

COST OF LIVING SUPPORT FUND FAQs

- **Why has the Cost of Living Support Fund been created?** The Cost of Living Support Fund was launched in 2023 to offer more financial support to people living with MND during the cost of living crisis. The crisis hasn't gone away and the Cost of Living Support Fund will continue to be available during 2024. If you received a Cost of Living Support Fund payment in 2023, and you are struggling with increased bills and/or food costs, you can apply again in 2024. This fund is under continuous review.
- **Who can apply?** This fund is available to people living with MND or Kennedy's disease who have a confirmed diagnosis or suspected diagnosis from a health professional. Applicants do not need to be pre-registered with the MND Association. A representative for the applicant, including family members, Association Visitors (AV), Area Support Coordinators (ASC) may fill out the application form on their behalf.
- **What is the application process?** Applicants will need to complete the Cost of Living Support Fund application form and provide details about why the fund is required and how will it be used. No quotes or receipts are required as part of the application process.
- **Can individuals apply more than once?** The Cost of Living Support Fund is a one-off payment of up to £350 and is available to people living with MND to help with household bills and food shopping costs. (Please note this does not include repayment of debt). Applicants may request the full £350 in one application or separate amounts totalling £350 over several applications.
- **Are applicants means tested for the Cost of Living Support Fund?** No, applicants are not means tested as part of the application process for the Cost of Living Support Fund.
- **Can individuals still apply for the Cost of Living Support Fund if they have been awarded other MND Association grants before?** Yes. It doesn't matter what other types of financial support individuals have received from the MND Association. The Cost of Living Support Fund is a one-off payment of up to £350 and is available to people living with MND. The Cost of Living Support Fund is in addition to the £3,000 rolling 12 month limit which is applicable for the two other types of grants available to people living with MND; the Quality of Life grant and Support Care grant. More information about these grants can be found [here](#).
- **Can I apply directly to my branch or group?** In the first instance please email your completed application form to support.services@mndassociation.org. Alternatively the form can be returned to your local Branch or Group who will then send this onto the Support Services Team to process – details of our branches and groups can be found [here](#).

- **How quickly will my application be processed?** We aim to process all Cost of Living Support Fund applications within 5 working days. We aim to process all other types of grant applications within 10 working days.
- **What other support can people living with MND receive during the cost of living crisis?** People living with MND can submit Quality of Life grant applications for further help with financial commitments. All applications must meet the criteria for the grant being applied for in order for them to be processed and ultimately approved. More information on the criteria for Quality of Life grants is available [here](#). We also have an exceptions process for all of our grants detailed [here](#). More information about where to find support about the increased cost of living is [here](#).