

.henshaws

**sight loss
support team**

Grants Guide:

Grant awarding charities
and how to apply.





Introduction

The following list of charities may be able to offer financial assistance to people living with sight loss and/or other disabilities in addition to that available from statutory sources.

Please note that some of the charities listed are location, industry, disability and/or age specific. Please take some time to read the description and do a little research before you make contact.

Charities and grant-giving trusts rarely give money for things that you could get through, or could be funded by, statutory sources. Check with your Health & Social Care Team first, to ensure that what you're applying for isn't something they could help you with from them.

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Access to Work Grant

An Access to Work grant can pay for practical support if you have a disability, health or mental health condition to help you start working, stay in work, move into self-employment or start a business. Please note that the grant cannot be used for business start-up costs. There is no set amount for an Access to Work grant, and how much you get depends on your circumstances. The money can pay for things like: adaptations to the equipment you use, special equipment, fares to work if you can't use public transport, a support worker or job coach to help you in your workplace, a support service if you have a mental health condition and you're absent from work or finding it difficult to work, disability awareness training for your colleagues, a communicator at a job interview, and the cost of moving your equipment if you change location or job.

Telephone: 0345 268 8489

Textphone: 0345 608 8753

Email: atwosu.london@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.gov.uk/access-to-work/overview

The Barchester Healthcare Foundation

The Barchester Healthcare Foundation supports older people and adults with physical and mental disabilities. It is able to help individuals with the cost of items that enhance the person's mobility, independence or quality of life. This may include items such as a wheelchair, stairlift, specialised computer equipment, music lessons and bathroom adaptations.

Grants Management Team
Barchester's Charitable Foundation
3rd Floor, The Aspect
12 Finsbury Square
London

EC2A 1AS

Telephone: 0800 328 3328

Email: info@bhcfoundation.org.uk

Website: www.bhcfoundation.org.uk

Ben - Motor & Allied Trades Benevolent Fund

BEN is a not-for-profit organisation, dedicated to those who work, or have worked, in the automotive industry and their family dependents. BEN is proud to offer lifetime practical help, support and advice that makes a lasting, positive difference to people's lives. BEN can also help with grants where appropriate.

Telephone: 08081 311 333

Email: supportservices@ben.org.uk

Website: www.ben.org.uk/index.html

Guide Dogs

Guidedogs, offers a grants programme to help children and young people access the most appropriate technology and sensory equipment.

Guide Dogs

Hillfields, Reading Road, Burghfield

Common

Reading

Berkshire

RG7 3YG

Telephone: 0800 781 1444

Email: information@guidedogs.org.uk

Website: <https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/>

Blind Veterans UK

Blind Veterans have been supporting blind ex-service men and women since 1915. Their Grants team can help members buy specialist equipment, goods and services.

Blind Veterans UK
12-14 Harcourt Street
London
W1H 4HD

Telephone: 0800 389 7979

Email: supporter.services@blindveterans.org.uk

Website: www.blindveterans.org.uk

Challengers Children's Fund

Challenger Children's Fund is a Scottish based charity established by Trust Deed in 1978 for providing "aids to, and the maintenance clothing, education, or otherwise for the general benefit and wellbeing" of any disabled person under the age of 18.

Challengers Children's Fund
Suite 353
44/46 Morningside Road
Edinburgh
EH25 9RF

Telephone: N/A- see email

Email: info@ccfscotland.org

Website: www.ccfscotland.org/index.html

Children's Today Charitable Trust

Children's Today is a charity that raises funds to provide specialised equipment and services for children and young people with disabilities throughout the UK.

Children Today Charitable Trust

17B Telford Court
Chestergates Business Park
Chester
CH1 6LT

Telephone: 01244 335622

Email: info@childrentoday.org.uk

Website: www.childrentoday.org.uk

Education Support Partnership

The Education Support Partnership understands that life can often be challenging in many different ways. If you are working in or retired from the education sector and are suffering financial problems caused by unemployment, ill health, sudden life events, bereavement or a personal injury they may be able to offer support. Their confidential grants service can help you manage your financial and money worries to get you back on track when you are struggling.

