

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

Section 27 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 2017**.

For enquiries about grants,
phone the SASSA toll-free
helpline number:
0800 601 011



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

You can contact the Black
Sash HELPLINE for FREE
legal advice.

YOU AND YOUR
RIGHTS

Disability Grant



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MAKING HUMAN RIGHTS REAL

YOU AND YOUR RIGHTS

Disability Grant

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 such as an Identity Document (ID) and proof of marital status and income or an alternative form of identity if you do not have an ID document.

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

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

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 will be deducted from your grant.

If you need regular care at home, you may 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 Act (COIDA).

If your household is in need, you can apply for '**indigency status**' at your municipal offices. This may help with the cost of your electricity, water and property rates.

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