

Texas

When a family or individual is faced with a progressive condition such as DM1 or DM2 they are often presented with additional financial expenses as well as loss of a steady income. This section attempts to gather financial resources that are available on a state level for persons living in the United States. By no means is this section complete; we invite you to share with us any resources you've identified.

This is an on-going project. We will add more resources as we gather them; please send us resources you know of that are not currently listed.

Please be advised that each organization has its own eligibility and application requirements. None of these organizations are affiliated with the Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation. We hope you will share your experiences with us – let us know if you are successful in finding a good resource to help your family.

Financial Resources

<u>Care Connection:</u> Care connection is an aging and disability resource center. They provide resources including counseling, education, housing navigation, and respite support for caregivers. They also hold the annual Bridges Conference on disabilities. https://www.careconnection.org/site/1/home.aspx

<u>Dallas Financial Assistance Programs:</u> Not just Dallas! This statewide assistance program site provides access to a range of financial help sources. There are resources for financial help for medical needs, help with rent, help with utilities, clinic sliding-scale, one-time TANF, job retraining assistance, and more. http://freefinancialhelp.net/texas-financial-assistance-programs/

<u>Disability Rights Texas:</u> This organization covers a wide variety of disabilities and needs. Their website can provide access to further information about education, community living, employment, health care, transportation, and more. They are a federally designed program that promotes legal help and advocacy for those living with disabilities. http://www.disabilityrightstx.org/who-we-are

Navigate Life Texas: Navigate Life Texas serves to help families and parents of children with disabilities or special health-care needs and is designed to offer support, inspiration, resources, and links to services available. They have an easy starting point with their interactive "Road Map" for the newly diagnosed, and offer many services including financial and insurance help. They also offer access to educational information, family and support connections, medical and healthcare information, and resources for transitioning to adulthood. https://www.navigatelifetexas.org/en



Caregiver and Respite

<u>Parent Companion:</u> A guide for Texas parents and caregivers of children with diagnosed or suspected disabilities from birth through 5 years of age. The website includes information on support, diagnosis, developmental milestones, tips and strategies, and more. Resources can be filtered by the child's age (newborn-5years) for the best results. http://www.parentcompanion.org/

<u>Texas Parent to Parent:</u> The heart of TxP2P is the parent-to-parent peer support model — parents volunteering to provide support and information to other parents. The parent-to-parent model has been developed by and for parents to address the powerful emotions, new responsibilities, stress and isolation that parents and families face in caring for a child with special health care needs. TxP2P offers resources, support, community building, and more for parents. They have four conferences a year, statewide and regional, that offer parent-to-parent time, professionals, and more. They also offer training for parents, including minor medical training. https://www.txp2p.org/

<u>Take Time Texas:</u> Organized by Texas Health and Human Services, Take Time Texas is a program that allows caregivers a respite. It's important to take a break, and Take Time maintains a list of reputable caregivers that can take over for a short time. They can help you find a caregiver in Texas for your specific situation, so that you can have some time. https://www.dads.state.tx.us/taketimetexas/

Employment Resources

<u>Texas Workforce Commission:</u> The workforce commission provides information on job training, independent living services, how disabled workers improve the economy, and more. There is information on recruiting people with disabilities, and access to job information for those searching. http://www.twc.state.tx.us/partners/programs-people-disabilities

Scholarships and Education

<u>Joe Hornsby III Scholarship:</u> The Joe Hornsby III Scholarship will focus specifically on students who have special needs and want to further their education at a college/university or trade school. Priority will be given to students with special needs, visual impairment, physical disabilities, autism or Asperger syndrome. Mesquite Independent school district high schools, TX, only. https://www.dallasfoundation.org/scholarship-listing.aspx

<u>Maximum Independence Scholarship:</u> Scholarship founded by GoodWillSONT, given to 15 high school seniors/year for use in their fall semester of college. Students must be located in one of the following counties: Archer, Baylor, Clay, Wichita, or Wilbarger. http://goodwillsont.org/pdf_forms/scholarship_spplication_2015.pdf