



INDIVIDUALS

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Introduction

This document sets out the guidelines regarding individuals' applications for assistance from WA Charity Direct and the assessment and decision making processes that are used.

It includes a copy of the **Application Form** (Appendix 2) that must be used for all applications.

Who can request assistance from WA Charity Direct?

WA Charity Direct has been approved by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as a public fund for the relief of persons in necessitous circumstances, but assistance may be provided to any person / family in need without the financial capacity to help themselves.

Further information about the meaning of "**necessitous circumstances**" and examples can be found in Appendix 1.

WA Charity Direct's charter only provides for claims for parties who are **permanent residents of Western Australia**.

Preference is given to dealing directly with the potential beneficiary (or parents in the case of children) rather than an agent.

What types of assistance is available?

The types of assistance that WA Charity Direct may offer include assistance with the immediate needs of any eligible recipient. It could also cover emergency financial assistance in the case of an unexpected crisis.

All requests for assistance will be considered and assessed according to the information provided by the applicant and other relevant information available.

Assistance is usually always given in the form of goods (i.e. wheelchairs etc) or services (i.e. payment of medical bills etc) rather than cash, depending on the circumstances. Funding is currently capped at \$5,000.00.

Examples of the type of assistance WA Charity Direct has provided to others can be viewed on the WA Charity Direct website.

Motor Vehicle Applications

WA Charity Direct **only** provides assistance to fund motor vehicles, including wheelchair accessible vehicles, in **very exceptional cases** and only to necessitous persons.

Exceptional cases usually mean that there is a **high need** for the vehicle for **regular and ongoing** medical and/or treatment purposes. If successful, vehicles funded are normally reliable second-hand vehicles. Amounts funded are also limited and capped. Proof of insurance of the vehicle will also be required before any funds are released.

Applicants for motor vehicle funding assistance **must complete the motor vehicle additional information form** included in the application form.



Wheelchair accessible vehicles are available from the **Motor Industry Foundations “Wheels For Hope”** programme to eligible applicants.

How much can I claim?

Funding is currently capped at \$5,000.

How are claims for assistance made?

Claims may be made by completing the WA Charity Direct application form (Appendix 2) and sending it by e-mail to WA Charity Direct (contact details on page 3).

Once received, an application may be accepted, deferred (pending receipt of additional information), or rejected. Applications are valid for 3 months from submission as circumstances may change.

How are claims assessed?

Each claim will be considered on its own merits. Factors taken into account include (but are not limited to) the circumstances that have created the necessity, the financial need of the applicant and/or their family, the nature of the emergency and the length of time that assistance will be needed. Additionally, other avenues of help and support available or actively being sought, (for example, other welfare and charity organisations or crowd funding) will be taken into account. Assistance is entirely at the trustees discretion.

What information is required?

As the trustees’ duties are quite onerous in respect to establishing necessitous circumstances and the bona fides of each application, supporting documentation verifying the applicant’s income, assets, and liabilities and the circumstances leading to and supporting the claim are essential to the process.

Application forms must be completed **in full** and **supporting documentation** provided wherever possible. Additional information such as all bank statements, letters from welfare authorities, medical reports etc should also be provided if relevant to the claim. All information will be treated confidentially.

Additionally, **independent quotes** and/or **independent documentation verifying the amount being claimed must** be included with every application.

This information is required by WA Charity Direct to ensure that it meets its statutory obligations and that all claims are given equal consideration.

If you feel uncomfortable in providing your financial information, supporting documentation and evidence of your position to support your claim you may wish to reconsider requesting assistance of WA Charity Direct.

In almost all cases applicants and their referees will be contacted by telephone by one of the trustees to obtain further information or more detail on the information provided in the application form.

Please be prepared to answer questions of this nature when one of our trustees’ calls.

Any inconsistencies in the verification of the particulars set out on the application form and the further independent checks undertaken by our trustees usually leads to an unsuccessful claim.



How long does it take to process my claim?

All applications will be acknowledged on receipt.

Applications are processed as quickly as possible but will be delayed or set aside if the application form is not completed in full or all of the supporting documentation is not included.

Once determined, applicants are immediately advised of the outcome of their claim once a decision is made.

Reasons are generally **not** given for unsuccessful applicants.

What happens if my application is successful?

