

Guidelines – Medical Costs Grants

What are Medical Costs Grants?

Our definition is ‘Medical expenses incurred in the treatment of injury’

Professional dance is a physically demanding career path with a high injury rate. During the course of a dance career, it is very likely that at least one injury will occur. If you have injured yourself, you may not be able to access the treatment you need to get yourself back on track. This may be particularly the case following surgery. If you are also on a low income following injury the cost of treatment can be prohibitively expensive. We advise applicants to take up options for free treatment, e.g. NHS but are aware of waiting lists. If you are on a low income, for instance if being on crutches prevents you working, you may also need help with living costs. If so, complete this form and we will make an assessment on this element.

The amount of money a person needs to live on can be quite subjective, and so we apply the same living standards assessments to everyone when we receive your Financial Needs Assessment form. We do the calculations using something called the Minimum Income Standards Calculator (details in Financial Advice) which calculates a ‘reasonable standard of living’ based on surveying the public.

Who can Apply?

- You are welcome to apply for a Medical Costs grant if you find yourself injured during your dance career, particularly if it is a dance related injury.

These grants cover:

- Rehabilitation costs following injury is the main support we offer including.
- Physiotherapy advice and treatment, including massage, recommended exercises and follow ups
- Osteopathy

We can also provide assistance if your mental wellbeing is suffering and affecting your career, via BAPAM. The cost is paid for by Dance Professionals Fund. If you would like help in this area, please complete this application form in the first instance and we will then refer you. Once referred, it is then confidential between you and BAPAM.

Please note this list is by no means exclusive and so please get in contact if you wish to discuss your situation prior to making an application, by phone or email – 01273 327119 or application@dancefund.org.uk.

Grants are typically up to a maximum of £1,000. Please also read the checklist of requirements on page 2.

Please read this checklist of requirements before submitting your application form:

- ✓ An application form signed and dated by you.

- ✓ A recent and comprehensive CV of your professional dance career, including specific dates of each contract/employment, i.e. dd/mm/yy. CV must be in PDF or Word format.

- ✓ A bank statement (in a PDF, JPEG or Word format) that clearly shows the last full month of transactions, your name, address, account number and sort code

- ✓ A referral from your GP or other medical team assessing your case. Applicants also need to attach a schedule of treatment costs from the health practitioner.

The questions on the form are designed to guide you so you know exactly what is required when completing it. You can also save the form and return to it if you wish. Here are the main things we will be asking for:

- A clear statement from you that outlines exactly why you need our help financially.
- Income and expenditure demonstrating **current** levels of each. Include details of all income and any benefits you are receiving.
- Details of **all** funding you have received or are receiving from any charity such as other benevolent funds within the last twelve months.
- If you share the costs of living in your accommodation, either with your partner or in a house share, you will need to show your contribution to household expenses.
- The amount of your partner's income (if they live with you) so we have a full picture.
- If you have children, details of the caring arrangement – e.g. do they live with you part-time, full-time?
- If you are a carer for someone, full details of the caring arrangement.

Applications that are incompletely filled out, and/or applications without the essential supporting documentation requested, will be rejected. If we can we will try and let you know the reason why your application failed. The safest way to make sure your request is considered is to make sure that we have all the information we need at the time of applying.