



What is a Disabled Facilities Grant?

What you need to know about applying for a Disabled Facilities Grant

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If you or someone living in your home has a disability, you may qualify for a Disabled Facilities Grant. A Disabled Facilities Grant is a sum of money that can help towards adapting your home to help you stay independent for longer. To see whether we can offer this grant, you will need an assessment by an occupational therapist.

What can I use the money for?

A Disabled Facilities Grant can pay towards adaptations to your home. Examples of adaptations include a ramp, a stair lift or widening of doorways. Your occupational therapist or adult social care worker will be able to offer further information.

How do I apply for a grant?

The occupational therapy team will work with you to discuss all the options available. If the outcome of your occupational therapy assessment is that major changes to your home are necessary and appropriate, your occupational therapist will apply for the grant on your behalf.

If they think there are ways you can get the help you need other than a grant, they will let you know.

What happens after applying for a grant?

An environmental health or housing officer will need to inspect the property to see whether the work is reasonable and practicable. They will make the final decision on whether to offer the grant, then arrangements will need to be made for the work to be completed.

You may wish to seek support from a home improvement agency or architect. If you live in rented accommodation you should seek their approval for the work to be completed and they should help with planning the works.

A housing officer will inspect the completed work before the grant payment is made.

How much can I get?

The maximum amount of grant is up to £30,000 per application. Your household income and savings will be looked at to work out if you need to pay anything towards the cost of the work. You can find out if you are likely to qualify for a grant before you apply. You should not start work before the council approves your application. In most cases, a person under 19 will not be means-tested.

Do I need to pay it back?

The Disabled Facilities Grant, or some of it, may need to be repaid if the property is sold or transferred within a certain length of time.

What if I am not happy with the outcome?

You can contact us on 01296 387024 (or speak to your occupational therapist) to discuss the appeals procedure. If, after having appealed to the council, you are still not happy, you may register your complaint with the Local Government Ombudsman. Visit www.lgo.org.uk or call 0300 061 0614 for more information.

How to contact us

 **Call:** 01296 387024

 **Email:** OTTriage@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Use this space to write down things you need to remember to tell us

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How to contact us

Adult Care Services

To get more information about adult social care services you can:

-  **Go online:** buckinghamshire.gov.uk and click on 'Care for Adults'
-  **Call:** 01296 383204

Are you worried about somebody?

If you or someone you know is at risk of abuse or neglect:

-  **Call:** 0800 137915 (24 hours a day)

If you would like to give us feedback

-  **Go online:** Please complete the online form at buckinghamshire.gov.uk

If you prefer you can:

-  **Call:** 01296 387844
-  **Email:** complimentsandcomplaints@buckinghamshire.gov.uk