



Fairview Community Housing Trust Fund

Grant Procedures

Background

In 1999 the Oregon Legislature made a law that said when the Fairview State Training Center had no more residents, the property was to be sold and the money used to create a trust fund, the earnings from which would be used to help individuals with developmental disabilities stay in their own homes in their own community.

The last resident of Fairview Training Center left for a home in the community in June 2000. Since the time the Fairview Community Housing Trust was created, funds from the Trust have helped more than 900 people make home modifications and purchase equipment for home use with that money.

A Trust Advisory Committee comprised of persons with developmental disabilities, their family members, advocates and professionals wrote rules determining how the Trust will work. They decided that the money should be used for housing grants. They also decided that the money would be spent on housing modifications and equipment for persons with developmental disabilities living in residences that are not licensed. That means people living in their own home, a family home, or an apartment qualify, but modifications cannot be made to group homes or foster homes with these funds. The rules also say that the housing modifications or equipment must contribute to the health, welfare or safety of the person, or increase his or her independence. The numbers of the Administrative Rules for the Trust are 411-315-0010 through 411-315-0090 and are located at:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/rules/411_315.pdf

The Fairview Community Housing Trust Fund is now accepting applications for grants. Grants applications will be received between **April 15th and May 15th, 2009**. The total statewide amount that will be offered for grants this time is approximately \$250,000. This money will be distributed throughout Oregon based on the population in each region. Here is a list of the regions and the amount of grant money available.

Region	Counties in the Region	Grant Money Available
Metro/ North Coast	Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Washington	\$62,500
Multnomah	Multnomah	\$47,500
Mid-Valley	Benton, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, Tillamook,	\$50,000

	Yamhill	
Cascade	Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, Lane, Lake	\$35,000
Southern	Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath	\$37,500
Eastern	Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler	\$17,500

The following questions and answers will help you understand how the Trust works, and if you can benefit from this program.

What kinds of things qualify for a grant award? Housing modifications and equipment qualify that will immediately help you be more independent, or contribute to your health, safety and welfare in your home. Here are a few examples: accessibility ramps and landings, widening doors and hallways, lever hand faucets, grab bars, modifications to a bathroom so it works better for you, assistive technology to help you use the telephone, remote control switches, an automatic flush toilet, strobe lights and alarms, automatic door openers, door beacons, emergency call systems, floor coverings related to your health or safety, installation of an alarm or intercom system, safety fencing, wall and or window hardening, making a kitchen more accessible, or adaptive communication devices that contribute to your safety and or independence in your home. . There are many, many possibilities.

What kinds of things do not qualify for a grant award? Help with rent or a down payment on a house, normal maintenance and repair, play equipment or structures, therapeutic bikes and trikes, adaptive sensory equipment, purchase or adaptation of vehicles, items that will be used primarily outside your home and things that do not contribute to your health, welfare, safety or independence. Grants cannot be given for things that would be used primarily outside your home.

Who can apply?

You are eligible to apply for a grant if you are a person with a developmental disability living in your own home or apartment or living in your family home and have a Case Manager through your local Community Developmental Disability Program or Personal Agent if in a Support Services Brokerage. You are eligible for a grant if you are receiving services through the Children’s Intensive In-home Services program (CIIS), Supported Living Services, a Support Services Brokerage or Family Support.

You are not eligible for a grant if you are living in a licensed group home, or foster home.

What is the definition of a developmental disability?

A developmental disability is a disability attributable to mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, or other neurological condition that requires training or support similar to that required by individuals with mental retardation. The disability is expected to last indefinitely, is evident before the person's 22nd birthday (18th birthday for mental retardation), originates in the brain and results in significant impairments in the person's ability to function. The person's impairments cannot be primarily related to mental or emotional issues, substance abuse, sensory impairments, learning disability, personality disorder or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

Community Developmental Disability Programs (CDDP's) in Oregon have the responsibility of determining if an individual is eligible for Developmental Disabilities Services. If you are not sure whether or not you have a developmental disability contact your local CDDP for help. Once you are determined eligible you will be assigned a Case Manager. For information about eligibility for Developmental Disability Services go to:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/dd/eligibility/home.shtml>

Do I have to have a Case Manager or Brokerage Personal Agent to qualify for a grant? Yes, you must have a Case Manager assigned to you through your local CDDP or have a Personal Agent through a Support Services Brokerage.

