

Part 2 - Section 3 - Grant Guidelines with Effect from October 2001

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Please get proper supporting information from appropriate professional before making grant and try to keep them below the maximum amount.

(AH) Central Heating Installation or Repair

Grants to cover the cost of installing central heating and to replace boilers, which are beyond repair, are available to members irrespective of their health state due to HIV. Where an applicant is asymptomatic central heating helps preserve health. Those already exhibiting symptoms need adequate heating. An amount up to the current maximum is available. Flat dwellers can be paid up to 66% of the amount for a house.

MAX:	House	Flat
Central heating installation	£2,500	£2,000
Boiler replacement	£2,000	£1,000

NB: Not an addition to moving home grant, property should be purchased with effective decent heating installed.

(SH) Convalescence

Grants are available to members who are symptomatic, recovering from an illness related to their condition and have been recently hospitalised. A brief report must be obtained from the member's hospital doctor which gives dates of the last admission, reason for hospitalisation and description of the person's health relevant to HIV. In exceptional cases confinement to bed at home may qualify in lieu of stay in hospital. Payment is limited to the registrant and carer/companion (subject to the current maximum per person).

MAX: £750 (2 per year any additional requests to be taken to Trustees)

(ML) Driving Lessons

A one-off grant towards the cost of a course of driving lessons for a registrant is available. Where the registrant is too young to drive or no longer able to for health reasons a spouse, parent or carer can be eligible for this kind of grant. Grant for non-family carers and extra lessons must be referred to the Trustees.

MAX: £250

(ER) Educational Course Fees

A grant up to the current maximum can be paid to cover advanced (*) education course fees. A grant may only be made if no help is available from LEA concerned. Grants in excess of £500 will be paid on an instalment basis. Evidence of successful completion of the previous stage must be submitted before a grant instalment covering the next stage may be paid.

(*) Advanced education means degree, teaching course, HND or HNC, A-level or higher. Postgraduate courses are specifically excluded.

MAX: £2,000 (No office grants given this financial year 2000/2001, requests to be taken to Trustees).

(HF) Equipment for Disability

A grant, up to half the current of maximum, can be made to purchase 'equipment for disability' (e.g. Wheelchairs, stair-lifts, bath-hoists). The current maximum for this kind of grant can be increased to the current maximum if 50% is recoverable, normally through a buy back arrangement with the original supplier. The recipient of this form of assistance should be notified that the equipment remains the property of the Trust and is offered on a long-term loan basis.

MAX: £3,000

(MF) Hospital Fares

Where a member is not entitled to or is experiencing difficulty getting help with travelling expenses through the hospital fares scheme, a grant will be made available to cover such expenses up to the current maximum per quarter. In general, grants for this purpose are available only during an acute phase of a persons illness and therefore not payable for occasional 'check up' appointments. Payments are also available to cover the travelling costs of close family members visiting a Trust registrant in hospital.

MAX: £300

(AM) Investment Advice/Wills

A grant may be paid towards the fees charged for professional investment advice where this is arranged on the advice and introduction by Trust office.

MAX: £100

(MM) Motability Deposit

A grant is available to any registrant in receipt of Motability Allowance that qualifies them for a Motability lease car, on medical recommendation only where there is no suitable vehicle available in the 'Nil deposit' Motability range. Where the member concerned has a dependant partner, this form of assistance is extended, subject to the understanding that no other grant in connection with the car is made for a period of three years:

- i. To cover the cost of purchasing at the end of a three year Motability hire period through their used car hire purchase scheme.
- ii. To buy a car through Motability's used car scheme.
- iii. To buy a car through Motability's new car scheme.

MAX: £1,000

(HN) Nursing Care

The Trust will assist with the cost of home nursing care of registered persons in exceptional cases, they may also assist with costs of residential private nursing. The extent of Trust commitment, in time and total cost, will be decided by the Trustees based on the information given in each case, and taking account of other available sources of help, both statutory and private. In an emergency, the Trust officers are authorised to make a first payment up to the current maximum pending further considerations by the Trustees.

MAX: £1,000

(ED) School Change Costs

A one-off grant towards the cost of school uniform, books, sports kit and other equipment can be made when the dependant child of a registrant changes school.

MAX: £500

(LF) Setting up Home - Household equipment Grant

A grant, up to the current maximum, can be made towards the cost incurred by a member setting up home independently for the first time. Typically this grant will be a contribution towards the cost of furniture, furnishings, and 'whitegoods' (washing machines etc).

MAX: £2,500 (A second grant will only be given at Trustees discretion).

(AL) Moving Home - Removal grant

A grant, up to the current maximum, is available to meet receipted expenses. The following limitations apply:

- i. No previous grant for this purpose and either
- ii. First move from parents home or
- iii. Move related to health needs (e.g. Suitability of accommodation/harassment/proximity to treatment or family support/accessible accommodation).

If a member makes requests for 'setting up home' and 'removal' grants simultaneously, one part of the application must be referred to Trustees.

MAX: £2,500 (A second grant will only be given if moving 7 years after the initial grant is given unless under medical grounds specified by centre).

(AR) Replacement Windows

A grant, up to the current maximum may be paid to cover the cost of replacement windows in the essential rooms only (bedroom and living rooms).

Clear evidence of serious disrepair must be provided together with two written quotations from reputable window companies.

MAX: £2,500 (Not an addition to moving home grant, property should be purchased with good windows).

(AA) Special Adaptations

Where adaptations to living accommodation are needed to allow proper home care for individuals with HIV, the Trustees may contribute to cost but normally expect an application to be made in the first instance to the appropriate Local Authority (LA). Where LA approves a grant of 75% and the balance is equal to the current maximum or less the office staff may authorise a grant to allow work proceed. Where LA grant is less than 75% or the balance required is more than the current maximum the application will be submitted to the Trustees for considerations.

MAX: £2,500

(HF) Special Chairs/Beds

Subject to the current maximum for this type of grant, and where the member concerned has advanced HIV, a grant can be made towards the cost of a 'Parker Knoll' style reclining chair or an adjustable bed. A supporting letter from an Occupational Therapist recommending a suitable chair or bed should be obtained.

MAX: £1,200

(HT) Therapy

A grant made up to the current maximum, can be made to allow the member and a partner/carer to sample a complementary therapy. Office staff should enquire about the credentials of the proposed therapist and his/her membership of an appropriate professional body. These details can be checked against those, which appear in NAM's Complementary Therapy Manual. Whenever possible, feedback about the service provided by the therapist should be sought.

MAX £200 each

(FB) Bereavement

Upon learning of a death, the Trust makes a grant of £2000 to the next of kin of the deceased to contribute towards the 'unexpected costs of being faced.' A letter asking about other terminal illness costs will accompany this payment, additional grants may be given to cover the cost of such items as new bedding, beds, travel to hospital etc.