



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

DEPUTY MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
WELFARE



DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION
OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

1430 NICOSIA

SEVERE MOTOR DISABILITY ALLOWANCE SCHEME

1. The aim of this Scheme is to provide financial assistance in order to cover some additional needs of persons with severe motor disability, who cannot walk and permanently use a wheelchair. The allowance is granted to persons with severe motor disability, who are citizens of the Republic of Cyprus and to EU citizens residing in the area under the control of the Republic of Cyprus for at least 12 consecutive months. In addition the allowance shall be granted to foreigners who have a status of recognised refugee or subsidiary protection according to the refugee laws.
2. The allowance shall be granted to any citizen of the Republic or of any EU Member State, who is a permanent resident of Cyprus and continuously and permanently uses a wheelchair:

Due to paralysis of both lower limbs, which is the result of an injury or other disease of the bone marrow, of the brain, of the peripheral nerves or muscles
or
due to amputation of both lower limbs
or
due to severe deformation or severe deficiency of the lower limbs.
3. A person shall fall within the above definition if he continuously and permanently uses a wheelchair in the sense that he cannot walk at all or that he can walk very short distances on an even ground with the use of ancillary means such as canes, walkers or special braces for the legs.
4. The amount of the allowance shall be approximately €386 per month (varies according to the indexing adjustment) and shall be paid despite of the financial situation or marital status of the beneficiary unless the case falls within paragraph 6.
5. The allowance may be paid, depending on the case, either in whole or partially, to the beneficiary himself or to the natural person, legal entity or institution that has undertaken the additional costs of the beneficiary due to his disability.
6. The allowance shall not be taken into consideration for the purposes of another benefit provided for by any other Scheme or Law.
7. Who is not entitled to receive the allowance:
 - Children under 12 years old;

- Persons over 65 years old unless they became beneficiaries of the allowance before their 65th anniversary. This provision does not affect persons who are over 65 years old and they were receiving Para/Quadriplegic Allowance before the introduction of the Scheme.
8. A person ceases to be the beneficiary when he does not meet the conditions referred to in the definition of “beneficiary” or after his death.
 9. The applications are examined by the Department for Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities following opinion of a special Medical Council.
 10. The Medical Council shall be composed of at least 3 specialists in neurosurgery, neurology and orthopaedics.
 11. The Medical Council shall also give its opinion on any case that may be referred to it for re-examination by the competent Service.
 12. The date of entry into force of the allowance for the applicant shall be the date upon which the application is received by the Department for Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities.
 13. In the case that a beneficiary has not completed their eighteenth year of age, the allowance / financial support shall be placed in a bank account of:
 - (a) the father or mother of the minor
 - (b) a natural person who can prove that the minor is an orphan from both parents or has been abandoned by his/her parents, and is the one who is looking after the applicant at his/her own expenses or
 - (c) any other person, if it is considered that it is for the minor’s benefit.
 14. Where disagreement or doubt arises as to the person to whom the allowance/ financial support shall be paid, the Director will investigate the case and decide accordingly, always in the best interest of the child.