Education Support Partnership
40A Drayton Park
London
N5 1EW

Telephone: 08000 562 561

Email: support@edsupport.org.uk

Website: www.educationsupportpartnership.org.uk

EIC

EIC support people from the electrical and energy industries whenever they or their families need help with life's challenges. For those who can demonstrate a serious financial need, the Electrical Industries Charity can provide a grant for a wide range of needs from the everyday to the exceptional - disability

adaptions, mobility equipment, home repairs and also basic essentials like heating and food.

Electrical Industries Charity (HQ)
36 Tanner Street
London
SE1 3LD

Telephone: 0800 652 1618
Email: welfare@electricalcharity.org
Website: www.electricalcharity.org/

The Family Fund

The Family Fund assists families across the UK who are raising a child or young person with a disability or a serious illness. Their grants for essential items help ease the additional pressures that families face and increase their quality of life.

The Family Fund
4 Alpha Court
Monks Cross Drive
York
YO32 9WN

Telephone: 01904 621115
Email: info@familyfund.org.uk
Website: www.familyfund.org.uk/

Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust

The Trust provides grants to help people who are ill, convalescent or disabled. It currently supports people of all ages with medical conditions, disability or poor health. If funding is limited, preference will be given to people who have professional, secretarial, or administrative qualifications. Funding may be provided for a range of medical items and services to improve quality of life, including TENS machines,

orthopaedic beds, hoists and household items such as washing machines. Applications should be made by a health professional or social worker on behalf of the client using the Trust's application form which can be downloaded from their website.

Mrs Ann Griffiths (Grants and Funding Manager)
Florence Nightingale Aid in Sickness Trust
Community House, Room F35
South Street
Bromley
BR1 1RH

Telephone: 020 7998 8817

Email: ann.griffiths@fnaist.org.uk

Website: <http://fnaist.org.uk/>

Gardners Trust for the Blind

The Gardners Trust for the Blind provides financial assistance to registered blind and partially sighted individuals in the UK. They award one-off grants towards household items and educational purposes. The Trust may also provide grants towards a pension.

The Gardners Trust for the Blind
117 Charterhouse Street
London
EC1M 6AA

Telephone: 020 7253 3757

Website: www.appcessible.org/gardeners-trust-blind/

Glasspool Charity Trust

A national charity providing small one-off grants to individuals in need on a low income. The Trust provides funding for

household items such as white goods, furniture, clothing, baby needs, educational computer needs, specialist disability equipment, driving lessons/tests and travel to hospital.

Saxon House (2nd Floor)
182 Hoe Street
Walthamstow
London
E17 4QH

Telephone: 020 3141 3161
Email: grants@glasspool.org.uk
Website: www.glasspool.org.uk/

The Honeywood Trust

Provides grants for computers, information technology and communication technology to disabled people to promote their education, independence and wellbeing.

The Honeywood Trust
Sway
Lymington
SO41 6EH

Telephone: 01590682843
Email: honeywoodtrust@gmail.com

Independence at Home

Independence at Home is a charity that provides grants to people of all ages who have a physical or learning disability or long term illness, and who are in financial need.

Independence at Home
4th Floor, Congress House
14 Lyon Road
Harrow
HA1 2EN

Telephone: 020 8427 7929

Email: iah@independenceathome.org.uk

Website: www.independenceathome.org.uk/

Interlink Foundation

Interlink manage a small grants programme on behalf of The Jew Association for the Physically Handicapped (JAPH). They provide grants for disability equipment and other essential items for Jewish individuals who are living in England with physical disabilities or sensory impairments.

The Interlink Foundation
Fourth Floor Offices
97 Stamford Hill
London
N16 5DN

Telephone: 020 8802 2469

Email: admin@interlink-foundation.org.uk

The Interlink Foundation - North West of England
400-404 Bury New Road
Salford
M7 4EY

Tel: 0161 740 1877

Email: office@interlinknw.org.uk

Website: www.interlink-foundation.org.uk/

The League of the Helping Hand

The League of the Helping Hand (LHH) provides financial support to people who are experiencing hardship due to illness or disability. They also provide assistance to carers of disabled children and adults. Regular beneficiaries, one-off grants – usually for essential household items or specialist equipment.

