

## Financial Help with Home Modifications or Equipment

If you need equipment to meet the everyday support needs of your child, you may be able to receive help with essential equipment and modifications to your home.

You will only qualify for this help if your child's additional needs will last over six months and meet the Ministry of Health's or ACC's criteria.

You will need to contact your child's Needs Assessment and Service Coordinator (see page 46) or ACC Case Manager who will put you in contact with an accredited assessor. In Auckland this is Enable New Zealand.

An assessor will be a registered therapist either in occupational therapy,

physiotherapy, or speech-language therapy depending on the type of equipment needed.

You may be able to arrange a trial of the equipment if necessary.

### ACC

The Accident Compensation Corporation provides financial help for anyone who has had a personal injury in an accident. This includes help for anyone, of any age, injured as a result of treatment provided by a health professional.

ACC can contribute to a wide range of medical and related costs, including doctor's visits, treatment from various other health professionals, surgery, x-rays and prescription costs.

If your child has a disability they can help with:

- transportation
- home modifications
- services for hearing loss
- services for visual impairment
- artificial limbs
- lump sum payment
- independence allowance

You will need a health professional, such as your GP, to help you fill out your original application. If your claim is accepted, you will then be given a Case Worker who will guide you through their system.



If you need help with ACC see Directory, on pages 76-81.



## Grant Funding

There are a number of discretionary grants offered that you can apply for. These tend to cover costs that are not typically government funded.

- The **New Zealand Lottery Grants Board** fund communication equipment and modifications to your vehicle. They also consider vehicle purchase if you have not transport to meet the needs of your child.
- The **Jubilee Trust** offer a general grant to people with physical disabilities living in Auckland.
- The **Alan Cook Opie Trust** provides grants for the purchase of computer and technical equipment that will assist people with physical disabilities.
- The **Wilson Home Trust Discretionary Grant** is to support an initiative, activity or equipment that will enhance the life of children or young people who have a physical disability.
- The **Halberg Disability Sport Foundation All Sports Activity Fund** provides grants to enable young people with a physical disability to participate in sport and active leisure within their community by supporting the additional costs associated with having a disability.
- **Variety** fund a broad range of requirements, from medical equipment, to mobility needs to innovative educational initiatives.
- Members of the **Cerebral Palsy Society of New Zealand** can apply for Individual Grants and they also have a number of voucher schemes to help people remain as independent as possible.
- The **Mazda Foundation** issue individual grants. One of their objectives is to support young people through advancement of education and

this includes support for equipment for children with disabilities.

- **Lions Clubs New Zealand** provide funding under Health, Sight, Community and Child Mobility grants.
- The **Cystic Fibrosis Association of New Zealand** offer a range of grants for people with Cystic Fibrosis, including support with education, physical health, hardship and welfare.
- **Rotary International** offer District Grants that fund smaller, short-term activities addressing local needs. You'll need to contact your local club to apply for specific funding. Local libraries and Citizens Advice Bureau holds lists of the clubs in the region
- The **J R McKenzie Trust** offer grants that fit their mission of a more socially just and inclusive Aotearoa with a particular emphasis on Māori and young people.
- The **North Shore Presbyterian Hospital Trust** offers small grants to improve the health and welfare of individuals living in the North Shore or Hibiscus Coast area.
- The **IHC Foundation** funds a wide range of initiatives that benefit people with intellectual disability and their families.

For information on these and other grants visit your local Citizens Advice Bureau or ask your library about Generosity New Zealand funding database  
[www.Northern.ccsDisabilityAction.org.nz](http://www.Northern.ccsDisabilityAction.org.nz) and click on Funding Opportunities.