

## **WMUK Regional Summit Travel Costs Fund** **Terms & Conditions**

### **What is the WMUK Regional Summit Travel Costs Fund?**

The WMUK Regional Summit Travel Costs Fund has been set up to support people affected by WM so they can attend one of WMUK's in-person Summits in 2025.

We understand how important it is to have the opportunity to meet others living with WM - to not only share experiences and knowledge, but to also hear first-hand from a range of experts on topics that help the community to better understand WM and ultimately, how to live well with it.

Feedback from previous events highlighted that travel or overnight costs were often an obstacle to people attending these otherwise valuable in-person events. WMUK want to ensure that we provide access to these events and opportunities to as many people as possible.

This is why WMUK has launched the Regional Summit Travel Costs Fund to allow access to a one-off £75 for attendees who truly need help with travel costs, so they can get the support they need.

Our pot of money is limited, and so grants will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

The Fund also makes available a small number of free tickets to the event, which are available on a request basis.

### **Eligibility**

The fund is open to anyone who meets the following criteria:

- Has purchased a ticket to one of the four Regional Patient Summits in 2025 (England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales) or the Supporter's Summit in 2025
- Is not a speaker or volunteer at any of the five Summits
- Is not a WMUK Trustee
- Is not attending in a capacity outside of patient, friend, family or carer (e.g. as a healthcare professional)
- Lives in the UK

This fund is for those who truly would not be able to attend a Summit without financial help. This ensures that WMUK's limited funds are used where the need is greatest.

### **Proof of Eligibility**

WMUK will have record that the applicant has already purchased a ticket for one of the Summits and will use this as proof of eligibility.

We award grants on a trust basis, in that any applicant is applying because they have a true need of the funds, and would not be able to attend a Summit otherwise.

### **Application process**

The application process is simple. Just fill in the application form on our website. You will need to fill this out yourself and include all the required fields.

If you are unable to apply online, please email us [info@wmuk.org.uk](mailto:info@wmuk.org.uk) for a paper copy. Paper copies can be photographed or scanned and emailed back to us to the same address.

The WMUK team may follow up your application with questions or for further proof of eligibility. Please be aware that if we do not receive a response, we will not be able to process your application or award you the grant.

Since grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, WMUK will not be receiving applications by post.

### **Processing your grant**

Once we've received your application, we'll let you know within 2 weeks whether you have been successful. We may have follow-up questions or require further proof of your eligibility. If you do not respond, we will not be able to process or award your grant.

We will then transfer the funds by BACs to the bank details you provide on your application form. Transfers will happen up to two weeks before the event you are due to attend.

Your bank account details will be kept securely on our files until this point, and will subsequently be deleted after the transfer. If you are unsuccessful in your application, we will immediately delete your bank details from our system.

### **Using the funds**

If the applicant attends the Summit, then no further proof of expenditure is required.

We're aware that sometimes due to circumstances out of their control e.g. health or weather can mean people cannot attend. However, to ensure that we are spending our funds correctly, if an applicant does not attend the Summit they have a ticket for, we may – under some circumstances – request proof of expenditure and/or proof that expenditure was non-refundable. If this isn't forthcoming, WMUK reserves the right to request a refund.

### **FAQs**

*Why has my application been turned down?*

Your application may have been turned down because you have not met the eligibility criteria. If this is the case, we will notify you of the reason when we get in touch. Reasons include:

- You haven't purchased a ticket to one of WMUK's Regional Summits in 2025, or received one of the limited free tickets.
- You haven't filled in the form correctly
- You are a speaker or volunteer at one of the Summits
- You are a WMUK trustee
- All the grants have already been awarded
- You haven't responded to any follow up queries or requests for further proof of eligibility from the WMUK team

The funds available are limited, and will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. This means that your application might be turned down if you apply after the funds have been used, or you reply to any follow-up queries after the funds have been used.

*Can I apply more than once?*

If you have been successful in your first application and received a grant from the Regional Summit Travel Costs Fund, then you cannot apply again. This is because our pot of funds is limited and we want to ensure everyone who needs access to the funds can receive them.

If you were unsuccessful in your previous application and your circumstances have changed so that you are now eligible (e.g. you have now purchased a ticket), then you are very welcome to reapply. Please carefully review the eligibility criteria and application process to ensure you meet the requirements.

*Can I apply on someone's behalf?*

The person receiving and spending the grant should apply to the Regional summit Travel Costs Fund themselves.

However, we want to ensure the funds are accessible to everyone who needs them. If, for whatever reason, the person needing the funds is unable to apply themselves, please contact us at [info@wmuk.org.uk](mailto:info@wmuk.org.uk) and we will work with you to complete their application.

*The person I am attending with has already applied or received a Regional Summit Travel Costs grant, can I also apply?*

Yes, if you have both purchased tickets for a WMUK Regional Patient Summit or the Supporters' Summit, and you both meet the other eligibility criteria, then you may both be awarded the grant. This applies to people within the same household.

As stated elsewhere, we ask that only people who are truly in need of a grant, and would otherwise not be able to attend a Summit, apply.