

# Grants for Accessibility

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## Description:

Through funding from the Connecticut State Department of Economic and Community Development, Grants for Accessibility, a program administered by the Corporation for Independent Living, is a statewide grant program, which is designed to help people modify their existing housing. Grants are given to eligible families and individuals to make modifications to residential dwellings that improve accessibility for persons with physical disabilities. Persons may be eligible if they use wheelchairs for mobility or are deaf, hearing impaired, blind, visually-impaired, have multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, a traumatic brain injury or any other physical disability.

Grant amounts range from \$1,000 to \$20,000 with an initial full lien against the home. Total lien amounts are reduced automatically by 10 percent annually. At the end of the tenth year, the grant is forgiven in full and the lien removed from the homeowner's land records. Any item deemed necessary to improve the home's accessibility is an eligible item. A partial list of possible modifications that can be covered are:

- ramps,
- tactile identification features,
- visual door signals and alarms,
- three foot doors,
- lever handles on doors,
- call-for-aid systems,
- handrails on corridors,
- kick plates on doors,
- lowered peepholes,
- wall corner protection guards,
- carpeting,
- adjusted electrical outlets/switches,
- knee space under sinks,
- grab bars around toilets, and
- roll-in showers.

Individuals who think they may be eligible are encouraged to call the Corporation for Independent Living.

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## Eligibility Requirements, Service Areas and Program Year:

### Eligibility Requirements:

- Total household income must be at or below 80 percent of the median income set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (refer to [Appendix J](#)), and

- Must have a physical disability and own their own homes, or
- Must be a parent of a child with a physical disability and be a homeowner, or
- Must be a tenant and have the landlord's written consent to make accessible renovations.

Service Areas:

Statewide

Program Year:

N/A

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### **Contact Information:**

Corporation for Independent Living

30 Jordan Lane

Wethersfield, CT 06109

Telephone: 860-563-6011

Fax: 860-563-2562

Website: [www.cilhomes.org](http://www.cilhomes.org)

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### **Related Information:**

[Home Improvement Loan Program, refer to page XI – 5.](#)

[Rebuilding Together, refer to page XI – 7.](#)

[Rural Home Repair Loans and Grants \(Section 504\), refer to page XI – 10.](#)