

Dresden Hardship grants

How much is needed? Guidance

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on patients in financial difficulty, the Charity has been monitoring the criteria of our Dresden Hardship grants, and related processes, to ensure we are providing the support patients need. To reflect the ever-changing environment, and in response to feedback from staff, we have made some changes:

- we are increasing the maximum you can apply for food costs to £350, as we are aware of the current increased need for support with food
 - we are returning the maximum you can apply for under the essentials category to £250, and childcare costs and utility bills will no longer be covered, as these were temporary additions during the first lockdown
 - we will cover parking, ULEZ and/or congestion charges, to enable patients to drive to hospital if this is safer for them. The maximum you can apply for under travel will lower to £350
 - we will continue to be flexible releasing payment instalments when you contact us
- We will continue to monitor the fast-changing situation and review these changes as necessary.

We've created this guidance table to help you work out how much you should apply for on behalf of your patient. You can apply for set amounts of money within set costs types, detailed below. The total maximum you can apply for is £1,500. You can apply for funding on behalf of inpatients and/or their families, and outpatients who need to attend hospital for treatment.

Please be aware that when we assess your application we may be in touch to understand your request, and may need to make an award that is different to the amount you request.

We can unfortunately only pay for the items detailed below. We understand that patients may have many other needs, and would like to signpost you to the Turn2Us Grant Search tool <https://grants-search.turn2us.org.uk/> to find out what other support may be available.

Cost type	Maximum amount	How should I work out how much?	How will this be paid?	Any other considerations?
Travel	£350	<p>We can provide funding for the patient to travel to and from their home and the hospital they need to attend for treatment. We can alternatively/additionally provide funding for up to 2 family members to travel to and from their home and the hospital they need to attend to support the patient.</p> <p>To work out how much to request:</p> <p>a. Think about how many journeys you are applying for us to pay for.</p> <p>b. Calculate how much each of these costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roughly how much is the train, bus, or TFL ticket they need? - Roughly how much is the taxi journey they need? - Roughly how much petrol do they need? We will pay 25p per mile. <p>If they are driving, do they need support with parking, ULEZ and/or congestion charge costs? How much will these be if so?</p> <p>c. What is the total of what they need? So the number of journeys x the cost of the journey, to a maximum of £500.</p>	To the patient or family, in instalments, with a first payment upfront	Some people can claim for travel costs to and from hospital from the NHS Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme. This is for people who receive qualifying income-based benefits and allowances. You can find out more at https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/help-with-health-costs/healthcare-travel-costs-scheme-htcs/ Please only apply for patients who are not eligible to claim from this scheme.
Accommodation	£500	<p>We can provide funding for the patient to stay overnight near the hospital they need to attend for treatment. We can alternatively/additionally provide funding for up to 2 family members to stay overnight near the hospital they need to attend to support the patient.</p> <p>We can alternatively/additionally retrospectively reimburse the patient, or up to 2 family members, who had to stay overnight near the relevant hospital in an emergency situation.</p> <p>To work out how much to request:</p> <p><u>If we are reimbursing emergency accommodation:</u></p> <p>a. How much did the patient or family spend on their accommodation?</p> <p>b. We will reimburse them for this amount, or £100 per night to a maximum of £500, whichever is the least.</p> <p><u>For other accommodation requests:</u></p> <p>a. Think about how many nights you are applying for us to pay for.</p> <p>b. We will pay £100 per room per night.</p> <p>c. What is the total of what they need? So the number of nights x £100 per room, to a maximum of £500.</p>	To the patient or family when we have seen proof of the booking	The Trust has visitor accommodation next to Hammersmith Hospital, which could be a good and affordable option for bookings. Find out more at https://www.imperial.nhs.uk/media/website/patients-and-visitors/short-stay-studios-for-visitors.pdf
Food	£350	<p>We can provide funding of up to £350 for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for the patient to purchase food when visiting the hospital they need to attend for treatment. - for up to 2 family members to purchase food when visiting the patient in hospital. - to purchase food required for the patient's treatment. <p>To work out how much to request:</p> <p>a. How many days does the patient or family need food for?</p> <p>b. We will pay £15 per day for an adult, or £10 per day for a child under 12.</p> <p>c. What is the total of what they need? So the number of days x £15 or £10 per day</p>	To the patient or family, in instalments, with a first payment upfront	We can't pay for alcoholic beverages.
Essentials	£250	<p>We can provide funding for the patient to purchase the essentials they need for or because of hospital treatment, or for essentials to be bought on behalf of a patient who needs them.</p> <p>We can alternatively/additionally provide funding for up to 2 family members to purchase the essentials they need to stay overnight to support a patient.</p> <p>We can pay for items for adults, children and/or babies.</p> <p>Items for adults and children include: personal hygiene items, clothes, wigs, fabric supports</p> <p>Items for babies include: nappies, changing mats, bottles, teats, bottle brushes, towels, basic clothes</p> <p>To work out how much to request:</p> <p>a. What does the patient or family member need?</p> <p>b. Roughly how much is it to purchase these items?</p> <p>c. What is the total of what they need?</p>	To the patient or family, in instalments, with a first payment upfront	<p>We can only pay for the items listed. Unfortunately we cannot consider requests for any other essential items, such as utility bills, childcare costs, white goods, furniture, rent, mobile phones, electronics, or private treatment.</p> <p>Some people are entitled to free wigs and fabric supports. This is for people who receive qualifying income-based benefits and allowances. You can find out more at https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/help-with-health-costs/wigs-and-fabric-supports-on-the-nhs/ Please only apply for patients who are not entitled to these items for free.</p>
Funeral costs	£1,000	<p>We can provide funding to help the family of a bereaved inpatient pay for their funeral.</p> <p>We can only provide funding for families who cannot claim their costs from the Children's Funeral Fund For England (https://www.gov.uk/child-funeral-costs). This Fund helps pay for the costs of a funeral for a child under the age of 18, or a baby stillborn after the 24th week of pregnancy. It is not means-tested, but the funeral must take place in England. Where this is relevant, families should apply here instead. Where it is not, we can accept applications.</p> <p>We will pay Funeral Director's fees, which typically cover overseeing arrangements, caring for and preparing the deceased for the service, co-ordinating legal requirements, the coffin or casket, and the hearse.</p> <p>To work out how much to request:</p> <p>a. How much are the Funeral Director's fees?</p> <p>b. We will reimburse them for this amount, or £1,000, whichever is the least.</p>	To the Funeral Director, when we have seen an invoice/receipt	Some bereaved families could also be entitled to additional help with funeral costs via the Funeral Expenses Payment. This is for people who receive qualifying income-based benefits and allowances. You can find out more: https://www.gov.uk/funeral-payments