If your claim is successful, you will be contacted by WA Charity Directs administrator to arrange receipt of the benefit and to organise promotional photos / material as outlined below.

Promotional/Information Sharing

Part of WA Charity Directs charter is to continually advise its members of the outcome of successful applications and to promote the organisation to the community at large to increase the charity's profile.

This assists us to raise our profile to raise funds to help others.

For successful applicants WA Charity Direct may require photos, letters of appreciation or to use your case / name for promotional purposes and / or for distribution to our members. Details of your case and the beneficiaries name may also be displayed on our website as a record of the people we have assisted.

About Us

WA Charity Direct is located in Perth, Western Australia.

WA CHARITY DIRECT is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) from 01 Apr 2005. It is a public ancillary fund covered by Item 2 of the table in section 30-15 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* .

WA CHARITY DIRECT is a Charity endorsed to access income tax and GST tax concessions.

ABN: 19 537 867 585

E-mail: info@wacharitydirect.com.au

APPENDIX 1

DEFINITION OF NECESSITOUS CIRCUMSTANCES

Necessitous circumstances

WA Charity Direct has been approved by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) as a public fund for the relief of persons in necessitous circumstances.

The following information, which is taken from the ATO publication Gift pack for deductible gift recipients and donors, underpins the assessment process. Further information about the ATO's requirements can be obtained from the ATO website (www.ato.gov.au)

Defining “necessitous circumstances fund”

.. “Necessitous circumstances” means financial necessity not needs generally. The needs of the sick, incapacitated, aged, etc. will not on their own constitute necessitous circumstances.

.. Necessitous circumstance involves some degree of poverty – where a person's financial resources are insufficient to obtain all that is necessary for modest standard of living in the Australian community.

.. A strong indicator of necessitous circumstances would be eligibility to receive income tested government benefits. Other indicators are health needs (sickness or disability) or family responsibilities.

.. “Necessitous circumstances” is a relative term having regard to a person's particular circumstances. It has no fixed quantitative measure but assumes financial hardship.

In summary, a person is in necessitous circumstances where his or her financial resources are insufficient to obtain all that is necessary, not only for a bare existence, but for modest standard of living in the Australian community. A strong indicator of this would be where a person's level of income is such that they are eligible to receive income tested government benefits. However, this is not a conclusive factor and there may be other circumstances which need to be considered. For example, a person whose income level exceeds the welfare limit but who could demonstrate special or unusual circumstances which resulted in a marked lowering in their standard of living causing hardship, could still be considered to be in necessitous circumstances. The assets, liabilities, family responsibilities, health expensed, etc., of particular persons may cause them to be needy.

Some examples of necessitous circumstances based on ATO cases are listed below.

Example:

While on holidays interstate, Jennifer was seriously injured in a car accident. She is suffering from loneliness and is facing a lengthy stay in hospital before she can return home. A local service club wishes to raise funds to fly Jennifer's mother to comfort her daughter.

Jennifer's needs are not financial in nature. The fund is not a necessitous circumstances fund.

Example:

Geoff is 17 years old and was permanently incapacitated while playing football. He will require 24-hour care for the rest of his life. He was not insured, and his parents cannot meet the costs. The local community wishes to set up an appeal fund for Geoff. The money raised will be used to pay for necessary modifications to his parents' home and for the services of a carer.

The fund will be a necessitous circumstances fund.

Example:

During recent floods, three volunteer workers were killed while carrying out a rescue. None of the three volunteers had any financial dependants.

A fund to give money to the volunteers' families would not be a necessitous circumstances fund.



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APPENDIX 2

INDIVIDUALS APPLICATION FORM

All sections of the form must be completed **in full**.

Incomplete forms will not be considered for assistance but referred back to the applicant for completion. All information in this form will be treated as **confidential**.

APPLICANTS DETAILS (Person filling out this form)

		/ /
First name	Surname	Date of Birth

CONTACT NUMBERS

Email	Mobile	Work or Home

BENEFICIARIES DETAILS (Person who will receive the benefit)

		/ /
First name	Surname	Date of Birth

BENEFICIARIES HOME ADDRESS

Owner Occupied

Renting

Is the beneficiary a permanent resident of Western Australia? Yes No

ALL OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS DETAILS

(Please include the **Mother and Father** of a child beneficiary **even if the relationship is now estranged**)

	Name	Date of Birth	Relationship Status
Mother		/ /	
Father		/ /	
Partner/Defacto		/ /	
Children	(1)	/ /	
	(2)	/ /	
	(3)	/ /	
	(4)	/ /	



DETAILS OF ALL OTHER SUPPORT APPLICATIONS OR PAYMENTS

FOR THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

Applications for anything covered by National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) should be made **before** applying to WA Charity Direct.

