



Department
for Work &
Pensions



Household Support Fund

May-Sep 2022

Children's Professionals Route

Information for schools, nurseries, children's health services, voluntary sector organisations and other partner agencies

The Household Support Fund (HSF) is a grant that has been awarded to Councils by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to help vulnerable families and households facing financial hardship pay for food, energy and essential living costs this summer. The HSF was originally awarded from Oct 21 to Mar 22 but in the Spring Statement the chancellor announced further HSF funds to cover the Apr-Sept 2022 period.

To help ensure the grant reaches those who need it most we are again seeking support from our trusted professional partners to help actively identify and award funds to families facing financial hardship.

From **Monday 16 May** Children's Professionals working for schools, nurseries and other partner agencies who predominately support households with children will be able to carry out basic financial assessments with the families they support to award funds from the grant.

Our Early Help and Safeguarding Teams will also be carrying out this role and assessing families for support from the fund. The grant is available up until the end of September 2022 and each household will be able to access a maximum of 2 awards from the fund within the period May to 30 September. Families who previously accessed 1 or 2 payments from the initial HSF fund that ran from October 2021 to March 2022 will be able to access another 2 payments if deemed eligible based on their financial circumstances. To ensure there is time to administrate the payments, the last day staff and partners can submit an assessment will be 28 September 2022.

Awards from the fund are calculated at £64 for the first adult and £20 each for a partner/spouse and each dependent child under 19. For example, a family of 4 would be awarded £124 per award.

The assessments Children's Professionals make and submit will be checked and approved by our CS HSF Duty Team before payments are processed and awarded to the family. Further information about the fund and [guidance on how to carry out an assessment is available here](#). Please ensure you read the guidance before making and submitting an assessment.

Assessments should be submitted using this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/w639gUjxsA>

Support and further information

HSF Teams Channel: we have set up a Microsoft Teams site that can be accessed by both Derbyshire County Council staff and external partner organisations. If you'd like you join the Team please email CS.HSFDuty@derbyshire.gov.uk and request to be added to the Team. In the channel you will find guidance, a link to the form, resources and a Q&A channel.

Email: If you have any specific questions that the guidance doesn't answer, please get in touch using the above email address.