



Applying for a grant

Giving patients total support, to help them live more fulfilling lives, have better choices and receive better services and support.

Improving life for
kidney patients

Kidney Care UK provides funding for kidney patients who are struggling to make ends meet. This leaflet explains the type of grants we offer and how to apply.

When you're struggling to deal with kidney disease, the additional pressures of trying to make ends meet can make life very difficult. Our grants are intended to avert a crisis, make a purchase that improves your quality of life or take a respite break or holiday. Whilst we can't guarantee every application, we do our best to help where we can.



What will Kidney Care UK pay for?

Financial aid

If your kidney disease or the kidney disease of someone in your family is causing financial difficulties and you are on a low income, we may be able to help with the cost of an outstanding domestic bill such as gas, electricity or water, or with car insurance or heating costs. We sometimes also help with the purchase of domestic goods such as washing machines and cookers and often pay for storage facilities for dialysis supplies.

Holidays

We understand the importance of taking a break from the monotony of kidney treatment and we give grants to individuals and families towards the cost of a basic holiday in the UK or overseas.

The grant can be used to cover the total cost of the holiday, or it can be used as a contribution towards the final cost. Payments are made directly to the travel company. We only make one holiday grant per couple or family in any two-year period. We also support adults and children with the costs of attending the Transplant Games.

Travel costs

If you can't recover the cost of travel to your hospital via your kidney unit, we may be able to help you if you have to visit regularly and travel a long way. We don't help with costs of getting to ongoing dialysis though.

Further education and training

We may be able to make a contribution towards the cost of university or college fees where appropriate, or help with the cost of books, equipment, lodgings or other expenses involved with educational and job opportunities.

How do I apply to Kidney Care UK for a grant?

You'll need to contact your kidney unit social worker, as all applications for grants must come to us on a grant application form completed with your social worker, or a member of your kidney care team.

You'll be asked to give details about your financial circumstances. Your kidney unit social worker will have a copy of our grant application form, but it can also be downloaded from our website www.kidneycareuk.org

How long will it be before I receive any money?

Once we receive the grant application from a member of your kidney care team, we review all applications and if successful it may be just a matter of days before the grant is agreed.

If the grant is for more than £100, the amount will always be made payable to the company or shop supplying the goods or services.

Is there a limit to the funds I can ask for?

There is of course a huge demand on our funds. Our personal grants vary in size and depend on the request and individual need caused by the kidney disease. As the grant forms are filled in with members of your kidney care team, we know they have been talked through in detail before coming to us.

Can I apply for more than one grant?

Yes, we consider each application on its own merits, but we will take into account other recent personal awards made.

What can't Kidney Care UK help me with?

It's important to remember that we can't reimburse patients for bills already paid. In addition, we don't give grants for:

- Telephone bills
- Court fines
- Improvements to a patient's home
- Credit card and loan repayments
- Medical equipment
- Council tax payments

Whilst we don't pay for dialysis when on holiday either in the UK or abroad, it is free in European Community countries at centres which accept the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC).





Last year, I went on a clothes-making course at college but I didn't have a sewing machine at home. My clinical psychologist helped me to think about applying to Kidney Care UK for a grant for a machine and now I am so happy to have one. I have something to do in my house now and whilst I'm concentrating on sewing my anxiety goes away. It's like having a person to talk to.

Shuvai, received £190 grant



Kidney Care UK provides support, advice, counselling and financial help for kidney patients and their families.

We fund the improvement of renal equipment, services and specialist staff. We also invest in research and help to influence government and NHS policy. To access our full range of services, please use the contact details below.

Visit our website at **www.kidneycareuk.org**
Call us on **01420 541424**

Kidney Care UK 3 The Windmills,
St Mary's Close, Turk Street, Alton GU34 1EF
T: 01420 541424 | **F:** 01420 89438
info@kidneycareuk.org | kidneycareuk.org

 **KidneyCareUK**  **@KidneyCareUK**

Formerly

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Patient **ASSOCIATION**
improving life for kidney patients