

Freephone helpline 0808 808 3555

Charities which may give grants to families caring for a disabled child

Please note: There are grant-making organisations for specific disabilities, areas of the UK, occupations or faith of applicants that we have not been able to include here. You can search for these on our online grants information service: www.contact.org.uk/turn2us or call our freephone helpline for information.

Disability Grants also has information about grants at www.disability-grants.org/

We endeavour to keep this information up-to-date but please be aware criteria may change at short notice. Information correct at October 2020.

Please read carefully as not every grant will be applicable to you. We have only listed items you CAN apply for – most charities have strict criteria about what they will fund - check before you apply. An application does not mean you are guaranteed a grant. We advise contacting more than one organisation for the item you need.

Family Fund Tel: 01904 550 055 www.familyfund.org.uk

Type of grant	Help with essential items relating to the needs and wellbeing of a disabled or seriously ill child or young person and their family. This could include kitchen appliances, family breaks, laptops, furniture, bedding, clothing, hospital visiting costs, play equipment and many other items. Also grants for young people aged 18-24. No grants for items which are the responsibility of the NHS or social services.
Eligibility criteria	Families in the UK raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person up to age 17, with evidence of entitlement to statutory financial support (separate applications process for families resident in Wales). See website for further details on eligibility.
How to apply	Parents and/or carers can apply. Application packs, to be filled in and posted back to the Trust, can be posted on request or downloaded from the website. If applying for the first time you can register and apply online.

Children Today Charitable Trust Tel: 01244 335 622 www.childrentoday.org.uk

(Due to COVID19 new applications are currently taking a minimum of three months to process)

Type of grant	Mobility equipment: includes (but not limited to): Electric wheelchairs and wheelchair power packs, walking aids, adapted trikes, adapted car seats, lifting aids/hoists to enable movement, posturepedic sleep equipment / weighted blankets, sensory equipment including bubble tubes, specialist seating including P Pod support systems. No grants for ipads, laptops, holidays, apps or communication aids.
Eligibility criteria	Disabled children and young people up to the age of 25. Must be in receipt of DLA.
How to apply	Applications must be for specialised pieces of equipment for individual children (not groups or schools) and must be made by the individual applying, their parent, or legal guardian. You will need to obtain a medical reference from a professional along with a quotation for the equipment. Contact Trust to request an application form.

Bruce Wake Charitable Trust 0344 879 3349 www.brucewaketrust.co.uk

Type of grant	Grants towards sporting and leisure activities (limited to one every two years for individuals).
Eligibility criteria	Applications related to the provision of sporting and leisure activities. Physically disabled wheelchair users particularly favoured.
How to apply	Applications only through a charitable organisation or equivalent, submitted with appropriate financial information. Fill in a preliminary form on the website.

Newlife the Charity for Disabled Children Newlife Nurse Helpline: 0800 902 0095
<http://newlifecharity.co.uk/docs/care-services/Newlife-Equipment-Grants.shtml>

Type of grant	Grants for essential equipment such as: Specialist seating, wheelchairs, beds buggies and communication aid. Free emergency equipment loan of essential equipment such as specialist beds, wheelchairs, buggies, seating systems, portable hoists, specialist toys, play therapy pods, comfort capsules for emotional needs.
Eligibility criteria	Disabled and terminally ill children under 19, who are permanently resident in the UK.
How to apply	Grant applications must be supported by professionals who will specify and agree the equipment needed. Call the Newlife Nurse Helpline above and download the information sheet and application form.

