



ELIGIBILITY FORM

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What is the Access Fund?

The Access Fund helps individuals with disabilities purchase necessary assistive devices and medical equipment that help them live more independently and improve their quality of life.

Where does the money come from?

The Access Fund receives money through a variety of sources, including fundraisers such as, The Tournament of Hope and Deer Ridge Golf Tournament. Periodically, the Access Fund also receives donations from other fundraisers and donors.

Who can apply to the Access Fund?

The Access Fund is available to anyone with a disability who lives in the Waterloo Region.

How do I apply for funding?

You can apply for funding by submitting an application package. Your application package is made up of **4** documents:

- 1. Access Fund Application Form**
- 2. Letter of Request** This letter must be written by/with the applicant. The applicant must demonstrate how the assistive device will improve their quality of life and/or independence.
- 3. Vendor Quote** A quote from the vendor of the applicant's choice must be provided.
- 4. Professional Assessment** A medical professional must provide an assessment that determines the necessity of the device for the applicant. Medical professionals include: physicians, occupational or physical therapists, or other medical professionals.

How much funding can I apply for?

The Access Fund can provide **up to \$7500** towards the purchase of an assistive device. For funding requests **greater than \$2000**, the applicant will be required to have an interview (in-person or over the phone) with the Access Fund Committee. **Note:** We will approve one \$7500 application per funding cycle. Depending on funds available, you may only receive a portion of the funding you request.

How long does it take to receive funds?

The Access fund is only accepting applications while funds are available. We will announce the fund opening and closing via email or phone to those who have inquired since the last round of funding. This information can also be found on our website. Once the funds have been allocated for this round the fund will be closed. We are no longer keeping a waitlist.

How often can I apply?

Applicants are invited to apply every other year. If you were approved funding in the last 12 months, you will not be eligible this upcoming funding cycle.

Please Note

Access Fund policy requires that all payments are made directly to the vendor of the assistive device. The applicant **does not** receive the Access Fund payment directly. If the Access Fund is covering part of the purchase, the Access Fund portion will not be paid until all other funds are secured.

Still have questions?

Independent Living Centre of Waterloo Region provides administration for the Access Fund. To speak with someone directly, please call **519-571-6788 X 7474**. You may also email your questions to **andrena@ilcwr.org**.