

# Rebuilding Futures Fund Terms & Conditions

## Award terms and conditions

- The Rebuilding Futures Fund is a financial support programme, offering awards up to £1,000 subject to availability of funds. In recognition of the significant costs involved, and where funds allow, the panel will consider awards up to £1,500 for funeral costs/headstones and specialist equipment.
- We will consider one successful application per beneficiary, per Meningitis Now financial year.
- Applications can be made by different individuals within one family, but the awards cannot be combined to fund the same item/service.
- Applications are not means tested\* however, all applications are reviewed by a Meningitis Now Nurse. Some applications will be referred to our community support team for a discussion around the individual's support needs and award request.
- In the case of an unsuccessful application, we will reconsider the application if new supporting evidence is available or if the support needs of the individual have changed. In these circumstances a review of support needs will be carried out by a Meningitis Now Nurse or Community Support Officer.
- Funding will only be considered on receipt of a fully completed Rebuilding Futures Fund application form, together with appropriate supporting documentation.
- If the award is a contribution towards an item and you need to seek additional funding elsewhere, we would be happy to issue a letter confirming our commitment to pay.
- Where you are seeking additional funding from Meningitis Now, we will require evidence that the remaining balance for the item is available i.e. copy of bank statement, a commitment to pay letter from other funding source or a receipt for part-payment.
- Rebuilding Futures Fund panel meetings are held on the second Monday of every month (where possible).
- Meningitis Now does not operate an appeal process; the decision of the Rebuilding Futures Fund panel is final.
- We will endeavour to notify you of the panel decision within seven working days of the application being considered.
- Where an application has been successful, payment would normally be made to the individual provider of the item or service.
- If we are purchasing items on your behalf, we will share your address and contact details for the purpose of delivery only.
- Reimbursements of funeral costs will be considered within six months of the funeral taking place and upon receipt of proof of payment.
- Awards for items and services will not be made retrospectively, without prior discussion with a member of the support team.
- A minimum of 2 quotations will be required for all items/services requested – with the exception of travel expenses, therapy services and funeral costs & headstones.
- Any award made for equipment is provided on the basis the equipment is the property and full responsibility of the individual/family. You will be required to complete and return an Equipment Agreement Form. Meningitis Now does not take responsibility for the repair, up-keep, liability (insurance) and disposal of such equipment. In the event of faulty goods (and the item is still within warranty), we can provide proof of purchase upon request. We recommend that expensive equipment should be insured.
- We require that all awards are spent within six months of being awarded. (We will consider an extension to awards made if they have been impacted by COVID-19)
- Successful applicants will be asked to complete an evaluation within six months of the award being funded. It is important that we can demonstrate to our funders and stakeholders, the impact Rebuilding Futures Fund awards have on individuals lives and that it has met your personal needs.

- We will endeavour to fund as many awards as possible, but we reserve the right to defer applications to future meetings of the Rebuilding Futures Fund Panel.
- We are entirely dependent on voluntary donations and the Rebuilding Futures Fund is subject to the continued availability of funds.
- Meningitis Now will review its Rebuilding Futures Fund criteria annually and terms and conditions may be subject to change.
- Meningitis Now recognises that COVID-19 may have had an impact on Rebuilding Futures Fund applications. We will endeavour to take a flexible approach with applications if required.

*\* A means test is a financial assessment of a person's eligibility for an award.*

## **Before you apply**

Applicants are encouraged to have explored other potential funding channels prior to application, including services or items which should normally be supplied by a statutory body e.g. NHS, local authority or housing association. We recognise that in some cases it can be difficult to access funding via statutory bodies. To discuss this, please call our Nurse led Helpline on 0808 8010388, email [helpline@meningitisnow.org](mailto:helpline@meningitisnow.org) or speak to your local Community Support Officer.

Please also check that an award will not impact on any benefits that you may already be receiving.

Refer to the following for guidance:

- Get a benefits check to see if you are entitled to any benefits by visiting [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) or the charity [Turn2Us](http://Turn2Us) which has an online grants search tool to help you find grants or other types of support.
- Find out if you can apply for help from your local council or the Social Fund
- If you're in debt, get advice from your local Citizens Advice Bureau (go to [citizensadvice.org.uk](http://citizensadvice.org.uk))
- Find out if your local council can help with disability equipment

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