



# Living organ donors can get help to pay for travel expenses

## Learn about this program and how to apply

The National Living Donor Assistance Center (NLDAC) can pay for up to \$6,000 of travel expenses for living organ donors and their caregivers, on their trips to the transplant center for evaluation, surgery, and medical follow-up visits. This program helps living organ donors pay for:



Transportation



Food



Lodging

### How does it work?

Approved donors get a credit card to use for these travel expenses. NLDAC cannot pay for expenses that the recipient's insurance or a state program covers.



A living donor must apply and be approved before donating an organ.



## Who qualifies?

Only the living organ donor (the person who will donate an organ) can qualify for this program. To qualify, the donor and their recipient (the person who will get the organ) must:

- ✓ Be U.S. citizens or lawfully admitted residents
- ✓ Live in the U.S. or its territories (Donors who live near the transplant center can apply. There are no mileage requirements.)

In addition, NLDAC decides if a donor qualifies based on the recipient's yearly household income. The recipient's yearly household income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (see the table below).

If the recipient's income is more than 300% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines but they are unable to cover the donor's travel costs, the recipient can submit a waiver for financial hardship to NLDAC.




**To see if the recipient's income is below 300% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, find their income and household size in this chart:**

	300% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) 2020		
Household Size (The number of people claimed on the tax return. A person age 22 or older residing with family but living independently may be considered a household of one.)	48 states and DC	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$38,280	\$47,850	\$44,040
2	\$51,720	\$64,650	\$59,490
3	\$65,160	\$81,450	\$74,940
4	\$78,600	\$98,250	\$90,390
5	\$92,040	\$115,050	\$105,840
6	\$105,480	\$131,850	\$121,290
7	\$118,920	\$148,650	\$136,740
8	\$132,360	\$165,450	\$152,190

The government adjusts the FPGs each year. Visit [livingdonorassistance.org](https://livingdonorassistance.org) for updates.

## How do I apply?

The recipient and donor must:

- 1** Get the NLDAC Application Worksheet and Attestation Form in 1 of 3 ways:
  -  Visit [www.LivingDonorAssistance.org](http://www.LivingDonorAssistance.org) and click on "Application Process" from the "How to Apply" tab
  -  Ask your transplant professional
  -  Contact the NLDAC office at **888-870-5002** or [nldac@livingdonorassistance.org](mailto:nldac@livingdonorassistance.org)
- 2** Fill out and sign the NLDAC Application Worksheets and Attestation Forms - there is a part for the donor to fill out and a part for the recipient to fill out
- 3** Attach proof of household income, such as a copy of pay stubs, federal income tax return, or other documents
- 4** Give the completed worksheets, forms, and proof of income to your transplant professional. The transplant professional will file the application for you.

## When do I need to apply?

**Apply early!** You can apply before you schedule your evaluation or surgery. But, NLDAC can't cover travel expenses you had before your application was approved.

Whenever you decide to apply (before evaluation or before surgery), NLDAC can only cover travel that happens after your application is approved. This is because NLDAC will mail you a credit card that you'll use to pay for travel expenses.

To get your card before you travel, you must give your completed paperwork to your transplant professional at least 3-4 weeks before you travel. This makes sure that NLDAC has time to process your application and mail your credit card. The latest you can apply is 10-15 business days before your surgery date.

## What documents can I use as proof of my household income?

You can use many documents, such as:

- ✓ Disability statements
- ✓ Pay stubs
- ✓ Income tax return
- ✓ Confirmation of Medicaid eligibility

If you have questions about a document, talk to your transplant professional or call NLDAC.

## If I'm in a donor chain, paired donation, or non-directed donor, what recipient do I list on the application?

For a donor chain or paired donation, list the intended but incompatible recipient on the application. This program always uses the recipient's household income to decide if a donor qualifies. If you are a non-directed donor, the transplant center can help you apply to NLDAC after they decide who you will donate to.

## If the donor doesn't qualify for this program, can the recipient help them pay for travel?

Yes. The recipient can provide financial help to the donor. The recipient can make reasonable payments related to the donor's travel, housing expenses, and lost wages. However, it is illegal to buy and sell organs.

**Please visit us online at [LivingDonorAssistance.org](https://LivingDonorAssistance.org)**

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