NDIS may potentially provide funds for **equipment, wheelchairs, home modifications, vehicle wheelchair lifting equipment, vehicle modifications**, etc via the following organisations.

Applications can be arranged via your Local Area Coordinator (LAC). The **outcome of all applications should be included below**. If the program is not applicable the reasons why should be included below.

PROGRAM	APPLIED FOR		OUTCOME/DETAILS
	YES	NO	
Community Aids and Equipment Programme (CAEP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Independent Living Centre (ILC)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Disability Equipment Grant (DEG)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)*	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

**For NDIS recipients, please attach a copy of your NDIS plan*

FOR ALL APPLICANTS

DETAILS OF ALL OTHER SUPPORT OR ASSISTANCE BEING SOUGHT FROM ALL OTHER SOURCES

From	Amount	Details
_____	\$	_____
_____	\$	_____

DETAILS OF ALL OTHER PAYMENTS, GRANTS, SETTLEMENTS OR DONATIONS ALREADY RECEIVED

From	Amount	Details
_____	\$	_____
_____	\$	_____

DETAILS OF ANY CROWD FUNDING

Crowd Funder Name	Amount being raised	Amount raised to date	Crown funding link details
_____	\$	\$	_____



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INCOME AND EXPENSES STATEMENT

Of the **Applicant (App)** and of the **Applicant's Partner (Ptnr)**

In the case of a **child**, please provide details of the **Father (Fthr)** and **Mother (Mthr)** even if estranged

PERSON <i>(Please tick box)</i>				DESCRIPTION	GROSS	NET <i>(After tax)</i>	
App	Ptnr	Fthr	Mthr	Income	Per Annum	Per Annum	Per Week
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Employment			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation	\$	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation	\$	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Occupation	\$	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Government Benefits/Assistance			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		\$	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		\$	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		\$	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		\$	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All Other Income (inc Child Support)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		\$	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		\$	\$	\$
Total Of All Income					\$	\$	\$



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INCOME AND EXPENSES STATEMENT (CONT'D)

Of the **Applicant (App)** and of the **Applicant's Partner (Ptrn)**

In the case of a **child**, please provide details of the **Father (Fthr)** and **Mother (Mthr)** even if estranged

PERSON <i>(Please tick box)</i>				DESCRIPTION	GROSS Per Annum	NET <i>(After tax)</i>	
App	Ptrn	Fthr	Mthr			Per Annum	Per Week
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Expenses Car Repayments		\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____		\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____		\$	\$
				Loan Repayments (inc credit card)		\$	\$
				_____		\$	\$
				_____		\$	\$
				National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)		\$	\$
				_____		\$	\$
				All Other Ongoing Expenses		\$	\$
				Rent		\$	\$
				_____		\$	\$
				_____		\$	\$
				_____		\$	\$
				Total of All Expenses		\$	\$
				Net Position (Income Less Expenses)		\$	\$



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ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT

Of the **Applicant** and of the **Applicant's Partner**

In the case of a **child**, please provide details of the **Father (Fthr)** and **Mother (Mthr)** even if estranged

ASSETS		LIABILITIES		NET AMOUNT <i>(asset value less loan amount)</i>
Asset*	Est. Value	Liability	Amount	
Cash at Bank		Credit Card Debt		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Details		Details		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Details		Details		
Motor Vehicles		Motor Vehicle Loans		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Make / Year / Mileage		Details		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Make / Year / Mileage		Details		
Home		Home Loan		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Address		Details		
Any Other Properties		Other Property Loans		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Address		Details		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Address		Details		
All Other Assets or Investments <i>(including shares and business ownership)</i>		All Other Loans <i>(including personal loans)</i>		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Details		Details		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Details		Details		
_____	\$ _____	_____	\$ _____	= \$ _____
Details		Details		
Net Total	\$ _____		\$ _____	= \$ _____
SUPERANNUATION				
Applicant	\$ _____			
Applicant Partner	\$ _____			
Applicant Parents <i>(if applicant is a child)</i>	\$ _____			

***For any bank accounts (savings or loans), please attached the statements for the last 12 months.**



REFEREES

Please provide **two personal referees** and the details of **all of your professional providers** who can verify the information you have provided.

