

Adapted Sports Institute at the Ohio State University

Grant Funding

Grants are an effective way to receive coverage of medical or adaptive equipment that is usually not covered under items of medical necessity or is a large medical expense. Grants can be offered on a national, state, or local level, but can also be provided to specific populations or people with specific injuries/disabilities. Every grant has a different system for reviewing applications, so it is important to stay organized in the application process. Pay close attention to what is required in each application, including any personal statements, pictures or videos, medical letters, insurance and financial information. Every grant will also have an individual yearly submission date, so it is important all parts of the application are submitted before the deadline to be qualified to receive the grant. Plan ahead to submit all sections of the grant with plenty of time to alleviate any last-minute issues. Physicians, therapists, or social workers can be great resources to assist in completing the application with the necessary paperwork.

Below is a list of grants available to get you started to receive assistance. Be sure to review all available to see what you can qualify for.

Grants for Adapted Sports

Athletes Helping Athletes Foundation: Athletes Helping Athletes works with RoadRunner Sports to provide grant opportunities for children receiving coverage for adaptive bikes. To qualify, the person must be under the age of 18 with a permanent physical disability and they must be able to self-propel a bike and have commitment to use the proposed



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equipment. To complete the application, you must include:

1. A “comprehensive” letter introducing your child, including their story and their athletic accomplishments and goals.
2. Proof of experience on the adaptive bike being requested (pictures/video of child riding requested bike) a letter from a therapist, and a completed order form if possible.
3. A personal, hand-written letter or picture from your child.
4. Multiple pictures from within the last three months of your child using their wheelchair, walker, prosthetic, etc.
5. A signed and completed grant application form, available on their website.

There is no specified deadline or timeline to complete the application. For more information, visit: roadrunnersports.com.

Challenged Athletes Foundation: CAF offers grant opportunities for people with permanent physical disabilities. These grants are for individual applicants only. Grants are offered in four different categories. You may apply for a grant in ONLY ONE of the following categories:

1. Travel/competition expenses
2. Coaching/training expenses
3. Equipment expenses (once every three years if older than 18 years old/once every two years if younger than 18)
4. Athletic prosthetics

These grants are reviewed yearly and are filled out online. Medical documentation with proof of disability, photos, financial information, and a



personal letter of reference will also be required to complete the application.

For more information, visit: challengedathletes.org or email cafgrants@challengedathletes.org for assistance.

Christopher and Dana Reeve

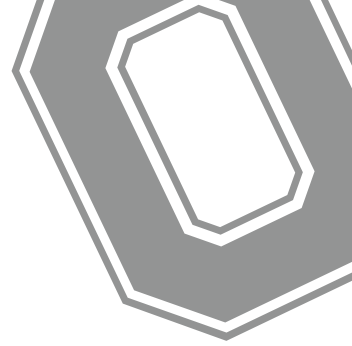
Foundation: The Quality of Life Grants Program funds a wide array of programs that are organized in three key thematic areas: Actively Achieving, Bridging Barriers, or Caring and Coping (ABC's). They provide grants to groups of people with disabilities on both a local and national level. These grants are often awarded to groups that support individuals affected by paralysis. These groups can include adaptive sports programs, as well as other facilities, transportation, medical needs, health promotion groups, and wellness programs. Applications are submitted online and reviewed yearly. For more information, contact the foundation at 1-800-539-7309, or visit: christopherreeve.org/get-support/grants-for-non-profits.

Craig H. Nielsen Foundation: The Craig H. Nielsen foundation is an organization dedicated to providing funding to programs and research that serve to improve the quality of life of those affected by spinal cord injuries. The foundation offers a variety of grants that are available; a list can be viewed on the Dimensions for Funders app, or on their website. Each funded grant will have a different deadline a process to apply.

For more information, visit: chnfoundation.org/funded-grants.

Crossroads Adaptive Athletic Alliance:

Crossroads Adaptive Athletic Alliance is an interactive, collaborative, searchable network and community that provides tips and best practices to adaptive athletes and their coaches. The organization offers grants to athletes to subsidize travel, registration and other competition needs as a way to encourage adaptive athletes to participate in sports and fitness programs. Required information in the grant application includes injury/disability description with your story, financial information, photos of you in your sport as well as how you compete, and a statement for how you will raise awareness for their organization. Grants are reviewed and given



quarterly during the year. For more information, contact Crossroads Alliance at info@crossroadsalliance.org, or visit: crossroadsalliance.org/programs/sport.

