

Funding a Mobility Scooter or Powerchair

A Complete Guide to Financial Support, Grants and Funding Options

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Buying a mobility scooter or powerchair is an investment in your independence, but for many people it's also a significant financial commitment.

The good news is that there are several ways you may be able to reduce the cost. Depending on your circumstances, financial help may be available through government benefits, charitable grants, local organisations or VAT Relief.

At First Choice Mobility, one of the questions we're asked most often is:

“Is there any financial help available?”

The answer is often **yes**, although the right option depends on your individual circumstances.

This guide explains the main funding routes available and where to find further information.

Quick Summary

You may be able to reduce the cost of mobility equipment through:

- VAT Relief
- Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
- Attendance Allowance
- Charitable grants
- Local authority support
- Veterans' organisations
- Community fundraising
- Saving and budgeting

Many people qualify for more than one type of support.

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Where Should I Start?

The first step is understanding which funding options apply to your circumstances.

If you're under State Pension age

You may wish to explore:

- Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
- Charitable grants
- Local authority support
- VAT Relief

If you're over State Pension age

You may wish to explore:

- Attendance Allowance
- Charitable grants
- Local authority support
- VAT Relief

Many charities also consider applications from people of all ages who have a disability or long-term health condition.

First Choice Mobility Insight

Many customers assume they won't qualify for any financial help.

In reality, it's often worth exploring every option before purchasing. Even if a grant doesn't cover the full cost, it may make the equipment you need much more affordable.

VAT Relief

One of the simplest ways to reduce the cost is through VAT Relief.

If you have a qualifying long-term illness or disability and the equipment is for your personal use, many mobility products can be supplied without VAT.

Read our guide:

→ **VAT Relief Explained**

Official guidance:

Read the GOV.UK guide to VAT Relief for disabled and older people

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/reliefs-from-vat-for-disabled-and-older-people-notice-7017>

Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

If you're aged 16 or over and have a long-term illness or disability, you may be entitled to Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

Many people choose to use part of their PIP payments towards mobility equipment.

Learn more:

<https://www.gov.uk/pip>

Attendance Allowance

If you're over State Pension age and need help because of illness or disability, you may qualify for Attendance Allowance.

Although it isn't specifically intended for purchasing mobility equipment, many people use it to help meet mobility-related costs.

Official guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance>

Charitable Grants

A number of charities may be able to help fund mobility equipment, depending on your circumstances.

Eligibility varies, but grants are often available for:

- Older people
- People with long-term illnesses
- Former members of the Armed Forces
- Individuals facing financial hardship

Useful organisations include:

- Turn2us
- Independence at Home
- Barchester's Charitable Foundation
- Family Fund (for eligible families with disabled children)

It's always worth checking the eligibility criteria before applying.

Local Authority Support

Some local councils or social care services may provide equipment or contribute towards the cost where there's an assessed need.

Speak to your local Adult Social Care team or occupational therapist to find out what support may be available in your area.

Veterans' Organisations

If you've served in the Armed Forces, you may be eligible for additional support through organisations such as:

- Royal British Legion
- SSAFA

These organisations may offer practical or financial assistance depending on your circumstances.

Did You Know?

Many grant providers will ask whether you've explored other funding options first. Applying for VAT Relief and checking your benefit entitlement before submitting grant applications can often strengthen your case.

Community Fundraising

Family, friends, local community groups and online fundraising platforms can also help raise money towards mobility equipment.

Some people receive support from:

- Local rotary clubs
- Lions Clubs
- Churches
- Community groups
- Online fundraising campaigns

Many communities are keen to support local people who need help maintaining their independence.

Before You Apply Checklist

Before submitting an application:

- ✓ Check the eligibility criteria.
 - ✓ Gather any supporting documents.
 - ✓ Obtain quotations if required.
 - ✓ Explore VAT Relief first.
 - ✓ Apply to more than one organisation where appropriate.
 - ✓ Keep copies of your applications.
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Questions We're Often Asked

Can I receive funding and claim VAT Relief?

In many cases, yes. VAT Relief and grant funding are separate and may both apply.

How long do grant applications take?

Timescales vary considerably. Some charities respond within a few weeks, while others may take several months.

Can First Choice Mobility apply on my behalf?

We can't usually submit applications for you, but we're happy to provide quotations and information that may support your application.

What if my application is unsuccessful?

Don't be discouraged. There may be alternative charities or funding routes available.

Further Reading

The following organisations provide reliable information about funding and financial support.

GOV.UK – Financial Help if You're Disabled

<https://www.gov.uk/financial-help-disabled>

Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

<https://www.gov.uk/pip>

Attendance Allowance

<https://www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance>

Turn2us

<https://www.turn2us.org.uk/>

Citizens Advice

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Continue Reading in the First Choice Mobility Advice Centre

You may also find these guides useful:

- [VAT Relief Explained](#)
 - [How to Choose the Right Mobility Scooter](#)
 - [How to Choose the Right Powerchair](#)
 - [Choosing Equipment After a Stroke](#)
 - [Preventing Falls at Home](#)
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Related Products

Explore our range of:

- [Mobility Scooters](#)
 - [Folding Powerchairs](#)
 - [Manual Wheelchairs](#)
 - [Rise and Recline Chairs](#)
 - [Adjustable Beds](#)
 - [Walking Aids](#)
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Our Advice

Don't assume financial support isn't available.

Spend a little time exploring the options before making your purchase. You may discover that a grant, benefit or VAT Relief makes the equipment you need much more affordable.

If you're unsure where to start, our team is always happy to point you in the right direction.

Need More Help?

If you're considering purchasing a mobility scooter or powerchair and would like guidance on the funding options available, we're here to help.

While we can't make decisions on behalf of funding organisations, we can explain the different routes available, provide quotations when required and answer your questions about the equipment you're considering.

Freedom, with Confidence

At First Choice Mobility, we believe everyone should have access to the equipment that helps them live independently.

Our goal is to provide honest advice, practical guidance and ongoing support so you can make informed decisions with confidence.

Download This Guide

Prefer to keep a copy?

Download a printable PDF version of this guide to share with family, carers or anyone helping you explore funding options.

Information You Can Trust

This guide is reviewed regularly by the First Choice Mobility team. Funding schemes, grant criteria and government benefits can change, so always refer to the latest guidance from the relevant organisation before applying. If you'd like advice about choosing suitable equipment, we're always happy to help.