

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022**

H. B. No. 644

Representatives Fraizer, John

A BILL

To create the Ohio Disability Home Expense Grant 1
Program and to repeal Sections 1 through 5 of 2
the act on July 1, 2024, to abolish the Ohio 3
Disability Home Expense Grant Program on that 4
date, and to make an appropriation. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. As used in Sections 1 and 2 of this act: 6

(A) "Activity of daily living" has the same meaning as in 7
section 7702B of the Internal Revenue Code. 8

(B) "Qualifying applicant" means an Ohio resident who, or 9
whose spouse or dependent, qualifies as any of the following on 10
the date the application is filed under Section 2 of this act: 11

(1) The resident, spouse, or dependent is over fifty-nine 12
years of age. 13

(2) The resident, spouse, or dependent is permanently 14
disabled with documentation from a licensed health care 15
professional certifying that the resident, spouse, or dependent 16
requires assistance for at least one activity of daily living. 17

(3) The resident, spouse, or dependent has been diagnosed 18

by a licensed health care professional as having amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis. 19
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(C) (1) "Disability-related home expenses" means any 21
expenses incurred for the purpose of facilitating activities of 22
daily living within or about a qualifying applicant's residence 23
and increasing the amount of time the qualifying applicant or 24
qualifying applicant's spouse or dependent may continue to 25
inhabit the residence before needing to relocate to an assisted 26
living facility. "Disability-related home expenses" include both 27
of the following: 28

(a) Modifications to the qualifying applicant's existing 29
residence, provided that the modification is designed to improve 30
accessibility and provide universal visitability in accordance 31
with guidelines established by the Department of Aging. 32
Modifications may include the installation of wheelchair ramps, 33
bathtub bars, and zero-step entrances. 34

(b) Expenses related to respite care, adult day-care, 35
hiring a home aide or personal care attendant, or assistive 36
technology necessary for the care of the applicant or 37
applicant's spouse or dependent. 38

(2) "Disability-related home expenses" does not include 39
general household maintenance expenses, such as expenses related 40
to painting, plumbing, electrical repairs, or exterior 41
maintenance. 42

(D) "Licensed health care professional" means any of the 43
following: 44

(1) A physician authorized to practice medicine and 45
surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery under Chapter 4731. 46
of the Revised Code; 47

(2) A registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, or licensed practical nurse licensed under Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code;

(3) A physician assistant licensed under Chapter 4730. of the Revised Code.

(E) "Qualifying nonprofit corporation" means a nonprofit corporation in this state that has an established record serving persons with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or multiple sclerosis and their families.

Section 2. (A) The Department of Aging shall create and administer the Disability Home Expense Grant Program to provide grant money for disability-related home expenses related to a qualifying applicant's disability or the disability of the qualifying applicant's spouse or dependent, and, if the Department chooses, to a qualifying nonprofit corporation pursuant to division (C) of this section. The program shall begin on the effective date of this section and end on July 1, 2024. The Department of Aging shall create the application process for the program and shall prescribe the form of the application.

(B) To receive a grant under this section, a qualifying applicant shall submit an application to the Department of Aging. Upon receipt of an application, the Department shall approve the application if all of the following apply:

(1) Granting the grant would not cause the total amount of grants approved under this section for the fiscal year to exceed twenty-five million dollars.

(2) The Department has not previously approved a grant application made by the same qualifying applicant.

(3) The grant application does not relate to a transaction 77
between a qualifying applicant and a member of the qualifying 78
applicant's family or between a pass-through entity and a person 79
that holds, directly or indirectly, an ownership interest in the 80
entity. As used in this division, "family" has the same meaning 81
as in section 5747.011 of the Revised Code. 82

After the Department either approves or rejects the 83
application, the Department shall provide notice to the 84
qualifying applicant by mail. 85

(C) (1) To receive a grant under this section, a qualifying 86
nonprofit corporation shall submit an application to the 87
Department of Aging. Upon receipt of an application, the 88
Department may approve the application if all of the following 89
apply: 90

(a) The qualifying nonprofit corporation agrees to use the 91
grant exclusively as described in divisions (C) and (D) (2) of 92
this section. 93

(b) Granting the grant would not cause the total amount of 94
grants approved under this section for the fiscal year to exceed 95
twenty-five million dollars. 96

(c) Granting the grant would not cause the total amount of 97
the grants approved under this section for the qualifying 98
nonprofit corporation for the fiscal year to exceed five hundred 99
thousand dollars. 100

(d) The qualifying nonprofit corporation agrees that prior 101
to providing any grant to a qualified applicant, the qualifying 102
nonprofit corporation verifies with the Department that the 103
qualified applicant has not received a grant under the 104
Disability Home Expense Grant Program. 105