Dick's Sporting Goods: DICK'S Sporting Goods Community Program proudly supports leagues, teams, athletes and outdoor enthusiasts through thousands of youth sports and outdoor recreation organizations in communities surrounding their stores. These grants are specifically for organizations, groups or programs seeking financial assistance, including adaptive sports programs. Materials needed for the application include:

1. General organization information
2. Sponsorship or donation details (for an opportunity or event)
 - a. Total estimated on-site attendance and participants
 - b. Category to describe the organization
 - c. Category to describe the opportunity
 - d. Target population
3. Description of why your opportunity should be considered (150-word max)
4. Up to three images or logos of the program can be added to the proposal

For more information, visit: dsgcommunity.sponsorport.com/Home.

Disabled Sports USA: Disabled Sports USA's mission is to provide national leadership and opportunities for individuals with disabilities to develop independence, confidence, and fitness through participation in community sports, recreation and educational programs. The organization hosts a variety of grants offered to provide assistance for adaptive equipment, travel expenses to competition and program funding. Most grants are available

for active members of a Disabled Sports USA chapter. For more information or to explore the list of available grants that Disabled Sports USA provides, visit: disabledsportsusa.org.

Getting Back Up: Getting Back Up is an organization that provides funding to individuals who need assistance for participating in exercise-based recovery programs or purchasing adaptable products. The grant application is available on their website, and should also include a description of your disability, detailed information on the product or program, as well as financial and insurance information, and a photo of yourself. For more information, contact at info@gettingbackup.org or visit: gettingbackup.org/apply.

High Fives Foundation: The Empowerment Fund provides resources and inspiration to those who suffer a life-altering injury. The resources and inspiration that High Fives provides comes in the form of Board-approved grant funding, paid to service providers in specific funding categories: living expenses, insurance, health, travel, adaptive equipment, winter equipment, and High Fives' healing network. The grants focus on people pursuing a dream in the outdoor action sports community who require funding for a goal that pertains to their recovery. It MUST be considered an outdoor action sport to be considered. Documentation required:

1. A detailed description of the extent of their respective injury or injuries, including the date and how it occurred.
2. Their goal or goal(s) for recovery from injury, identifying the specific manner in which the High Fives Foundation can help to achieve a goal or goal(s), and also describe how he or she will follow through with said plan.
3. A budget that outlines all costs in detail. The foundation can assist with outlining a budget.

Grants are reviewed and offered quarterly throughout the year. For more information, visit: highfivesfoundation.org/grant-application.

IM ABLE Foundation: The IM ABLE Foundation offers individual and group grants in the Mid-Atlantic region for sports equipment, as well as inclusive fitness grants for individuals looking to partake in a specific fitness or sports program



at a facility. Individual grants will require a brief biography, 3 letters of reference, and financial information. Group grants require a letter of inquiry with an explanation of the participants' disabilities, as well as a demonstrated need for the grant. Grant applications are reviewed by the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis.

For more information, visit: imablefoundation.org/grant-application.

Note: Mid-Atlantic region serves the region of PA, NJ, MD, DE, DC, and NY.

Independence Fund: The Independence Fund is committed to empowering the United States' catastrophically wounded, injured or ill veterans to overcome physical, mental, and emotional wounds incurred in the line of duty. Their Adaptive Sports Program provides wounded veterans with improved physical and mental well-being, as well as increased independence, purpose and social interaction. Funding can be used for attendance at adaptive sports-related events, and funding for veterans' adaptive sports equipment. The Independence Fund also supplies assistance for family support, caregiver aid, and a mobility program for vehicle modifications and adapted bicycles. Submitting an application will be completed by creating an account on their website. For more information, visit: independencefund.org.

Kelly Brush Foundation: The Kelly Brush Foundation grants the Active Fund, which provides assistance for individuals with paralysis caused by spinal cord injury to purchase adaptive sports equipment. The applicant must be a resident in the United States living with a spinal cord injury. This grant serves to provide sports and recreation equipment, and preference is given to equipment that has a fitness benefit. The application requires the following supplements:

1. Documentation of paralysis by a treating physician or primary care provider.
2. Two personalized vendor quotes from reputable adaptive sports equipment vendors of the price of the product.
3. Financial documentation of current income and wealth.
4. A recommendation from a coach, instructor,