Can grants be awarded on behalf of children as well as adults? Yes, both are eligible.

How and when do I apply? An application form is attached and is available on-line at the Oregon Department of Human Services web site:

http://dhsforms.hr.state.or.us/forms/databases/FMPRO?-db=FormTbl.fp5&-lay=Main&-format=Findforms_FMP.htm&-findany

Enter form number 2414; click search and then click on form number 2414 for the Grant Application and form number 2414P for Grant Procedures.

You should fill out the form as completely as you are able. Your application form must be received on or before May 15, 2009 to be considered for funding during this funding cycle.

If your initial application is approved, you may be asked to provide additional information about the details of the plan and cost.

What is the maximum dollar limit of a grant? The Trust Advisory Committee decided that the maximum amount of a single grant would be \$5,000.

The rules say that the modification must be part of a support plan. What does this mean? It means that the modification or equipment must "make sense" as being consistent with your particular support needs and with the overall supports you receive. It does not mean that it has to be part of a formal Individual Support Plan.

If I am awarded a grant, can I get help designing the work I'm requesting or get required information? Yes. Someone from the Trust, or the Housing Section at Seniors and People with Disabilities can help you directly or to find someone to help you make decisions about exactly what to do.

Do I need to identify someone to oversee completion of my project? Yes, you will need to select a responsible person to work with the Trust to help with completing all the details that may be needed to complete your project. This can be you, a family member, friend, or case manager.

Can I apply again if I am awarded a grant? Yes, you can. However, the total amount of all grants awarded to one person cannot be more than \$5,000 every 24 months.

If there is more than one person with a disability in a household, can they each apply for a grant? Yes, each may apply. The limit of \$5,000 per grant would apply to each application separately. Each application must be for a specific modification or equipment for that individual. However they can be combined to fund a larger project that would benefit both individuals. For example, if one person applied for a bathroom modification, another person could also apply for a bathroom modification if that would benefit her or him as well.

Can a Trust grant be combined with other funds to do a larger project? Applicants are encouraged to seek other sources of funding. The maximum amount of a Trust Grant award is \$5,000, but there is no limit on other funds you may find to contribute to the overall cost. All requests will be reviewed the same way regardless of whether or not you have identified additional funding.

Must a licensed and bonded contractor do the work? Yes. If you are requesting a grant for modifications to a residence, a licensed and bonded contractor must do the work. The Housing Section at Seniors and People with Disabilities will make payment directly to the contractor. We cannot reimburse you or your family for these modifications.

Can modifications be made to a place I am renting? Yes. If your application for a modification is accepted and you live in a rented house, duplex or apartment you must get written permission from the owner to do the work.

How will grant award decisions be made? A committee of staff at Seniors and People with Disabilities will review applications and make funding decisions. The decision will be based on how the request addresses the health, safety, welfare or independence of the applicant; whether it is part of a support plan; whether it is a cost-effective way of accomplishing the goal; and what funds are available.

What are the possible decisions that can be made about an application?

The Department may make the following decision about an application:

- Award the grant;
- Return the application to the applicant for additional information;
- Defer the application for consideration in another round of funding;
- Deny the application for reasons stated in the letter.

If your application is selected for funding, you will be asked to supply more detailed information, for example, a description of the work, a contractor's bid, or the brand and model of equipment.

What if I don't receive a grant and disagree with the decision? A grievance procedure is found in the administrative rule (OAR 411-315-0090) and is outlined on the web at:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/rules/411_315.pdf