund Guidelines](https://www.dpconline.org/digipres/prof-development/cdfund/cdf-guidelines).

Successful applicants will be notified on or before **18th November 2025.**

For any questions relating to this grant or the Career Development Fund grant programme, please email [amy.currie@dpconline.org](mailto:amy.currie@dpconline.org).

**Acknowledgements:**

The [Career Development Fund](https://www.dpconline.org/digipres/prof-development/cdfund) is sponsored by the DPC’s Supporters who recognize the benefit and seek to support a connected and trained digital preservation workforce. We gratefully acknowledge their financial support to this programme and ask applicants to acknowledge that support in any communications that result. At the time of writing, the Career Development Fund is supported by Arkivum, Artefactual Systems Inc., boxxe, Cerabyte, DAMsmart, Evolved Binary, Ex Libris, HoloMem, Iron Mountain, Libnova, Max Communications, Pictoscope, Preferred Media, Preservica and Simon P Wilson. [A full list of supporters is online here](https://www.dpconline.org/about/commercial-supporters).

**Career Development Fund: Application Form for Advertised Call**

IDCC 2026

The following form should be used by staff at DPC member organizations to apply for the advertised Career Development Fund grant for the IDCC26 conference, taking place 16-18 February 2026 in Zagreb, Croatia.

Information provided in the form will be used by the selection committee to assess the applicant’s eligibility and the impact attendance will have on the applicant’s professional development and the digital preservation work of their organization (Section 3).

All sections should be completed and the form returned with explicit approval for attendance via email or attached letter, to Amy Currie ([amy.currie@dpconline.org](mailto:amy.currie@dpconline.org)) by **07:00 UTC on 7th October 2025** ([click here to see in your local time](https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/fixedtime.html?msg=DPC+Grant+Deadline+-+IDCC26&iso=20251007T07&p1=1440)). For more details about eligibility and criteria for DPC grants, please read the [full Career Development Fund Guidelines](https://www.dpconline.org/digipres/prof-development/cdfund/cdf-guidelines).

1. **Personal Information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Job Title** |  |
| **Contract Type** | Permanent  Short-term  Project Staff  Other:  Will you still be employed or associated with the DPC Member organization at the time of the IDCC26 conference, on 16-18 February 2026?  Yes  No  Not Sure: |
| **Line Manager** |  |
| **Organization** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Telephone** |  |
| **Address** |  |

1. **Eligibility**

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| --- |
| **Relationship to DPC** |
| Full Member  Associate Member  Allied  Honorary/Personal  Prospective\* (please note prospective members are only eligible if their submitted DPC membership application is approved by the grant application deadline) |
| **Previous scholarships/grants received from DPC** |
|  |
| **Number of years working in a digital preservation related role(s)** |
| Less than a year  1 to 5 years  More than 5 years  Other: |
| **Relevance of current role to the topic(s) covered by this grant opportunity (e.g., to the IDCC26 conference theme, sessions, courses, etc.)** [max. 100 words] |
|  |
| **Previous IDCC or digital preservation related events attended (e.g., training, workshops, briefing days, conferences, etc.)** |
|  |
| **Funding** **Requested for (please indicate below the level of support you require to attend IDCC26):** |
| ☐ Conference Registration  ☐ Hotel booking (for up to three nights, Sunday 15th February – Wednesday 18th February, based on suggested/preferred hotel list of conference organizers)  ☐ Contribution towards travel expenses (e.g., economy flight, train and/or public transport to/from Zagreb)  Add any additional notes here: |
| **Would you be the only person from your organization attending IDCC26?** |
| Yes  No  Not Sure: |
| **Financial Need: Please describe why you are requesting this grant funding, providing evidence where possible (e.g., organization’s travel policy, details of previous unsuccessful applications, other barriers)** [max. 100 words] |
|  |
| **Link to your blog, or previous examples of blogging** [optional] |
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1. **Relevance and Potential Impact of Event**

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| --- |
| **Describe the relevance of your role to your organization’s digital preservation aims** [max. 300 words] |
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| **How will attending the development opportunity further your own professional development?** [max. 300 words] |
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| **How will the knowledge gained at the development opportunity benefit your organization more broadly?** [max. 300 words] |
|  |

1. **Declaration**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **I agree to the terms and conditions of the grant as laid out in the call for applications, and I confirm I will report on the impact which this opportunity has had on my work (please tick)** | |  |
| **Date Completed** |  | |