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## Up to £36k Grant Available to Help Disabled People Make Home Improvements

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– Categories: Finance



A government-backed grant worth as much as £36,000 is available across parts of the U.K. to support individuals with disabilities and long-term health conditions in making vital home adaptations. The Disabled Facilities Grant, issued through local councils, is designed to help those with additional needs remain safe and independent in their homes, and many people still don't realise they may qualify.

The funding is allocated to assist with specific home modifications such as stairlifts, accessible showers, heating systems, or grab rails. It is not intended for general

refurbishments or decoration. The primary goal of the scheme is to improve daily living for people whose mobility, health, or age has made standard living arrangements difficult.

To be eligible, applicants must have a physical disability, long-term health condition, or age-related need. According to official government guidance, this also covers individuals who have a learning disability, autism, mental health condition, progressive illnesses such as motor neurone disease, terminal illness, cognitive impairments like dementia, or general physical limitations.

The grant level awarded depends on household income and savings, meaning higher earners may receive less or be required to contribute towards the cost. In England, the cap for the grant is £30,000, while in Wales it is £36,000, and in Northern Ireland the maximum is £25,000. Notably, the scheme is not currently available in Scotland.

Government advice notes that “some councils may give more” than the published cap, depending on the case’s complexity. Applicants may also apply for more than one grant if circumstances change or a condition progresses. However, any changes must remain reasonable and proportionate to the home and the person’s needs.

In addition to a qualifying condition, applicants must intend to live in the property for the grant period, which is usually five years. Exceptions may be made for those with terminal conditions. Owners, tenants, and landlords may all submit applications, provided that two key requirements are met: the planned work must be necessary and appropriate for the applicant’s needs and reasonable and feasible given the age and condition of the property.

The government states, “The work should be completed within 12 months of the grant being approved. You might not get any grant if you start work on your property before the council approves your application.”

Applicants are responsible for ensuring planning permission or approval of building regulations, where necessary. Councils may also require that a qualified architect or surveyor be engaged to design or manage the project. Grant funding can cover their professional fees as part of the overall costs.

Applications are made through local councils, which have up to six months to decide. The process can be initiated online through most council websites or by visiting the local authority in person.

The Disabled Facilities Grant represents an important lifeline for many people in the U.K. who are trying to maintain independence and dignity in their own homes. With growing awareness, more households may benefit from the support already built into the system.