

Special Grant Programme

Information for Potential Applicants

Background

During 2019, work began on the development of a new Motability Special Grant Programme to support other charities and organisations with similar objectives to our own, in support of Motability's vision:

'That no disabled person shall be disadvantaged due to poor access to transportation'

Today, the Special Grant Programme allows Motability to provide financial support to organisations, working in key areas where we believe there is the greatest potential to improve access to transportation for disabled people.

What will the Special Grant Programme support?

Motability have identified a number of key areas where we believe there is the greatest potential to improve access to transport for disabled people. We are developing individual strategies for each area which deliver sustainable, long term benefit for disabled people.

The Special Grant programme will provide support to organisations identified as having the greatest potential to deliver innovative and impactful solutions in these key areas.

Information on current key areas of interest can be found on the Innovation page of our website.

Within key areas, Special Grants are available to support:

- **The delivery of services and activities that directly benefit disabled people with transportation needs**
- **The growth and strengthening of organisations already delivering meaningful support**
- **Research into the transport needs of disabled people**
- **Activity seeking to deliver systems change that addresses the root causes of inaccessible transport systems and solutions**

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What support is the programme able to provide?

Motability is committed to providing support that has the greatest likelihood of delivering meaningful impact for disabled people. Each Special Grant is uniquely designed to provide support that maximises impact.

Special Grants will generally be restricted for specific projects or purposes. However, the funds requested may include funds for capital equipment (e.g. for the purchase of equipment); a proportion of core costs, including salaries, overheads, and day-to-day running costs.

Unrestricted funding is generally not available, other than in exceptional circumstances where the grantee's charitable objects closely align with Motability's own:

'To facilitate the relief and assistance of disabled persons in connection with the provision to the beneficiaries of personal or other transportation'

Motability understand that tackling entrenched issues takes time, and significant resource. The Special Grant Programme will generally provide multi-year funding of at least £50,000 per annum, however exceptional grants below this amount may be awarded at Motability's discretion. We are also keen to provide organisations with non-financial support where possible, especially where Motability's existing expertise can provide significant added value.

Who will the programme fund?

In order to maximise the impact of the Special Grant Programme, we are focussing our support on providing grants to established charities and not-for-profit organisations, based in the UK and supporting UK beneficiaries.

These grantees will have a demonstrable track record of delivering meaningful benefit either to disabled people, or through activity (including research) which can be adapted to address entrenched issues that affect disabled people's access to transportation. Work supported by the Special Grant Programme must be charitable in nature.



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What will the programme not support?

While Motability seeks to investigate all available opportunities to support the transport needs of disabled people, there are a number of areas we will not fund through the Special Grant Programme.

Motability will not provide support through the Programme for:

- Single individuals, or organisations applying on behalf of individuals
- Statutory bodies
- Hospitals or health authorities
- Pressure groups, or organisations primarily engaged in political activity
- Work based outside the UK
- Medical care, medical equipment, or medical research
- Fundraising events
- Construction or restoration projects
- Overseas travel
- Retrospective funding
- Sponsorship of any individual, group, or company



How can organisations apply for a Special Grant?

The Special Grant Programme is currently by invitation only while we continue to investigate the best way to deliver impact in each of the identified key areas.

Information about future funding rounds will be published on the Special Grant Programme page of our website, including guidance on how to apply, timelines, and the specific key areas we are seeking to support.

For further information on the Special Grant Programme please contact a member of the team at SpecialGrant@motability.co.uk. Please note we are unable to accept unsolicited applications submitted to this address.

