

2024 MDF Regional Conference Scholarship Program

MDF is excited to kick off the year with our 2024 MDF Regional Conferences. Individuals with DM of all types and ages, their families, their providers, and the scientists studying the condition's possible paths to treatment will all gather to explore the latest research, discuss strategies for better living, and end isolation through community. Learn more about the 2024 MDF Regional Conferences at: <https://www.myotonic.org/2024-mdf-regional-conferences>

The MDF Regional Conference Scholarship Program aims to provide financial support for a person living with DM and a caregiver to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience learning about research, sharing tips for maximizing daily life, and finding strength and empowerment through connection and community. Caregivers – parents, spouses, etc. – are welcome to apply on behalf of their loved one living with DM.

Qualifications

- **Living with DM or primary caregiver for someone living with DM.** Scholarships may also cover one caregiver, or their loved one living with DM upon request.
- **First-time in-person conference attendee.** Priority will be given to attendees who haven't been to MDF's Annual Conferences before. This allows MDF to ensure as many people as possible can attend an in person MDF community event at least once. For those who have previously attended an MDF conference in person, MDF will review applications after all of the first-time attendee scholarships have been awarded.
- **Financial need.** Household income and member information will not be saved, stored, or shared but will be used to determine financial need.

MDF Regional Conference Scholarship Awards

An MDF Regional Conference Scholarship includes Up to \$750 travel reimbursement. Travel reimbursements may be used to support you and your caregiver (or affected loved one, if applying as a caregiver) to the closest MDF regional conference. See Scholarship rules to learn more about allowable expenses.

- MDF will provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday.
- Applications will be received until midnight on Friday, February 23rd, 2024. Determinations will be made by March 1st.

2024 MDF Regional Conference Scholarship Program

Additional Information and Requirement

- Scholarship applications will be reviewed on a weekly basis, awarded each Friday on a first come, first served basis.
- Awardees must accept an offered scholarship within one week from the date of award by registering for the conference.
- Awardees who do not accept the award within the stated one-week time frame may risk loss of the award.
- Awardees who accept the scholarship, have travel and rooms booked, but who do not attend the MDF Annual Conference without an approved excusal will be ineligible to apply for future scholarships of any type for a period of up to five years.
- Awardees who miss their scheduled transportation unrelated to weather, or system delays, will be responsible for the resulting difference in transportation ticket prices.

Scholarship Rules

- **Reimbursement:** Travel scholarship amounts are based on allowable reimbursement costs associated with the travel to and from an MDF Regional Conference.
 - Recipients must submit the MDF Scholarship Reimbursement form with all applicable receipts and documentation within 60 days of the attended Regional Conference.
 - Scholarships will be reimbursed within 30 days of successful completion of the MDF Scholarship Reimbursement form, and accurate submission of all applicable receipts and documentation.
 - Reimbursement will not exceed \$750, even if travel costs exceed this amount.
- Refer to the following table for Covered Expenses.

2024 MDF Regional Conference Scholarship Program

Covered Expenses	Allowable	Not Allowable
Economy airfare and/or bus and/or train tickets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ticket cost for scholarship recipient and approved caregiver or affected loved one only • Checked baggage fees (up to one checked bag per traveler) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seat upgrades (exceptions may be made when request is accompanied by a doctor's note and approved by MDF) • Pet fees: service and support animals are free on US airlines and should not require a fee. Any other pet fees without these designations cannot be reimbursed.
Hotel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Up to two nights (Friday and Saturday only) of hotel room cost ▪ Up to \$200/per night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Example, your hotel costs \$300/night, MDF will cover \$200/night and you will be responsible for the remaining \$100/night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Incidentals of any kind, this may include but is not limited to mini-bar snacks, in-room purchases, spa treatments, etc. ▪ Hotel fees above \$200/night
Mileage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mileage reimbursement for personal vehicles only (does not apply to rental cars) ▪ Reimbursement to include fuel costs at the IRS mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.67/per mile ▪ Must include starting and ending point maps when submitting the MDF Scholarship Reimbursement form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fuel - Fuel is calculated into the IRS mileage reimbursement rate and cannot be reimbursed separately ▪ Vehicle repairs ▪ Moving violations or tickets of any kind

2024 MDF Regional Conference Scholarship Program

Covered Expenses	Allowable	Not Allowable
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Airport parking ▪ Hotel Valet ▪ Hotel parking ▪ Event parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking tickets
Taxi/Ride Share	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Roundtrip rides to and from the airport/train/bus station from home and hotel ▪ Up to 20% driver gratuity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rides farther than 25 miles ▪ Driver gratuity over 20% of ride costs
Travel Day Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meals on the days of travel (Friday and/or Sunday) • Number of meals each day is based on duration of travel. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≥5 hours = up to three meals • <5 hours = up to two meals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alcoholic beverages ▪ Drugs of any kind, whether legal or not ▪ Meals on conference days, unless traveling this day