

Financial support

– a contribution to cancer patients and their families

Photo: Kerstin Mertens / Samfoto / NTB scampix

Do you or your closest family have financial difficulties due to cancer disease? If that is the case, then you can apply to the Norwegian Cancer Society for:

- Monetary contribution to alleviate the financially difficult situation.
- Immediate assistance in a transitional period. (Increased expenses and/or loss of income.)
- Expenditure not covered by the government.
- Rehabilitation/social activity for the whole family.

The Norwegian Cancer Society manages grants and foundations whose purpose is to provide financial support to cancer patients and families in Norway with financial difficulties due to cancer disease and treatment.

The grant is a one-time support and is intended as a contribution that does not necessarily cover the entire purpose for which it is sought. It should come in addition to, and not in place of, public benefits.

Who can get support and how much?

Residents in Norway who are under medical treatment from the Norwegian health care system and their relatives residing in Norway.

The amount granted can range from NOK 3,000 to NOK 12,000 if the applicant is single, and up to NOK 20,000 if the applicant is responsible for a large family. The amount is, as of 2016, not taxable and shall not be included in the tax returns. The Norwegian Cancer Society is not obliged to report the support to the tax authority. The applicants' financial situation is assessed based on monthly income, expenditure, debt, wealth, and reference budget stipulated by the Norwegian Institute of Consumer Research (SIFO).

Approximately 75% of applications are granted. The most common reasons for rejection are that the applicants either have too high bank deposit/savings and are thus

not considered financially disadvantaged, or that the applicants have been granted support from the Norwegian Cancer Society in the past.

Some patient stories

A single parent would like to please her child, especially during the period of illness, but it pains her because she cannot afford it. She writes: *“My illness has greatly affected my daughter mentally, she struggles a lot with fear, worries that have changed her personality. As a mother, I would like to do something nice for her to make her smile and be happy despite the tough time, but it is so tough for me, because I cannot afford it.”*

“During these periods I don’t have much left to do fun things with the family, and it is a time when being able to travel away a bit and take a break from everything is perceived as good and important. The main reason I apply for financial support is first and foremost to be able to do something nice with my children and my husband”, writes another woman with breast cancer.

How to apply?

To apply, you must fill out an application form and attach a medical certificate for the cancer patient, in addition to the latest pay slip / payment overview from the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV) and the latest tax return / basis for tax (not tax card, tax settlement or pay-

roll and deduction statement) for everyone in the household over the age of 18, and with income. The attachments are very essential for your application to be processed and these can be sent by post or uploaded electronically and attached to the online application form. You can find an electronic application form at www.kreftforeningen.no. It is strongly encouraged to apply online, but you can also fill out a paper version of the application form and submit to:

Kreftforeningen, Seksjon kreftomsorg, Postboks 4 Sentrum, 0101 Oslo.

The application deadline is the 10th of each month, and answers to the application by the 25th of the same month. Before Christmas and other public holidays, the deadline can be a little earlier. For questions about completing the application form or other questions about the financial support scheme, contact The Norwegian Cancer Society’s Counseling Service by telephone: 21 49 49 21 or e-mail: rettigheter@kreftforeningen.no

You can also contact The Norwegian Cancer Society’s Counseling Service online at

- Chat at www.kreftforeningen.no
- E-mail: radgivning@kreftforeningen.no

The objective of the Norwegian Cancer Society is to help prevent and fight cancer as well as improve the quality of life for cancer patients and their relatives.



NORWEGIAN **CANCER** SOCIETY

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