British Gas Energy Trust Tel: 0121 348 7797 www.britishgasenergytrust.org.uk	
Type of grant	Grants to clear domestic gas and electricity debts owed to British Gas and other suppliers
Eligibility criteria	Families and individuals living in extreme hardship and with exceptional/multiple vulnerabilities who are struggling with their gas and / or electricity debts. The Trust strongly recommends you seek money/debt advice before applying, to increase your chance of a successful application.
How to apply	Apply online; call the Helpline above if you need assistance. The Trust may request additional information.
The League of the Helping Hand Tel: 01444 236 099 www.lhh.org.uk	
Type of grant	One-off grants of up to £250 towards items including: Essential household goods (excepting computers and IT equipment), specialist equipment and a carer's break (depending on funding).
Eligibility criteria	Applicants of any age experiencing financial hardship and on a very low income are considered, providing they have an illness, physical disability, diagnosed mental health problem, learning disability or they care for an adult or child who is disabled.
How to apply	Applications by an employee of a professional agency (social services, health service, housing association, Carers Centre or Citizen's Advice Bureau on behalf of the recipient. The sponsor must ensure that all statutory entitlements, including Local Welfare Grant (where eligible) have been applied for before submitting an application. The sponsor also takes responsibility for the distribution of funds in the manner agreed by LHH. Sponsor should download and complete a form from the website.
Mobility Trust Tel: 0118 984 2588 www.mobilitytrust.org.uk	
Type of grant	Provides powered wheelchairs and scooters for people unable to get them through statutory or charitable means. The Trust also provides the first three years' insurance and the first two years' servicing free of charge.
Eligibility criteria	Disabled people of any age who are resident in the UK.
How to apply	Application via online form.

Lifeline 4 Kids www.lifeline4kids.org	
Type of grant	Provides the full spectrum of specialised equipment such as electric wheelchairs, mobility aids and items including specialised computers and sensory toys, also emergency and welfare appeals (see website for more details).
Eligibility criteria	Disabled children and young people from birth to 18 years old.
How to apply	Send an email indicating the specific requirement and cost, brief factual information about the child including full name, date of birth, health condition and family name, postal and email address and contact telephone number to appeals@lifeline4kids.org . An application form will then be emailed or posted to the applicant.
Buttle UK Tel: 020 7828 7311 www.buttleuk.org	
Type of grant	Delivers or funds critical household items such as gas or electric cookers, essential household items, furniture and kitchen equipment, clothing in exceptional or emergency situations, baby equipment, fridges and freezers, washing machines, children's beds and bedding. Maximum grant £300 (only one item per application normally considered).
Eligibility criteria	Children aged 18 or under living with parents or carers. Families/young people living in crisis.
How to apply	On a web-based application form or request a form by email (electronic and paper versions available). Applications must be made by a support worker who is supporting the family who is capable of assessing their needs, and who can administer a grant on behalf of Buttle UK.
The Heinz, Anna and Carol Kroch Foundation Beena Astle, Administrator, Heinz, Anna & Carol Kroch Foundation, PO Box 327, Hampton, London TW12 9DD hakf50@Hotmail.com Tel: 020 8979 0609	
Type of grant	Grants of £100 to £200 towards hospital travel costs, household bills, furniture, other hospital expenses, clothing, food, medical and disability equipment, living costs, home adaptations and help in the home. No grants for education purposes or holidays.
Eligibility criteria	Individuals of any age in England or Wales who are in severe poverty and financial hardship who also have ongoing medical problems, also people who have recently experienced domestic violence.
How to apply	Must be submitted by a representative of a professional organisation who is working with the client. Applications must be made by letter or email, with a supporting letter from a medical or welfare professional including full financial information and income and expenditure. Applications are generally processed each month.

