

Leukaemia Care - Financial Hardship Fund

Leukaemia Care is a national blood cancer support charity. We are dedicated to ensuring that anyone affected by blood cancer receives the right information, advice and support. Please visit www.leukaemiacare.org.uk for more information on our services.

Leukaemia Care provides two funds to support people facing financial hardship: the Financial Hardship Fund and the Exceptional Hardship Fund.

Financial hardship fund

Our Financial Hardship Fund provides grants of up to £200 for essential living costs to patients and families affected by leukaemia, myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) or myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs).

This replaces our Hospital Travel Fund and has been expanded to include other essential living costs.

What we will fund

- Travel expenses such as bus tickets, train tickets, fuel, car maintenance, parking fees and taxi fares.
- Food costs associated with a neutropenic diet, eating a high calorie diet to avoid weight loss or simply coping with normal food costs on a reduced income.
- Utilities such as gas, electricity, or water.
- Internet access.
- One grant per family.
- Maximum award of £200.
- Grants cannot be applied for retrospectively.

Eligibility criteria

1. Patients with leukaemia, myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) and myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs) that are currently undergoing treatment, chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) patients on 'watch and wait', or chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) patients undergoing treatment-free remission.

2. Families of patients with leukaemia, myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) and myeloproliferative neoplasms (MPNs) that are currently undergoing treatment, chronic lymphocytic leukaemia (CLL) patients on 'watch and wait', or chronic myeloid leukaemia (CML) patients undergoing treatment-free remission.
3. Previous recipients of the Leukaemia Care Hospital Travel Fund may not be eligible to receive the Financial Hardship Fund; however, please contact us for additional support.

How to apply

1. The fund operates on a monthly basis. There is no closing date, awards are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until the fund is depleted each month.
2. One grant per family and grants cannot be applied for retrospectively.
3. Please download and complete the application form below and return to advocacy@leukaemiacare.org.uk or via post to **FREEPOST RLXX-RJRA-ACRH, Leukaemia Care, One Birch Court, Blackpole East, Worcester, WR3 8SG.**
4. Please enclose a copy of a letter from your consultant confirming your diagnosis – scan and/or photocopies are acceptable.
5. If you have any queries about the fund or how to complete the application form, please call the Leukaemia Care helpline on **08088 010 444** and ask to speak with Lisa Barnett.

Processing your application

1. We will acknowledge receipt of your application.
2. Your application will be assessed by the Patient Advocacy team.
3. You can expect a decision within 10 working days of Leukaemia Care assessing your application.
4. All applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by email or post.
5. Successful applicants will also be contacted by phone to discuss next steps.
6. We may ask you to confirm your bank details by providing a paying in slip or the top half of your bank statement.

Terms and conditions

Your application will only be assessed if:

- you meet all of the eligibility criteria.
- all parts of the application form are fully completed.
- there are funds remaining within the counselling fund for distribution.

What you can expect if your application is successful

We will ask you for feedback on receipt of the grant, to allow Leukaemia Care to measure the impact of the service on people affected by a diagnosis of

leukaemia, MDS or MPN. We will also contact you to see if we can help with anything else. Leukaemia Care has a dedicated benefits advisor and an advocacy officer who can help with accessing further grants or with other issues resulting from the diagnosis such as time off work.

If your application is unsuccessful

We are sorry your application has been unsuccessful. This is likely due to one of two reasons; either you do not meet the eligibility criteria or, the Financial Hardship Fund has been exhausted due to high demand. We will contact you to see if we can help in another way.

Confidentiality

Your personal information will only be used for the purposes of assessing your application and if successful, to administer payment and to evidence the impact of the service on you.

Hear about how we can support you further

If you wish to hear about our services and how to get involved, please tick the box below:

I am happy to receive email communications/newsletters from Leukaemia Care

Share your story

If you wish to share your story of diagnosis or supporting someone with a blood cancer, please let us know and we will get in touch with you. We use stories to show our impact to supporters but also in campaigning work to improve the lives of people affected by blood cancer.

I would like to share my story

Application form

Section 1

Surname:

First name: Title:

Email:

Phone:

Home address:

Gender: Male Female I prefer to self-describe

Date of birth:

Are you the patient or family member?

Patient Family member Other

If family member, please specify your relationship:

What is the patient's diagnosis?

What hospital is the patient being treated at? Please provide the name and email of the consultant haematologist treating the patient.

What will you use the grant for?

Application agreement

I confirm I have read the terms and conditions and agree to abide by them. I also agree to provide written feedback once I have received the grant.

Signature:

Date:

Bank details for payment of the grant:

Name and address of bank branch	
Name of account	
Account number	
Sort code	
Referral made by (name, job title, signature)	

If you have questions, please call our freephone helpline on [08088 010 444](tel:08088010444).