



WILSON DISEASE
ASSOCIATION[®]

Policies & Procedures

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Patient Assistance

This policy describes financial assistance that Wilson's Disease Association (WDA) may provide, at its sole discretion, to people who have been diagnosed with Wilson's Disease (WD) or those who may be diagnosed with WD (both referred to as "patients").

Financial assistance requests made by patients must be approved by a majority vote of WDA's Executive Committee (EC).

Proof of financial need by the patient is required before funds are authorized or disbursed. The prior year's federal income tax return of the patient and everyone with whom the patient lives is adequate proof of income. In order to keep this information confidential, federal income tax returns are faxed to only one person in the Association, preferably the WDA Treasurer. The WDA Treasurer reviews the information and makes a recommendation to the remaining members of the EC.

WDA does not provide assistance that duplicates the patient's insurance benefits or resources available to the patient from governmental sources.

1. Items WDA will not pay for include:
 - a. Housing of any kind: personal homes, nursing homes, etc.
 - b. Purchase of vehicles or modifications to vehicles
 - c. Groceries and related personal items (clothing, etc.) Medications
 - d. Legal fees
 - e. Education

2. Items WDA may pay for (if included in the dollar and/or time limits described below) include:
 - a. Transportation for testing or treatment of the patient, not including first-class travel.
 - b. Transportation of one adult to travel with the patient if that patient is medically unable to travel alone. The patient's inability to travel alone must be documented, in writing, by the patient's physician.

- c. Temporary living expenses for the patient and one, adult companion while the patient is being tested or treated at an authorized clinic. (Note: The companion's temporary living expenses may be paid by WDA only if that person is required to travel with the patient because of the medical condition of the patient.)
 - d. Transportation costs from the travel terminal site (airport, bus depot, etc.) to the testing center or clinic and back for the patient and the patient's adult companion. (Note: The companion's transportation costs from the travel terminal site to the testing center or clinic and back may be paid by WDA only if that person is required to travel with the patient because of the medical condition of the patient.)
 - e. Travel to and/or attendance at WDA's Annual Meeting.
3. Tickets for transportation are not refundable for cash.
 4. Direct cash payments to a patient or a patient's adult companion will not be made except in extraordinary circumstances. Such action requires the unanimous approval of the EC.
 5. The maximum amount that WDA may spend to financially assist a patient (and a patient's companion, if applicable) is \$2,000. This amount is a lifetime maximum.
 6. The maximum time period that WDA may financially assist a patient (and a patient's companion, if applicable) for temporary housing is seven days.
 7. Expenses for testing patients who have not yet been diagnosed with WD may only be covered if it is more likely than not that they have WD, as documented, in writing, by the patient's physician.