

Meath County Council



Housing Grant Scheme

Housing Adaptation Grant For People With a Disability

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INTRODUCTION

Conditions of Scheme

Types of Housing

The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability may be paid, where appropriate, in respect of works carried out to:

- Owner occupied housing;
- Houses being purchased from a local authority under the tenant purchase scheme;
- Private rented accommodation;
- Accommodation provided under the voluntary housing Capital Assistance and Rental Subsidy schemes; and
- Accommodation occupied by persons living in communal residences.

No Grant will be awarded if Works have commenced prior to an Application being lodged and approved by Meath County Council.

1. Purpose of Grant

The Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability is available to assist in the carrying out of works which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of rendering a house more suitable for the accommodation of a person with a disability who has an enduring physical, sensory, mental health or intellectual impairment. The types of works allowable under the scheme include the provision of access ramps, downstairs toilet facilities, stair-lifts, accessible showers, adaptations to facilitate wheelchair access, extensions*, and any other works which are reasonably necessary for the purposes of rendering a house more suitable for the accommodation of a person with a disability.

*No extension works will be approved unless all less costly, and “fit for purpose” alternatives have been considered and eliminated e.g. use of technology, reassignment of existing rooms etc.

Where Meath County Council refers a Housing Grant application to a Consultant Occupational Therapist for assessment and prioritisation on the basis of medical need (as per Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Guidelines), approved grant amounts will be subject to a deduction of €200.00 in respect of such Occupational Therapist Fees.

If the Applicant is a child who is aged under 5 years, and has been assessed under Part 2 of the Disability Act 2005 by the HSE as requiring specific housing support, a copy of the Report from the Occupational Therapist who carried out the assessment should be submitted with the application.

The personal information (data) collected on this form, including any attachments, (which may include the collection of sensitive personal data) is collected for the purpose of processing this application and any data collected is subject to Meath County Council's privacy statement which can be found at

<http://www.meath.ie/Data Protection/>

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Applicants who are seeking a grant for anything that is available from the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) (Roof insulation, Wall insulation, Boiler and heating control upgrades, Solar panels etc.) should contact the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) at 1850 927000 for more information, as these works will not be grant aided under the Housing Adaptation Grant For People With A Disability Grant Scheme.

2. Level of Grant

The level of grant aid available shall be determined on the basis of gross household income and the approved cost of the works as assessed by Meath County Council. The table below sets out the level of grant available based on an assessment of household income.

Annual Household Income	Percentage of Cost of Works Available	Maximum Grant for houses erected for more than 12 months	Maximum Grant for houses erected for less than 12 months
Up to €30,000	95%	€30,000	€14,500
€30,001 – €35,000	85%	€25,000	€12,325
€35,001 – €40,000	75%	€22,500	€10,875
€40,001 – €50,000	50%	€15,000	€7,250
€50,001 – €60,000	30%	€9,000	€4,350
In excess of €60,000	No grant is payable	No grant is payable	No grant is payable

3. Prioritisation

Applications are prioritised on the basis of the medical needs of the applicant.

Medical Priorities

Priority 1

Terminally ill or mainly dependant on family or a carer; or where alterations/adaptations would facilitate the discharge from hospital or alleviate hospitalisation in the future;

Priority 2

Mobile but needs assistance in accessing facilities, or where, without the adaptation the disabled persons' ability to function independently would be hindered;

Priority 3

The applicant is Independent, but requires special facilities to improve the quality of life, e.g. separate bedroom or living space.

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4. Household Income

Household income is calculated as the annual gross income of all household members over 18 (or over 23 if in full time education) in the previous tax year.

In determining gross household income Local Authorities shall apply the following income disregards:

- €5,000 for each member of the household aged up to age 18 years;
- €5,000 for each member of the household aged between 18 and 23 years and in full time education or engaged in a FAS apprenticeship;
- €5,000 where the person with a disability for whom the application for grant aid is sought, is being cared for by a relative on a full-time basis;
- Child Benefit
- Early Childcare Supplement
- Family Income Supplement
- Domiciliary Care Allowance
- Respite Care Grant
- Foster Care Allowance
- Fuel Allowance
- Carer's Benefit / Allowance

5. Evidence of household income

The following evidence of income must be included with all applications:

- In the case of PAYE workers, P60 or Balancing Statement for the previous tax year;
- In the case of self-employed or farmers, Income Tax Assessment form, together with a copy of accounts for the previous tax year;
- In the case of social welfare recipients, a statement from Social Welfare stating weekly/annual payments or P21 Balancing Statement for the previous tax year.
- In the case of State Pensioners a copy of the payment card and a payment slip from An Post or P21 Balancing Statement for the previous tax year.
- In the case of earnings from savings and investments, a certificate of interest or a dividend certificate.

(Evidence of household income should be submitted in respect of all household members)

6. Tax Requirements

In the case of a grant application totalling €10,000 or more, applicants are required to produce a valid Tax Clearance Certificate. The application form for a Tax Clearance Certificate is available from the Revenue Commissioner's website, www.revenue.ie. Alternatively applicants can request an application form from their local Revenue District.

In the case of payments totalling €10,000 or more a contractor is required to produce either a valid Tax Clearance Certificate or C2 Certificate (which will be returned by the Local Authority). As an alternative to producing a valid Tax Clearance Certificate the contractor may authorise the Local Authority to confirm electronically that he/she holds a valid Tax Clearance Certificate using the on-line verification facility on the Revenue Commissioner's website. The contractor gives permission to the Local Authority to confirm his/her tax clearance status by quoting the customer number and tax clearance certificate number, which appears on the Tax Clearance Certificate.

All applicants are required to include with their grant application, proof that they are compliant with the Local Property Tax.