



Applying for a grant from Pharmacist Support

This information sheet has been produced to help you complete your application for a grant. We want to be sure that we are able to assess your needs thoroughly and efficiently. Please do not hesitate to contact our helpline if you need any further assistance completing the form: **Pharmacist Support helpline: 0808 168 2233**

Part one: your questions answered

1. Who is eligible

If you are a pharmacist, a widow or widower of a pharmacist or a retired pharmacist and either you or your partner have been on the register at some point you are eligible to apply for support. If you are a pharmacy student or a pre-registration pharmacist you are also eligible to apply for support. We can also help any member of your family who is dependent on you for financial support. You can be sure of complete confidentiality in making your enquiry.

2. Assessment of income and savings

Grants applications are treated on a case by case basis and eligibility is assessed on the level of income against the level of outgoings. Therefore your income need not be exceptionally low to apply and you may still be eligible if you have savings.

3. What can grants be given for

Grants are given to cover a range of circumstances. The following categories provide examples of what we can consider. The list is not exhaustive and we will consider any specific need you have.

Health and wellbeing grants are provided to support mental or physical quality of life. Typical funding examples include grants for respite care for a family member, for counselling and therapies, for convalescence after an illness or accident, for home help during convalescence, for purchasing a particular disability aid and for contributions towards nursing or residential care fees.

One-off grants are provided for those who cannot meet a specific cost and require temporary assistance. Often applicants for these grants have been affected by an unforeseen loss or work due to redundancy or ill health or are living on a very low income and cannot afford to pay an unexpected bill. Examples of one-off grants include assistance to purchase a washing machine, essential car or household repairs or to pay winter fuel bills.

Regular grants provide a top-up for people who have a very low income and are finding it difficult to make ends meet without getting into debt. Applicants are often widows/widowers/retired pharmacists or people who have an illness or disability which prevents them from working and these grants help them to maintain a quality of life which they would lose otherwise.

Student hardship grants We realise that most students leave university with significant debt. However, some students face particular hardship due to unforeseen circumstances such as family, ill health or bereavement. A one off grant of £250 can be made available to students facing particular hardship.

Part two: notes on completing the application form

Please provide as much information as possible as this will enable us to assess your needs properly and deal with your application quickly.

Points 1 - 3 Please complete all of the required information about you and your partner's details and any other person who lives with you.

Point 4 Please list all the income received by you and your partner and state whether on a weekly or monthly basis.

Point 5 Please provide details of any savings and capital you have. Your own home is excluded as capital. Having savings will not necessarily mean that you cannot get a grant.

Point 7 When completing your expenditure details ensure that you have thought of all of your outgoings and that the figures are a true reflection of your expenses. It may be worth keeping a note of what you have actually spent in the last week or so to help you.

Point 8 If you are in arrears with any payments to creditors please provide information here. If you owe money but are not in arrears please place the details in the expenditure table in 7.

Point 9 By providing your bank details we can ensure that you receive any grant quickly and securely.

Point 10 Please let us know why you need a grant. You may find it helpful to look at the examples provided in part one of this sheet but these are not an exhaustive list and we aim to be flexible when considering requests.

Point 11 If you are happy that you have provided a true and accurate account of your circumstances to the best of your knowledge, please sign and date the form and return it to our office address.

Documentary evidence In order to assess the application

We will need relevant documentary evidence of your income and expenditure. This must include a minimum of the last three months' statements for any bank accounts held by you and/or your partner, plus other relevant information, for example:

- a copy of a letter from the DWP with details of your benefits
- a recent mortgage/rent statement
- copies of letters from creditors regarding arrears, where you have outstanding debts
- any other relevant documentation, for example, copies of bills.

Photocopies are normally acceptable but if you need to send originals we can copy and return to you if required.

For further information and assistance please contact us on:

Tel: 0808 168 2233

Email: info@pharmacistsupport.org

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