The Secretary, LHH
PO Box 342
Burgess Hill
RH15 5AQ
Telephone: 01444 236 099
E-mail: secretary@lhh.org.uk
Website: www.lhh.org.uk/

The Liverpool Merchants' Guild

They are a registered charity that administers a fund which has been built up by Liverpool people, mainly merchants and ship-owners, to pay pensions and grants to persons of limited means.

The function of the charity is to assess, and wherever justifiable, provide assistance to persons who satisfy the conditions of eligibility laid down in the Charter of Incorporation of the Guild.

Benefits:

Pensions: regular half yearly payments to supplement income.

Grants: one off payments towards expenditure on equipment or adaptations to support independent living.

Moore Stephens (North West) LLP, Secretary
110-114 Duke Street
Liverpool
L1 5AG

Telephone: 0151 703 1080

Email: info@liverpoolmerchantsguild.org.uk

Website: www.liverpoolmerchantsguild.org.uk

The Nihal Armstrong Trust

The Trust provides children with essential pieces of equipment, communication aids or specific services that their local authority does not provide.

The Nihill Armstrong Trust
111 Chatsworth Road
London
NW2 4BH

Website: www.nihalarmstrongtrust.org.uk

Peter Greenwood Memorial Trust

The trust aims to enhance Peter's work in supporting deaf people who wish to continue or return to study. It does this by making small cash grants. These grants are to enable individuals to buy books and equipment to support them in their studies.

Peter Greenwood Memorial Trust, Bursary Secretary
Westbrook Building
Great Horton Road
Bradford
BD7 1AY

Telephone: N/A

Email: apply@pgmtrust.org.uk or info@pgmtrust.org.uk

Website: <https://www.pgmtrust.org.uk>

Princes Trust

The Prince's Trust supports 13 to 30 year-olds who are struggling at school, unemployed and at risk of exclusion. The

Trust's programmes give vulnerable young people the practical and financial support needed to stabilise their lives, helping develop self-esteem and skills for work. Their Development Awards can help to cover costs such as: course fees, transport or equipment to help you get into education, training or employment.

Telephone: 0800 842 842

Text: CALL ME to 07983 385418

Website: www.princes-trust.org.uk/

Regain

Regain improves the independence of all British men and women who have become tetraplegic as a result of a sports or leisure injury. Money is available for potential REGAINERS to help provide them with the specialist equipment they need to enable them to achieve greater independence and improve their quality of life.

Action for Charity,
Newcourt House,
New Street, Lymington,
Hampshire, SO41 9BQ

Telephone: +44(0)7572 841861

Email: enquiries@regainsportscharity.com

Website: www.regainsportscharity.com/

Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB)

The RNIB offer grants to registered blind or partially sighted people for useful technology that can help them live independently, this includes computer accessibility software.

Royal National Institute of Blind People
105 Judd Street
London

WC1H 9NE

Telephone: 0303 123 9999

Email: helpline@rnib.org.uk

Website: www.rnib.org.uk/information-everyday-living-benefits-and-concessions-grants/grants-rnib

SF Charity

The SF Fund provides financial support for disabled individuals of all ages for both equipment and services that make a significant difference to their lives. They are able to fund items such as trikes, powered wheelchairs.

Zoe Lander, Charitable Fund Manager at DTD Charity
Redfield Way
Boulevard Retail Park
Lenton
Nottingham
NG7 2UW

Email: zoe.lander@dtdcharity.com

Website: www.sfcharity.co.uk

The Skinners Company

The grant-making charities of the Skinners Company have long been committed to finding innovative ways to break the cycle of poverty and create opportunities for the economically disadvantaged.

The Skinners Company
Skinners' Hall, 8 Dowgate Hill
London
EC4R 2SP

Telephone: 020 7236 5629

Email: charitiesadmin@skinners.org.uk

Website: www.theskinnerscompany.org.uk/grants-and-trusts/about-grants-trusts/

Snowden Trust

The Snowden Trust assists physically and sensory disabled people to access vocational and academic courses in the UK by awarding grants. These can be for equipment and essential study needs. They only give awards where funding cannot be met through other channels.