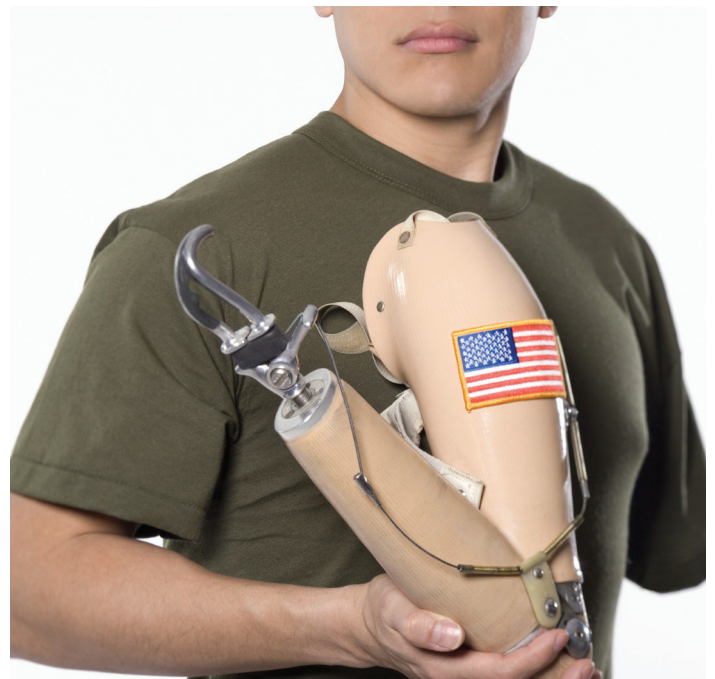
peer you plan to be active with, or someone who can speak upon how this equipment will positively affect your life.

5. Photos (optional)

Applications are reviewed once yearly. For more information, visit: kellybrushfoundation.org/theactivefund.

Multiple Sclerosis Foundation: The MS Focus Health and Wellness Program offers clients the opportunity to participate in various forms of recreational and adaptive exercise. Where there are a sufficient number of people interested, classes are formed. Those looking for funding are responsible for looking for available classes in their surrounding area. Sponsored classes in the past include yoga, aquatics, exercise and fitness, horseback riding, adaptive sports and recreation, art therapy and dance therapy. One must have a diagnosis in multiple sclerosis to qualify. For more information, visit: msfocus.org/Get-Help/MSF-Programs-Grants/Health-and-Wellness-Program.

Semper Fi Fund: Semper Fi Fund is an organization dedicated to giving assistance and resources to injured or disabled American veterans, and they can offer assistance in adaptive sports and wellness programs. Athletes under their program can be covered with coaches, equipment, entry fees and travel expenses to competitive athletic events. For more information, visit: semperfifund.org.



Team PossAbilities: Team PossAbilities provides grants or scholarships to give support for its members to improve the quality of life, to assist in the reintegration of those with disabilities into the community and society, and to meet the specific needs of their members. One must be a member of PossAbilities to apply. Funding can be awarded to members for equipment to improve quality of life, accessibility, educational scholarships, social outings, travel to and/or participation in sporting events and other needs specific to the disabled population. Grant applications are reviewed once yearly and have a single deadline each year. The application also requires financial information, invoice for expenses, reference letter, biography and photo.

For more information, contact (909) 558-6384, or visit TeamPossabilities.org.

Triumph Foundation: Triumph Foundation works with assisting people with spinal cord injury to receive necessary equipment, supplies, and services. Their “Keep Moving Forward” grant that can cover expenses for patients to maintain therapeutic activities for health and wellness. Applications are reviewed every 30-90 days, with maximum grants up to \$2,000. Applicants must be residents of the United States, and preference will be given to residents of California. For more information, contact info@Triumph-Foundation.org, or visit: triumph-foundation.org/outreach/grants-and-equipment.



United Spinal Association: United Spinal Association is an organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of people living with spinal cord injuries and disorders (SCI/D). The goal of this grant is to support peer support

groups that serve the SCI/D community with resources, training and increased public awareness. This application is used to apply for a grant of no more than \$500, which should be used to create, maintain or expand peer support for the SCI/D community. Preference will be given to those applicants who are actively seeking to assist people who have recently sustained a spinal cord injury or been diagnosed with a spinal cord related disorder. The application must include:

1. Organization biography (ongoing supports, plans, funding utilization, estimate requested amount, persons with SCI/D engagement)
2. Letters of support

For more information, visit: unitedspinal.org/spinal-network-grant-application.

