

By-Law 1

Terms of Reference of the Awarding of Funds

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The Fund will consider requests from CAUT and any of its member organizations for financial support to help finance the promotion or defence of academic freedom. Requests will not be considered from other sources.

- At the time of the request, the association must be in good financial standing with CAUT.
- The request must be for promotion or defence of academic freedom as defined in Article 2.1 (e) of the Academic Freedom Fund Constitution.
- The request must pertain to a situation that raises issues of academic freedom of broad national significance and cannot be adequately dealt with solely through normal grievance/arbitration procedures.
- The requesting organization must have committed a substantial amount, judged in the context of its size and own financial resources, before requesting assistance from the Fund.
- The request must plan to use the funds in a manner that is likely to result in a useful outcome.

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Requests will be reviewed initially by the Executive Director in consultation with the President. They will make sure that all the relevant documentation is gathered and then will present the request to the Academic Freedom Fund Board of Trustees who will decide (a) to grant the request; (b) to ask the requesting organization for further information before making a final decision; (c) to defer the request for a definite period of time; (d) to reject the request.

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Should a request be deferred or rejected, the requesting organization may appeal to the Members of the Fund. Appeals will be considered by the Members at their next general meeting, or by conference call if the matter cannot wait until the next general meeting. Any decision of the Members of the Fund shall be final.

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Requests from CAUT will be presented to the Members of the Fund, not the Board of Trustees, and the Members of the Fund will decide (a) to grant the request; (b) to ask CAUT for further information before making a final decision; (c) to defer the request for a definite period of time; (d) to reject the request.

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The Board of Trustees shall prepare an annual report to the Fund Members at the annual general meeting. The report will list each request, its disposition, and the current status of the case.