(e) Any other condition the Department considers necessary 106
for granting the qualifying nonprofit corporation a grant under 107
this section, as established by rule by the Department under 108
division (G) of this section, including a requirement that any 109
grant provided under the program by the qualifying nonprofit 110
corporation to a qualifying applicant be subject to the 111
Department's final approval. 112

(2) After the Department either approves or rejects the 113
application, the Department shall provide notice to the 114
qualifying nonprofit corporation by mail. 115

(3) If a qualifying nonprofit corporation receives a grant 116
from the Department under this section, the qualifying nonprofit 117
corporation shall establish an application process to provide 118
grants to qualifying applicants described in division (B) (3) of 119
Section 1 of this act. The qualifying nonprofit corporation may 120
approve an application if all of the following apply: 121

(a) The qualifying nonprofit corporation has not 122
previously approved a grant application made by the same 123
qualifying applicant. 124

(b) The grant application does not relate to a transaction 125
between a qualifying applicant and a member of the qualifying 126
applicant's family or between a pass-through entity and a person 127
that holds, directly or indirectly, an ownership interest in the 128
entity. As used in this division, "family" has the same meaning 129
as in section 5747.011 of the Revised Code. 130

(c) The qualifying nonprofit corporation has verified with 131
the Department that the qualifying applicant has not received a 132
grant under the Disability Home Expense Grant Program. 133

(D) (1) Subject to division (B) of this section, the 134

Department shall provide the qualifying applicant a grant that 135
reflects the amount the qualifying applicant who, or whose 136
spouse or dependent, pays or incurs the costs of disability- 137
related home expenses. The amount of the grant shall equal the 138
cost of the disability-related home expenses but shall not 139
exceed five thousand dollars. 140

(2) Subject to division (C) of this section, if the 141
Department provides a grant to a qualifying nonprofit 142
corporation, the qualifying nonprofit corporation shall provide 143
qualifying applicants described in division (B) (3) of Section 1 144
of this act a grant that reflects the amount the qualifying 145
applicant who, or whose spouse or dependent, pays or incurs for 146
the costs of disability-related home expenses. The amount of the 147
grant shall equal the cost of the disability-related home 148
expenses but shall not exceed five thousand dollars. 149

(E) The Department of Aging shall reserve no less than six 150
million dollars for grants to qualifying applicants described in 151
division (B) (3) of Section 1 of this act for the fiscal year. 152

(F) When requested by a qualifying nonprofit corporation 153
pursuant to divisions (C) (1) (d) and (C) (3) (c) of this section, 154
the Department shall verify that the qualifying applicant has 155
not received a grant under the Disability Home Expense Grant 156
Program. 157

(G) The Department of Aging shall adopt rules under 158
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code as the Department considers 159
necessary to implement and administer Sections 1 and 2 of this 160
act. 161

Section 3. All items in this act are hereby appropriated 162
as designated out of any moneys in the state treasury to the 163

credit of the designated fund. For all operating appropriations 164
made in this act, those in the first column are for fiscal year 165
2023 and those in the second column are for fiscal year 2024. 166
The operating appropriations made in this act are in addition to 167
any other operating appropriations made for the FY 2022-FY 2023 168
biennium and the FY 2024-FY 2025 biennium. 169

Section 4. 170

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A AGE DEPARTMENT OF AGING

B Dedicated Purpose Fund Group

C	5CV3	490630	Disability Home Expense Grant Program	\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000
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D	TOTAL DPF Dedicated Purpose Fund Group			\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000
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E	TOTAL All BUDGET FUND GROUPS			\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000
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DISABILITY HOME EXPENSE GRANT PROGRAM 172

The foregoing appropriation item 490630, Disability Home 173
Expense Grant Program, shall be used to provide grants under the 174
Disability Home Expense Grant Program in accordance with this 175
act. The Department of Aging shall expend \$6,000,000 in each 176
fiscal year from appropriation item 490630 for grants to 177
qualifying applicants described in division (B) (3) of Section 1 178
of this act. 179

Section 5. Within the limits set forth in this act, the 180

Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts 181
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 182
made in this act, and shall determine the form and manner in 183
which appropriation accounts shall be maintained. 184

Expenditures from the FY 2023 appropriation contained in 185
this act shall be accounted for as though made in H.B. 110 of 186
the 134th General Assembly. The FY 2023 appropriation made in 187
this act is subject to all provisions of H.B. 110 of the 134th 188
General Assembly that are generally applicable to such 189
appropriations. 190

Expenditures from the FY 2024 appropriation contained in 191
this act shall be accounted for as though made in the main 192
operating appropriations act of the 135th General Assembly. The 193
FY 2024 appropriation made in this act is subject to all 194
provisions of the main operating appropriations act of the 135th 195
General Assembly that are generally applicable to such 196
appropriations. 197

Section 6. That Sections 1 to 5 of this act are hereby 198
repealed, effective July 1, 2024. 199