

This is a tool to help groups assess grant applicants' income.

You can use it to help show that you are making the best use of charitable funds by giving grants to people who have a financial need. It can also help you to prioritise people in the most financial need, when you can't fund every application.

The tool uses weekly household allowance amounts, and each applicant's income is compared to these, based on their household situation.

The amounts are based on the [Minimum Income Standard](#), used by many charities, but simplified and more generous to allow for disability related costs.

INCOME AND HOUSEHOLD ALLOWANCE

Calculate net weekly household income for the applicant and their partner if they live with them (including any benefits or other income for children):

- Add up their weekly income (excluding DLA / PIP / Attendance Allowance)
- Add up their weekly housing costs (rent / mortgage and council tax / rates)
- If the applicant has used monthly figures, multiply by 12 and divide by 52
- Note that ESA is paid every two weeks and this amount may be shown - if you aren't sure, do double check with the applicant
- Take the housing costs away from the income to give net weekly income, and compare this to the household allowance - see below

For adults living with family, take away any payments for rent or towards household costs (food, utilities etc) from income

For adults in care homes or nursing homes, take away any fees for accommodation or care from income

Calculate weekly household allowance

£260 Single person

£430 Couple

£120 Each dependent child

£130 Adult living with family (eg with parents) or in a care home or nursing home

To show financial need, the net income will be under the weekly household allowance. If you have more applications than you can fund, you can prioritise the applicants who are most under their allowance.

Applicants with net income above the weekly household allowance would not generally be considered to show financial need, and the application can be declined.