



Frequently Asked Questions

FV/SV Accessibility Grant

Applicants interested in applying for the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) Family Violence and Sexual Violence (FV/SV) Accessibility Grant (the Grant) to improve physical, digital, and information-based accessibility, are recommended to read these Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

After reading the FV/SV Accessibility Grant documents, including these FAQs, if applicants still have queries, please contact MSD at accessibilityfund@msd.govt.nz

Why are there pre-conditions for physical modifications requiring property ownership/lease term evidence and landlord/owner agreement?

The Grant includes this pre-condition to ensure a fair and transparent approach between the landlord and tenant in cases where the provider occupies a rental property. It also prioritises achieving sustainable long-term accessibility improvements for disabled people accessing FV/SV services.

What is the Accessibility Self-Assessment tool?

The Accessibility Self-Assessment is a tool designed to help FV/SV providers assess your organisation's level of accessibility. It is divided into two sections. Section one asks about the building's physical accessibility, like whether it has a wet room or ramps. Section two looks at digital and other forms of accessibility such as whether the organisation has an accessible website and information available in alternate formats. Completing the Self-Assessment is part of the eligibility criteria for grant funding, and can help applicants identify changes and enhancements required to make FV/SV services more accessible.

Where is the Self-Assessment and the grant funding application submitted?

Grant applications must be submitted via email to accessibilityfund@msd.govt.nz by 5pm, Monday 12 August 2024.

The Accessibility Self-Assessment must also be completed and submitted online via [the Accessibility Self-Assessment Survey Monkey link](#) by 5pm, Monday 12 August 2024.

Our contract with MSD recently ended. Can we still apply for funding?

No. Applicants must have an existing FV/SV contract with MSD when the grant funding applications close on 12 August 2024.

We/I are funded by MSD for Safety Assessment Meeting (SAM) tables. Are we/I eligible to apply for this funding?

No. Only MSD funded providers delivering FV/SV services which work directly with clients are eligible to apply for this grant funding.

We/I am funded by MSD for Regional FV Governance Group participation. Are we/I eligible to apply for this funding?

No. Only MSD funded providers delivering FV/SV services which work directly with clients are eligible to apply for this grant funding.

Is general disability training in scope for this grant funding opportunity?

No. As part of the Accessibility Fund and separate to the opportunity to apply for grant funding, MSD-funded FV/SV providers can register to attend a disability awareness training session. Therefore, general disability training is considered out of scope for this grant opportunity. However, specialist disability training involving material not offered in the Disability Awareness training (see [Accessibility Fund MSD web page](#) for a high-level overview), for example sign language training, may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Organisations interested in participating in a disability awareness training, should register their interest on the [Accessibility Fund MSD web page](#).

How much funding can applicants apply for?

Eligible applicants can apply for up to \$75,000 per provider.

Can applicants apply for funding to cover more than one accessibility improvement?

Applicants can apply for and use FV/SV Accessibility Grant funding to fund multiple improvements e.g., creating information in alternate formats and installing a ramp, up to a total of \$75,000.

What if the cost of the proposed enhancement is above the \$75,000 cap?

To ensure the proposed accessibility enhancement/s can be fully implemented, if the cost of the proposed enhancement exceeds \$75,000, the applicant must outline in their application how they will meet the additional costs.

Please note, applications for funding above \$75,000 may be considered on a case-by-case basis. However, the applicant is still expected to outline how they would meet the additional costs if the application did not receive the extra funding.

We deliver FV/SV from multiple sites. Can we apply for multiple grants?

No. MSD funded FV/SV providers can only submit one application for funding up to \$75,000. However, if an applicant has multiple properties used for FV/SV services and supports, they can use the grant for multiple projects across the different properties. E.g., if an applicant has properties in Auckland and Nelson, they could apply for a grant of up to a total of \$75,000 to have ramps installed in both properties.

Can we pool funding with other providers to request funding above the \$75,000 cap?

No. MSD-funded FV/SV providers can only submit one application for funding up to \$75,000. However, funding over the \$75,000 cap may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

When do successful applicants have to spend the grant funding by?

It is expected that the majority of the allocated funding received through this opportunity by successful applicants is spent within 12 months of contracting.

Remember, this one-off funding is time-limited (it is finite). If applicants are considering applying for funding for a project which requires ongoing costs, such as website maintenance or sign language interpreters, the application should outline how this enhancement would be funded beyond the grant term.

How do applicants source the appropriate equipment and guidance for our proposed enhancement/s?

[Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People website](#) has nationwide links to find out more about disability support equipment and suitable tradespeople.

Can/will the applicant's landlord increase their rent if properties are modified to become more accessible?

Every applicant's circumstances will be unique, and MSD cannot advise applicants on what their or their landlord's legal rights may be. This is something which applicants should consider and discuss with their landlord.

What format should applications be submitted in?

Application for FV/SV Accessibility Grant funding must be in **Microsoft Word format**.

Only alter the application template in accordance with the guidance provided. To find out about best practices for making Word documents accessible, see the [Microsoft website](#).

Do applicants have to submit the quotes/evidence in Word format?

Price quotes are acceptable in either Word or PDF format. However, please ensure all relevant information, such as prices from the quote is outlined in the application document.

What will MSD do with applicants information provided in the grant application we submit?

As outlined in the FV/SV Accessibility Grant Application Terms, MSD is undertaking a current state analysis which intends to provide a fuller understanding of the accessibility gaps in the family and sexual violence sector, and the existing barriers for disabled people/tāngata whaikaha Māori. MSD may make this analysis available to the public.

- i. When we use the information provided in applications for this purpose, we will remove personal information like names and addresses, and will group data in a way in which it cannot reasonably be expected to identify individuals or applicants; and MSD will treat any information you provide in the application as confidential. This means that we will not use or disclose the information you provide to any person or organisation other than:

- ii. to the extent that use or disclosure is necessary for the purposes outlined above;
- iii. to the extent you give your prior written approval to the use or disclosure;
- iv. if the use or disclosure is required by law (including under the Official Information Act 1982);
- v. if the information has already become public, other than through a breach of confidentiality by MSD.

To the extent that the information you submit in the application is personal information, we will abide by our obligations under the Privacy Act 2020.

When do applications close?

The closing date for applications is 5pm, Monday 12 August 2024.

When will applicants know the outcome of their application?

Following the closing date, all applications received will be checked for eligibility and evaluated. MSD anticipates notifying all applicants who have applied for funding of their application outcome by early-November 2024.