



## Crisis Intervention Fund Guidelines for Patient

The National Kidney Foundation of Louisiana patient assistance programs are intended to prevent patient hardships from undermining medical stability and quality of life. We prefer to split financial assistance with other agencies, organizations, health care providers, patients and their families. Assistance from the NKFL is the “last resort” when assistance from other resources is not available.

The maximum amount of assistance per patient is \$150 during a 12-month period.

### General Eligibility Requirements.

- Have a diagnosis of eGFR < 15 or be a kidney transplant recipient
- Participate in an ongoing treatment program
- Be a Louisiana resident
- Have completed a financial statement that provides evidence of financial hardship based on total household income and monthly expenses
- Be referred by a renal social worker, dietitian, or prescribing nephrologist office

### Specific Programs

#### TRANSPORTATION

- This program is designed to help patients travel to and from dialysis. Assistance is available for bus fare or the Mobility Impaired Transportation System (MITS) which serves the Jefferson and New Orleans areas, Capital Area Transit System (CATS) serves the Baton Rouge area, ATRANS which serves Alexandria, Acadiana Transit which serves Lafayette, SPORTRAN which serves Shreveport, and the Monroe Transit System which serves Monroe.
- Patients are eligible when there are no family, friends or neighbors available and they cannot afford to pay the fare/fee.
- Patients whose insurance provides non-emergency transportation are not eligible.

#### NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS

- The NKFL will assist with purchasing nutritional supplements for patients who qualify.
- Supplemental products are purchased through Abbott Nutrition.
- Application for supplemental nutrition must include orders from the patient’s physician.
- NKFL will pay the cost of two cases of supplemental nutrition—Quantity = 48

## DENTAL CARE

- Essential dental services are defined as treatment delivered to eliminate dental problems and/or alleviate pain, infection, swelling and/or injury. This includes periodontal procedures such as scaling/root planing; basic restorative procedures such as fillings; oral surgical procedures such as extractions; and endodontic procedures such as root canals.

## DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

- The NKFL will provide assistance for certain types of durable medical equipment. (DME)
- This includes but not limited to items such as a blood pressure monitor, blood sugar monitor, shower chair, walking assistance, etc.

## MEDICATIONS

- The NKFL medications program is considered short-term assistance, intended to help in emergency and crisis situations.
- We may allow initial approval of assistance when there is an immediate need to allow the patient time and opportunity to apply for and establish other resources.
- It is expected that patients will develop a more permanent solution to their medication needs.

*The National Kidney Foundation of Louisiana has limited funds for this program. Please understand that while we make every attempt to help as many people as possible, we must be stringent on the guidelines of this program. If funds given during a fiscal year meet or exceed the budget allowed for the program, grants will not be funded until the next fiscal year.*

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