



TRAVEL GRANT POLICY

Families and individuals who do not qualify for help from the NHS, but for whom travel is a financial burden can apply for an Alex TLC Travel Grant.

The Travel Grant is subject to our normal Grant Giving Policy and also requires the applicant to provide the original letter of referral and proof of the appointment.

This Grant is only available to those who are not applicable for the NHS grant described above.

The Grant can only be paid for appointments with specialist genetic leukodystrophy doctors or in direct connection with their genetic leukodystrophy condition, e.g. neurologist, endocrinologist.

The Grant is only available when the travel exceeds 50 miles.

Under 50 miles would be subject to our usual terms (Financial Hardship)

Only Standard class travel will be paid.

For overnight stays where it would be impossible to reasonably travel there and back in one-day, reasonable hotel expenses will be paid up to a maximum of £100.00 and exclude any sustenance. Receipts must be submitted.

For those driving to appointments, mileage will be paid at the rate as per HMRC guidance and will be shortest distance as per Google map directions. Reimbursement of parking fees can also be claimed, receipts must be submitted.

If a Blue badge is available, then this must be utilised wherever possible for parking.

HEALTHCARE TRAVEL COSTS SCHEME (HTCS)

If you're referred to hospital or other NHS premises for specialist NHS treatment or diagnostic tests by your doctor, dentist or another health professional, you may be able to claim a refund of reasonable travel costs under the Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme (HTCS).

Families and individual on low income or receiving certain benefits can claim back from the NHS for the cost of their travel to hospital for appointments. You can claim help with travel costs if you or your partner (including civil partner) receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Pension Credit Guarantee Credit
- you receive Universal Credit and meet the criteria of the NHS Low Income Scheme. Further details can be found at www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcosts/Pages/nhs-low-income-scheme.aspx

You can also claim for help with travel costs if:

- you are named on, or entitled to, an NHS tax credit exemption certificate (if you do not have a certificate, you can show your award notice) – you qualify if you get child tax credits, working tax credits with a disability element (or both), and have income for tax credit purposes of £15,276 or less
- you have a low income and are named on certificate HC2 (full help) or HC3 (limited help) – to apply for this certificate, you should complete form HC1, which is available from your local hospital, Jobcentre Plus offices, or the NHS print contract order line on 0300 123 0849

For further information please use the following link:

www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcosts/Pages/Travelcosts.aspx