

We help families across the UK who are raising a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 17 or under. You can apply to Family Fund if:

* You live in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales
* You are the parent or carer of a disabled or seriously ill child or young person aged 0-17 who lives with you
* You are currently living in the UK and done so for at least six months, or three months if your child is less than six months old. You are eligible to work and apply for public funds
* Your child is not in Local Authority care
* You have evidence of entitlement to any one of the following:
  + - Universal Credit
    - Child Tax Credit
    - Working Tax Credit
    - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
    - Income Related Employment Support Allowance
    - Income Support
    - Housing Benefit
    - Pension Credit.
* Your child or young person has a high level of additional support needs arising from a long term disability or disabling condition or a serious or life limiting illness. By long term we mean lasting or likely to last 12 months or more.  You must meet all Family Fund eligibility criteria in order to be considered for a grant.

Please read our [child and young person eligibility criteria](https://www.familyfund.org.uk/FAQs/our-disability-criteria) below.

Children and young people with additional support needs arising from a disability or disabling condition or with a serious or life limiting illness meet this criteria where:

* There is evidence that their additional needs impact on family’s choices and their opportunity to enjoy ordinary life; the degree of planning and support required to meet their needs are much greater than that usually required to meet the needs of children.

**and**

* They require a **high** level of additional support in three or more of Family Fund’s seven areas of support below.

**and**

* Their condition is long term or life limiting (by long term we mean lasting or likely to last 12 months or more).

**Family Fund seven areas of support**

Your child should require additional support in at least **three** of the seven areas below:

* Personal care– we mean things like physical support required with feeding, washing, toileting or moving and transferring child.
* Access to social activities – we mean things like engaging socially and taking part in activities.
* Education – we mean the type of support that is given for learning and who gives it?
* Communication – we mean listening, speaking and understanding.
* Supervision and Vigilance – we mean supervision and measures in place to ensure a child’s safety.
* Medical or therapeutic treatment or Condition management - we mean what treatment or therapy is given, who does this, how often and when?
* Physical environment and Specialist resources - we mean things like physical adaptations and adjustments required with getting around and what specialist equipment or resources are used.

Children and young people **do not need a diagnosis** to meet Family Fund criteria, but their additional support needs must arise from a disability or disabling condition.

You can apply online at <https://www.familyfund.org.uk/FAQs/how-do-we-apply> or for further info please do not hesitate to contact Parent Support Advisor, Terri-Anne, at school.