VA Adaptive Sports Grant: National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events Office (NVSP&SE). The mission of the NVSP&SE office is to provide opportunities for veterans to improve their independence, well-being, and quality of life through adaptive sports and therapeutic arts programs. VA awards grants to qualifying organizations to plan, develop, manage, and implement programs to provide adaptive sports opportunities for disabled veterans and disabled members of the armed forces. In order to be eligible, the organization must:

1. Be affiliated with a National Paralympic Committee or a National Governing Body authorized to provide Paralympic sports
2. An adaptive sports program of a National Governing Body that meets additional requirements
3. An adaptive sports program in which at least 50 persons with disabilities participate or the eligible participants reside in at least five different congressional districts

The application process is completed through the federal government's designated grant portal. For more information, visit: va.gov/adaptivesports/va_grant_program.asp.



Grants for Medical Needs and Services:

Be Perfect Foundation: The Be Perfect Foundation is an organization dedicated to providing direct financial and emotional aid for individuals living with paralysis by providing resources, paying of medical expenses, restoring hope and encouraging personal independence through a nontraditional method of exercise-based therapy. BP offers scholarships for activity-based therapy at The Perfect Step to qualified recipients. We also provide supplemental funds to those who cannot afford wheelchairs, car adaptations, high medical bills, general daily medical necessities, and financial assistance for outpatient therapies.

For more information, contact the foundation at (909) 593-9539 or support@bepperfectfoundation.org, or visit them at bepperfectfoundation.org.

Blood Brothers Foundation: Blood Brothers Foundation provides assistance in vehicle modifications to improve the quality of life for people living with a permanent, physical disability. They provide grants up to but not exceeding \$3,000. In order to qualify, applicants must:

1. Have a permanent, physical disability documented by a physician
2. Have a valid driver's license
3. Demonstrate financial need must be demonstrated.
4. Have an estimate for modifications from an NMEDA certified shop
5. Live in the United States

For more information, visit: bloodbrothersfoundation.org/howtoapply.

Byron Riesch Paralysis Foundation: The Byron Riesch Paralysis Foundation's goal is to find a cure for paralysis through funding the latest in medical research and to provide assistance to

those who suffer from neurological disorders. The foundation supports a "Charitable Grant," which provides assistance upgrade and maintenance of wheelchairs, vehicle modifications (i.e., hand controls or lifts), small home modifications including ramp and lift installation, computers, and other adaptive equipment. The grant will not exceed \$10,000. The foundation also supports a scholarship for individuals with neurological disabilities, or the child of that person, for post-high school education yearly (once a year). This scholarship can provide assistance from \$2,000-\$4,000 yearly. Specific application details and requirements are available on their website. Applicants are given preference if they are residents of Wisconsin. For more information on the scholarship application, visit: <https://brpf.org/scholarship-application/>. For more information on the charitable grant application, visit: brpf.org/charitable-grant-application.

Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation: The Quality of Life Grants Program funds a wide array of programs that are organized in three key thematic areas: Actively Achieving, Bridging Barriers, or Caring and Coping (ABC's). They provide grants to groups of people with disabilities on both a local and national level. These grants are often awarded to groups that support individuals that are affected by paralysis. These groups can include adaptive sports programs, facility costs, transportation, medical needs, health promotion groups, and wellness programs. Applications are submitted online and reviewed yearly. For more information, contact the foundation at 1-800-539-7309, or visit: christopherreeve.org/get-support/grants-for-non-profits.

Cindy Donald "Dreams of Recovery" Foundation: The Cindy Donald Dreams of Recovery Foundation is committed to creating a positive change for those individuals facing the many challenges that accompany spinal cord and/or brain injuries. The foundation strives to help individuals receive the therapy they so desperately need and the necessary equipment that will promote nerve regeneration and muscle mass. Through knowledge and experience, the foundation helps to promote awareness and advance the research for the cure of paralysis. The grant application requires:



1. Evidence of U.S. citizenship
2. Letter from a physician, medical practitioner, hospital clinic or other medical or medically related facility, or insurance company verifying the nature (type) and cause of your injury
3. Verification from a therapist, exercise instructor or other service provider that there is potential for therapeutic benefit from the proposed exercise program or equipment
4. Submit documentation to substantiate financial need

Applications are accepted year-round, and decisions are made quarterly. For more information, visit: dreamsofrecovery.org.