Please advise these referees and providers to expect contact from us to discuss your circumstances.

PERSONAL REFEREE 1:

Name: _____ Relationship to you: _____

Contact Numbers: (H) _____ (W) _____ (M) _____

PERSONAL REFEREE 2:

Name: _____ Relationship to you: _____

Contact Numbers: (H) _____ (W) _____ (M) _____

PROFESSIONAL PROVIDERS

	Name	Contact Number
Local Area Coordinator (LAC)	_____	_____
Social Worker	_____	_____
Doctor	_____	_____
Nurse	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

In order to meet the statutory obligations for gifting, WA Charity Direct has an obligation to verify the information included in your application.

To allow us to do so, please attach as much supporting documentation as possible to verify your claim. This information should include copies of your (and your partner's) most current:

- **Pay slips** or group certificates,
- **Statements** of all **government benefits or assistance**,
- **Bank statements** (of your personal account(s) and any loans),
- **Financial statements** (if you or your partner own a business or have shares in a business),
- **Superannuation Statement** (a copy of your most recent statement)
- **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Plan**
- **Medical reports** verifying the disability or illness suffered,
- **Letters** from any of your professional providers verifying/supporting your circumstances,
- **Independent quotations** or documentation to verify the amount being claimed,
- **And any other documents** or statements to support the claims made on the application form.

Failure to provide adequate supporting documentation may lead to your claim being delayed, set aside or rejected.



MOTOR VEHICLE APPLICATIONS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FORM

WA Charity Direct **only** provides assistance to fund motor vehicles, including wheelchair accessible vehicles, in **very exceptional circumstances**. **Exceptional cases** usually means that there is a **high need** for the vehicle for **regular** and **ongoing** medical and/or treatment purposes.

If successful, vehicles funded are normally **second-hand vehicles**. Amounts funded are also **limited** and **capped**. If any funding is granted, the applicant **must provide** a cover note or other **proof of insurance** of the vehicle **before** the charity will release any funding.

To support any vehicle application, applicants must **include the following** –

MEDICAL VISIT SCHEDULE

A **schedule** of all visits made to specialists, GPs and hospitals etc, over the last 12 months. Please provide a **separate schedule for each practitioner**.

Each schedule should include -

- The **date** and **purpose of each visit**,
- A **signature** endorsing the schedule from the medical centre,
- **The contact details** of a person at the centre that we can call to verify the information.

WORK PURPOSES (if the beneficiary is working)

Company Name – _____

Company Location – _____

Job Description – _____

Days and hours worked per week – _____

Length of time working at this company - _____

Please include **documentation** from the **Your Employer** verifying the above including the **contact details** of a person we can speak to.

EDUCATION PURPOSES (if the beneficiary is attending any courses)

Name of Education Facility – _____

Address of Education Facility – _____

Name of course – _____

Nature of course – _____

Purpose of taking course – _____

Frequency Facility is Visited – _____

Please include **documentation** from the **Education Facility** verifying the above including the **contact details** of a person we can speak to.



APPLICANT AGREEMENT

Initial

Further Direct Contact

I accept that a WA Charity Direct trustee will call me to obtain further information, or more details, or further supporting documentation in regard to my claim and I agree that I will provide as much information or documentation as requested / necessary.

Third Party Contact

I authorise WA Charity Direct to contact any third parties listed in this application to verify any information regarding my claim.

Consent to Information

I consent to this information being held by WA Charity Direct.

Endorsement (if application is successful)

I authorise WA Charity Direct to list details of my case / name on their website and to distribute our members. This helps us raise money to assist others (just like you).

Photo

I agree to provide a photo to WA Charity Direct at the time of the handover of the benefit to use on our website.

Supporting Documentation

I have included all of the necessary documentation to support my claim including independent quotes / independent documentation to verify the amount being claimed.

Signature

Authorising all of the above

Date

Declaration of the Applicant

I certify that all of the information given in this application is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct and that I am the applicant, or I am acting on behalf of the applicant.

Signature

Authorising all of the above

Date