EDF Energy Trust Tel: 01733 421 060 www.edfenergytrust.org.uk	
Type of grant	To help individuals and families to clear domestic gas and electricity debts, to purchase essential energy efficient household items such as washing machines and cookers or with Bankruptcy / Debt Relief Order (DRO), Sequestration and Minimal Asset Process fees.
Eligibility criteria	Individuals and families in need, poverty, suffering and other distress struggling to pay gas and/or electricity debts who are current domestic account holders of EDF Energy.
How to apply	The Trust strongly recommends you seek money/debt advice before applying, to increase your chance of a successful application. Apply online. You will need to provide supporting documentation (see website for details).
Carers Trust Tel: 0300 772 9600 www.carers.org	
Type of grant	Grants of up to £300 for essentials like breaks for carers (with or without the person they care for), items for the home (including white goods), driving lessons and other travel costs relating to caring roles, courses and materials to develop carers' skills, home repairs and short-term or time limited replacement care.
Eligibility criteria	Carers aged 16 and over.
How to apply	Contact your local carer services for advice. They will need to complete a supporting statement for you. To find your nearest carers centre or scheme, call or visit the website . Carers in Wales who are experiencing hardship this winter will be able to apply for a new grant from early November 2020. The grant (up to a maximum of £300) will help with anything from paying utility bills to buying a washing machine. It will be delivered through Carers Trust Network Partners. Get information about the grant in English and Welsh .
React Tel: 020 8940 2575 www.reactcharity.org	
Type of grant	Specialist medical, mobility and educational equipment, specialist furniture and homeware including white goods, travel and subsistence expenses, respite breaks and holidays, and end of life support including funeral expenses.
Eligibility criteria	Financially disadvantaged families caring for a child with a life-limiting and/or potentially terminal illness.
How to apply	Download the form from the React website or request one by email or phone. Parents and Guardians may apply but the form must be endorsed by a medical or healthcare professional.

<p>Equipment for Independent Living Mrs Janet Hillman, Honorary Secretary, Equipment for Independent Living, 19 Flanchford Road, London W12 9ND</p>	
Type of grant	Equipment for Independent Living helps people who have disabilities who are aged over 16 and living in the UK. Grants are for equipment such as wheelchairs, adjustable beds and communication aids.
Eligibility criteria	Carers aged 16 and over.
How to apply	Applications are considered at quarterly meetings. Please note that a health professional needs to support the application and confirm that the individual needs the equipment they have requested. Contact the charity for more information.
<p>Independence at Home Tel: 0208 427 7929 www.independenceathome.org.uk</p>	
Type of grant	Financial help towards the cost of essential items to improve your independence, comfort, safety and quality of life at home. One-off grants for specialist disability, mobility and communication equipment, furniture, home adaptation and repair, kitchenware (including white goods), homeware, therapeutic toys and play equipment, heating costs (winter months only) and sundry other expenses, also holidays (for people with neurological conditions only). Grants can only be made towards items not covered by statutory provision.
Eligibility criteria	People with physical/neurological/sensory impairments in the UK who are living at home and in financial need. Please see the list of eligible conditions on the website before applying.
How to apply	Online applications only. Applications must be submitted on behalf of the applicant by a health/social care professional who is in contact with you or your family member. Visit the ‘how to apply’ page of the website for more information. Please state you heard about them via Contact.
<p>The Ogilvie Charities The General Manager, The Gate House, 9 Burkitt Road, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4JJ Tel: 01394 388 746 www.ogilviecharities.org.uk</p>	
Type of grant	One-off grants, in the region of £100-£200 to individuals in need to buy essential items not supplied by the statutory agencies, for example beds and bedding, cookers, fridges, freezers and washing machines, also powered disability aids (for example wheelchairs) and/or (in very limited circumstances) clothing. Also grants in the region of £100-£300 for respite holidays for carers. Consideration given to funding family holidays in the UK if funds allow.
Eligibility criteria	People of any age in poverty, carers.
How to apply	Applications by post or email through a social worker, community nurse or similar professional agency. Include full details of weekly household income and expenditure, other agencies being approached, and details of the item or break

Glasspool Charity Trust Tel: 020 3141 3161 www.glasspool.org.uk

(Not accepting new applicants at present but advised to keep checking back regularly as aiming to keep the time they are not giving new grants to a minimum.)

