

YOU AND YOUR RIGHTS

Disability Grant

You can apply for a Disability Grant if you are in **financial need** and have a disability that stops you supporting yourself.

You must earn **less than R6 870 a month** (single person) or **R13 740 a month** (married couples). The goods and any second property you own are also assessed.

From the 1st April 2019, the maximum grant amount was **R1 780 per month**. You could get less, however, as the more you earn the less of the grant you get.

You can apply for a grant at your nearest SASSA office – you don't pay anything to apply.

You must be a SA citizen, permanent resident or a refugee between 18 and 59 years old. Other foreign nationals are not eligible.

You must take **valid medical proof** of your disability with you as well as other documents – like your ID and proof of your marital status and income. But if you don't have these, you **CAN** still apply using alternative identification.

If you cannot go to the SASSA Offices yourself, SASSA will arrange to visit your home to complete the application. After this you can have a friend or family member act for you.

SASSA will decide on the **period** of the grant, based on how long you are likely to be disabled for.

Permanent disability is longer than 12 months – while **temporary** disability is from 6 – 12 months.

If your grant is approved, you can apply for temporary assistance in the form of **Social Relief of Distress (SRD)** while you wait for your first payment. The SRD money will be deducted from your grant.

If you need regular care at home, you may also apply for a **Grant-in-Aid**.

Depending on how you became disabled, you could also get benefits from the **Road Accident Fund (RAF)**, the **Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF)** or **Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Fund (COIDF)**.

If your household is in need, you can apply for "**indigency status**" at your Municipal Offices – this may help you with the cost of your water, electricity and property rates.

“Everyone has the right to have access to social security, including, if they are unable to support themselves and their dependants, appropriate social assistance. The state must take reasonable legislative and other measures, within its available resources, to achieve the progressive realisation of each of these rights”

- **Section 27 of the South African Constitution.**

“Everyone has the right to administrative action that is lawful, reasonable and procedurally fair ... and everyone whose rights have been adversely affected by administrative action has the right to be given written reasons.”

- **Section 33 of the South African Constitution.**

LEGAL DISCLAIMER: While every attempt has been made to ensure the information published here is accurate, the Black Sash does not take responsibility for any loss or damage that may arise out of the reliance on or use of this information. The contents do not constitute legal advice. This fact sheet was last updated in **April 2019.**

For any enquiries about grants, phone the SASSA toll-free helpline number:

0800 601 011

Contact the **Black Sash HELPLINE** for **FREE** paralegal support and advice:



072-66 33 739
help@blacksash.org.za

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B L A C K S A S H
MAKING HUMAN RIGHTS REAL