Snowdon Trust
Unit 18, Oakhurst Business Park
Southwater
West Sussex
RH13 9RT

Telephone: 01403 732 899

Email: info@snowdontrust.org

Website: <http://www.snowdontrust.org/>

VICTA

VICTA support children and young people who are blind or partially sighted by providing equipment to aid their visual impairment. Applications will be considered for children and young people who are registered or are register-able blind or partially sighted up to and including the age of 29 years and who are permanent residents in the UK. All items supplied through our grant scheme are for home use only (not for school or college).

VICTA
Silverstone House
46 Newport Road
Woolstone, Milton Keynes
Buckinghamshire

MK15 0AA

Telephone: 01908 240 83

Email: admin@victa.org.uk

Website: <http://www.victa.org.uk/>

The Powell Family Foundation

The Powell Family Foundation provide grants to children and young people under the age of 25 who have a vision impairment. They fund various things from advocacy to devices and accessible technology.

Grant Application- <https://tpff.org.uk/application/>

Address for correspondence:

The Clubhouse, 20 St Andrew St., London EC4A 3AG

Registered office: 3rd Floor, 12 Gough Square, London EC4A 3DW.

Turn2Us

Turn2Us is a national charity that helps people in financial hardship gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and support services. You can find welfare benefits and grants information that is relevant to you. Search by your situation or use the A-Z of benefits if you know the name of the benefit you want to find out about.

Website: www.turn2us.org.uk/

Other useful resources:

Disability Grants

This is an up to date searchable resource that could help up to find the right type of grant for your needs.

Website: <http://www.disability-grants.org/>

Guide to writing a funding application

You may be eligible to receive a grant for aids or equipment by applying for funding from grant makers who are open to receiving requests from individuals.

Following these tips below will help your application have a better chance of success. Good luck!

Research

Make sure to research the grant giver that you will be applying to, some may have websites where you can download an application form and others may tell you to write a freestyle application but to include certain information within your application. Make sure you also check where to send the application and who to address it to. Please refer to our Grant List Fact Sheet for information on current trusts and grants.

Write clearly and concisely

Type your application if possible and keep your application concise, a couple of pages at most. Many application forms have word counts which you will need to adhere to.

Include the cost

Make sure to include an accurate item list and costs for each item you should get quotes to back up the costs in case an application asks for this. Let the funder know if you have raised any money yourself and how much you are requesting from them. It is a good idea to ask multiple funders for small amounts towards your total than asking for the whole cost from one funder if their funds are limited.

Make your case

Tell the funder the difference this piece of equipment will make to your life. Why you need it and how it will help you. What will

it enable you to do that you can't do without it? Will it help you at home or at work?

Include your details

It's a good idea to include a short cover letter with your application which gives your contact details such as name, address, email and even phone number. This enables the funder to contact you to be able to tell you whether you have been successful with your request. Although some funders will only contact you if you were successful.

Be patient

Applications can take a number of months to come back to you with an outcome, dependent on how frequently their trustees or funding panel meet.

Write as an individual

Write from your point of view and be clear that the application is coming from you as an individual for your own benefit.

If you are successful

It is courteous to send the funder a thank you letter to acknowledge their support. A follow-up letter in 6 or 12 months' time may also be a nice idea if you can, giving the funder an update on the difference that their grant made to you.

If you are unsuccessful

If you are unsuccessful the funder may contact you to let you know and offer feedback. Alternatively you may not receive any response from them at all – this is not unusual. Funders are usually inundated with applications and inevitably cannot fund every request they receive and do not always have the resource to feedback to all applicants. You may want to make a note of when you can reapply as usually you cannot apply twice in the same year to the same funder but a later approach may be worthwhile if you are unable to secure funding from elsewhere.

Please note

Henshaw's Fundraising Team regularly seeks funding from a large number of charitable trusts, foundations and grant makers for all of Henshaws' services. We respectfully ask that you do not apply for funding for Henshaws' services and that you do not imply that your application for individual grant funding is on Henshaws' behalf as this may jeopardise a larger application that our Fundraising Team is working on.

We wish you all the very best with your application.

Disclaimer: *The contents of this document are provided "AS IS". This information could therefore contain technical inaccuracies and/or out-of-date information due to changes in the funding environment. This document may be updated or changed without notice at any time.*

This document was developed by [Henshaws, charity no 221888.](#)

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