Craig H Nielsen Foundation: The Craig H Nielsen foundation is an organization dedicated to providing funding to programs and research that serve to improve the quality of life of those affected by spinal cord injuries. The foundation offers a variety of grants that are available; a list can be viewed on the Dimensions for Funders app, or on their website. Each funded grant will have a different deadline a process to apply.

For more information, visit: chnfoundation.org/funded-grants.



Friends of Man: Friends of Man, the charitable arm of the Institute for the New Man, gives help to people in need of financial assistance due to circumstances of illness, disability or misfortune. To apply, applicants must be referred by a professional from an agency. Applicants cannot fill out applications for themselves or vendors. Components of the application include:

1. Background narrative

2. Letter from physician describing health/need for requested funds
3. Income/expenses of household (this does not provide assistance for items already ordered)

Preference is given to patients residing in Colorado; living outside Colorado, Friends of Man can assist with prostheses, wheelchairs, medical equipment and mobility equipment. For more information, visit: friendsofman.org.

Joseph Groh Foundation: The Joseph Groh Foundation is an organization dedicated to providing financial support to those connected with the construction trades industry (plumbing, HVAC, electrical, roofing etc.) who are living with life altering injuries. Assistance is designed to pay for the provision of material (i.e., durable medical equipment, etc.) or for services rendered. (i.e., construction of ramps to the home, widening of doorways, reconstruction of bathrooms for wheelchair access, etc.). For more information, contact the foundation at (214) 998-9749 or hope@josephgrohfoundation.org, or visit josephgrohfoundation.org.

National Association of Injured and Disabled Workers: NAIDW is a public charity whose purpose is to provide unlimited resources, support, guidance and short-term financial assistance to injured and disabled workers and their families as a result of injury, illness, pain or disability. These can include medical expenses, housing expenses, family assistance, travel expenses, and child education. Documentation required:

1. Past two years of W-2s and tax returns
2. Doctor's Health Status Report
3. Attorney release form
4. Description of injury, illness, pain or disability
5. Details of specifics of assistance needed

Applicants may apply twice per year, and the grant committee awards recipients semi-annually.

For more information, visit: naidw.org.

Spinal Cord Opportunities for Rehabilitation Endowment: SCORE strives to improve the quality of life for those affected by a spinal cord injury. Their organization assists in providing financial support to young athletes and their

families following an accident, sponsoring and organizing activity-based mentoring programs, and supporting the search for a cure for paralysis. SCORE aims to assist with the out-of-pocket costs for items such as home modifications, vehicle adaptations and medical co-payments. They confer grant preference to young people injured while participating in sports. For more information, contact questions@scorefund.org or visit scorefund.org.

Travis Roy Foundation Quality of Life Grant:

This grant funds specific equipment modification or equipment that is not covered by health insurance for individuals with spinal cord injury. Average grant funding is \$2,000-\$5,000; there is no minimum award amount. Funding is paid directly to the supplier through the information provided on the application. This grant requires the following information:

1. Personal information (biography and demographics).
2. Description of equipment/modifications (be as specific as possible)
3. Quotes from at least two suppliers for the equipment/modifications and their contact information.
4. Description of financial need
5. Description of impact of funding on the individual's quality of life

Grant applications are accepted year-round, are reviewed quarterly and awarded monthly. For more information, visit: travisroyfoundation.org/sci/grants/application.

Triumph Foundation: Triumph Foundation works to assist people with spinal cord injury to receive necessary equipment, supplies and services. Their "Keep Moving Forward" grant can cover expenses for patients to maintain activities of daily living, make home modifications for wheelchair accessibility, work and community

reintegration, and therapeutic activities for health and wellness. Applications are reviewed every 30-90 days, with maximum grants up to \$2,000. The foundation also has an "Employment Achievement Award," which provides financial assistance to patients with spinal cord injuries returning to work and increase employment success. Maximum awards can reach up to \$5,000. Applicants must be residents of the United States, and preference will be given to residents of California. For more information, contact info@Triumph-Foundation.org, or visit: triumph-foundation.org/outreach/grants-and-equipment.

Wheelchairs 4 Kids: Wheelchairs 4 Kids is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children with physical disabilities. The organization can assist in providing wheelchairs and home and vehicle modifications, as well as other adaptive equipment or therapeutic devices for children with limited mobility due to accident, illness or abuse. To refer a child or for more information, call (727) 946-0963, or email at info@wheelchairs4kids.org. You can also visit: wheelchairs4kids.org.

For more questions, visit us:

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