



Disabled Facilities Grants

What is a Disabled Facilities Grant?

It is money you might be able to get if you are a disabled person so that you can live as independently as possible.

The grant is paid by your district or borough council.

Can I get a grant?

To get a grant you must:

- be disabled or be a landlord with a disabled tenant
- either own your own home or rent from a private landlord
- have difficulty managing daily living tasks

Certain situations may not be eligible for a grant, for example special adaptations for therapy activities or medical treatment. In all cases seek advice and information by phoning the County Council on 0300 500 80 80.

If you live in council owned or housing association accommodation you may still be able to get adaptations to your home, but they may be funded differently. Contact your local housing department for further details.

What sort of work does the grant cover?

The following types of work qualify for a grant.

Work to:

- make it easier to get in and out of the property
- make access easier to the living room, bedroom, bathroom and kitchen
- make it easier to use the bath or shower, toilet and hand basin

- make it easier to prepare and cook food
- improve or provide a suitable heating system
- adapt heating or lighting controls to make them easier to use
- improve access around the home to enable the disabled person to care for another member of the household in need of care
- make the building safe for the disabled person and other occupants.

Discretionary grants for other kinds of adaptations may also be available.

How do I apply for a grant?

Step 1 – contact the County Council on 0300 500 80 80. We will arrange for an Occupational Therapist to visit you, to assess your eligible needs and make any necessary recommendations to help you live at home.

Step 2 – if we agree that you need a major adaptation, we will contact your district or borough council to plan and agree a suitable scheme. The role of the district or borough council is to provide the grant for the work. They are involved at all stages in the administration of the grant and make sure that the work meets their standards. The district or borough council will only give a grant where the work is reasonable, practicable and is necessary and appropriate to meet your needs.

Step 3 – if you are eligible you will be asked to fill in a form about your income and savings. This financial assessment decides how much, if anything, you may have to contribute towards the cost of the adaptations. People on low incomes may get a grant to cover the full cost of the adaptations.

There is no assessment where the application is for a disabled child.

How is the grant calculated?

The district council decides the reasonable cost for the work – called the ‘eligible cost’. The amount of grant you will receive will be what is needed to meet the eligible cost of works over and above your contribution. For example: if the eligible cost of the work is £2,500 and your contribution is calculated at £1,000 you will receive a grant for £1,500.

Currently, the maximum grant available under a mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant is £30,000. If the grant is going to exceed this amount, the district or borough council has the discretion to pay the extra. This will depend on the policies and priorities of your council.

What can I do if I have a contribution to pay?

Make contact with your local district council housing grants department or discuss the outcome of your financial assessment with your occupational therapist.

Can I get help in organising the work?

Yes, you can appoint an agent to deal with organising plans, builders or tenders. The cost of this can be included in your grant application. People who could help or could be your agent include:

- home improvement agencies (ask your occupational therapist for more information)
- architects and architectural technicians.

Your rights

This factsheet does not provide a full statement of the law – only the courts can do that. Nor does it cover every case. If you are in doubt about your legal rights or obligations, you should seek advice from a

Citizens Advice Bureau, Disability Nottinghamshire (telephone: **01623 625891**) or consult a solicitor.

Contact details

Nottinghamshire County Council

If you have any issues, please discuss them initially with your occupational therapist. If you are still not satisfied, you have the right to make a formal complaint. Contact:

Complaints and information team
County Hall
Loughborough Road
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7QP
telephone: **0300 500 80 80**
Minicom: 01623 869598

Email: enquiries@nottscc.gov.uk

District or Borough Council

Contact your local borough or district council and ask for the department that deals with Disabled Facilities Grants. Their contact details are in the phone book or online. You can ask for a copy of their complaints leaflet if you want to make a formal complaint.

National information on Disabled Facilities Grants is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/disabled-facilities-grants>

The Council is committed to protecting your privacy and ensuring all personal information is kept confidential and safe. For more details see our general and service specific privacy notices at:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/global-content/privacy>