Type of grant	White goods, beds and bedding, essential household items and other household goods, clothing, including school uniforms, baby needs, travel expenses for hospital visits etc Contribution towards equipment and adaptations for disabled people; vocational materials and training, and driving lessons and tests where there is clear evidence of an employment offer; Flooring where there is an exceptional circumstance for disabled people; educational computer equipment/television where there is a permanent or substantial disability/illness.
Eligibility criteria	UK residents of any age in need.. The Trust expects all applicants, where appropriate, to have applied to their Local Welfare Schemes and/or charities before making an application. The Trust will not make a grant where there is a reasonable expectation that funding is available from other sources, particularly statutory funds. See the Trust's website for more details.
How to apply	The Trust does not accept applications directly from individual members of the public. See the Trust's website for a list of eligible organisations who can apply on their behalf. Applications must be made via the grants website https://www.grantsplus.org.uk/

Variety, the Children's Charity Tel: 020 7428 8100 www.variety.org.uk

(Applications for grants are likely to be delayed because of Covid- 19)

Type of grant	Grants of £100-£6,000 for medical equipment such as monitoring equipment, feeding tubes or hoists, and sensory play or mobility equipment for a nursery or playgroup, also manual, powered and sports wheelchairs for children (via a separate form) Provide days out and trips for children.
Eligibility criteria	Sick, disabled and disadvantaged children and young people up to the age of 18 years, who are permanently resident in the UK
How to apply	Applications can be made by parents and medical professionals on behalf of individual children. These must be supported by an appropriate medical professional, eg occupational therapist, physiotherapist or paediatrician, clarifying the equipment sought and how it would benefit the child. Forms are downloadable from the website. Two quotations for the items requested should accompany the application.

Whizz Kidz Tel: 0800 151 3350 www.whizz-kidz.org.uk

(Due to the effects of the Covid-19 it may take several weeks for enquires to be responded to.)

Type of grant	Funds mobility equipment up to the value of £2,500 for physically disabled children and young people, such as manual and powered wheelchairs, buggies and trikes, also sports wheelchairs under some circumstances.
Eligibility criteria	Children and young people under 18 years old with a physical disability that permanently affects their mobility and participation. Funding only available where the applicant's local NHS Wheelchair Service does not provide equipment to meet the child's essential mobility needs.
How to apply	Only the parent/legal guardian of the child/young person may apply. Apply online or download an application pack. Call, email or visit the website for more information.

Caudwell Children Tel: 0345 300 1348 www.caudwellchildren.com

Type of grant	Mobility equipment, sensory equipment and therapies for autistic children. Provide 70% to 80% of the total cost of mobility and disability sports equipment. Families will need to put some money towards it or find another charity or funder who can help with the cost. Grants towards Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR) surgery and Post-SDR Rehabilitative Physiotherapy and other therapies and treatments which may not be available on the NHS. Parent/carer training to ensure the effects of treatment and therapy programmes are maximized. Enquire for specific details.
Eligibility criteria	Children under 19 years old with a chronic illness or disability., they and their parents/guardians must be living legally in the U.K and earn less than £45,000 before tax each year excluding benefits.
How to apply	Apply online through the link below or download an application form through our website. Alternatively we can post one out. www.caudwellchildren.com/apply-support Applications need to be supported by Occupational Therapist of Physiotherapist.

Percy Bilton Charity www.percy-bilton-charity.org.uk

Type of grant	Washing machines, Electric cookers, Fridges/Freezers, Beds and bedding, Vacuum cleaners and portable heaters (via their suppliers) Carpets/Flooring where there is a health and safety issue (up to £250) Essential clothing and footwear (via a pre-paid Gift Card) – no other type of grant given.
Eligibility criteria	Disabled Children with a physical/learning disability, serious long-term illness or severe/enduring mental health problem.
How to apply	Must be made by a Social Worker, Community Psychiatric Nurse or Occupational Therapist within Local Authorities or NHS Trusts on behalf of a child. Professional should apply via the website.

Wish granting charities

Dreams Come True Charity Tel: 1428 726 330 www.dreamscometrue.uk.com

(Only giving grants if the dream is considered medically urgent - where the child has a terminal diagnosis and short prognosis. If any young person fits this description, as well as meeting their other referral criteria, they would be considered for a dream and the usual referral process still applies.)

Type of grant	Dreams Come True works with families to enrich the lives of children and young people with serious and life-limiting conditions by making their dreams come true. See the website for examples.
Eligibility criteria	Children and young people of 2-21 years inclusive, who are seriously ill or have a life limiting condition. They must not previously have had a request fulfilled by Dreams Come True or had a request fulfilled or have a request in progress with a similar organisation.
How to apply	Anyone can nominate. Children or young people can be nominated by their parents, extended family, medical professionals, social workers and friends or they can nominate themselves.. Fill in the form online then download an application pack.

Happy Days Children's Charity Tel: 1582 755 999 www.happydayscharity.org

Type of grant	Funds and organises day trips and events, also activity holidays for groups of children and young people, and family respite breaks throughout the UK. Typical activities could include the seaside, zoos, theme parks, safari parks, fun fairs and trips to the theatre
Eligibility criteria	Children aged 3–17 years with learning difficulties, physical or mental disabilities, SEN or with life-limiting illnesses. Also young people who have been abused, bereaved or act as carers for a parent or sibling.
How to apply	Parents, family members and health professionals can apply for family respite breaks, organisations and groups can apply for group days out and activity holidays. Call for an application form or download from the website.

Make a Wish Foundation UK Tel: 01276 405 070 www.make-a-wish.org.uk

Type of grant	Grants the wishes of children and young people with critical illnesses.
Eligibility criteria	Any UK-resident child or young person aged 3 to 17 (applications on date of 3rd or 18 th birthdays will be accepted) who is living with a critical illness. The child must not have received a previous wish from Make a Wish or any other wish-granting organisation.
How to apply	The Foundation accepts referrals from parents or guardians, medical professionals, even the children themselves, and will then speak to each child's consultant to establish whether their condition is medically classed as critical.. Apply online or download an application form to email or post back.

Rays of Sunshine Children's Charity Tel: 020 8782 1171 www.raysofsunshine.org.uk	
Type of grant	Grants the wishes of children with serious or life-limiting illnesses. Grants wishes, including hospital ward wishes, and organises outings and large scale events.
Eligibility criteria	UK children with serious or life-limiting illnesses between the ages of 3 and 18. *applications will be accepted until the day before the child's 19th Birthday.
How to apply	Apply online or download an pack. Anyone can refer a child - contact the charity for an informal and confidential discussion. They will approach the child's consultant after the application has been submitted.
When You Wish Upon A Star Tel: 115 979 1720 www.whenyowishuponastar.org.uk	
Type of grant	Grants the wishes of children with life threatening and terminal illnesses.
Eligibility criteria	Children with life threatening and terminal illnesses between 4 and 16 years old. The child must not have had a Wish granted by another Charity.
How to apply	Parents/guardians or health professional can nominate a child for a wish by calling or emailing in the first instance, stating the child's name, age, address, medical condition, and brief medical history. If the child is deemed eligible, further info will then be requested.
Promise Dreams Tel: 1902 212 451 www.promisedreams.co.uk/	
Type of grant	Grants one-off dreams to children who are terminally or seriously ill, such as the trip of a lifetime or the chance to meet a celebrity. Also items that will make a difference to the child/family, such as medical equipment, home adaptations or a wheelchair.
Eligibility criteria	UK-resident children from birth to 18 years old, with a terminal, life-limiting or degenerative condition, and/or for whom independent living is unlikely to ever be a possibility. Children must not have had a dream from Promise Dreams before, but are still eligible if they have had a dream or wish granted by another such charity.
How to apply	Parent or legal guardian must download and complete an application form. Two signed letters of support are required - the first must be from the child's GP or consultant and the second can be from anyone else in a supporting role, for example the child's Social Worker, Community Nurse, School Teacher or Physiotherapist. Applicants are also required to provide three quotes (where practicable) for the dream for which they are applying. For more information please call, email or visit the website

Information correct December 2020. We endeavor to keep this information up-to-date but criteria may change at short notice.



Contact 209 - 211 City Road London EC1V 1JN T: 020 7608 8700 E: info@contact.org.uk contact.org.uk
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