



Support Engage Empower

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## **IBD Connect Inc. 2026 Financial Assistance Program** **Information and Instructions**

A child's inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) diagnosis profoundly impacts families on emotional, physical, and financial levels. The array of expenses, including medical co-pays, out-of-pocket costs, dietary changes and supplementation, and potential lost wages, can be overwhelming. At IBD Connect Inc., our mission is to support, engage, and empower patients and families navigating the challenges of Crohn's Disease or Ulcerative Colitis. In the spirit of our commitment, we are pleased to announce the launch of our Financial Assistance Program for 2026. This program is specifically designed to aid IBD pediatric patient families experiencing financial difficulties due to their child's diagnosis. Our goal is to alleviate some of the burdens associated with this journey, offering tangible support to those actively involved or previously engaged in our support groups.

### ***Application Process and Submission Instructions:***

To apply for financial assistance, kindly download and complete all sections of the application form found on our website. The application should be submitted via email to IBD Connect's Executive Director, Lisa Fournier, at [lisafournier@ibdconnectinc.org](mailto:lisafournier@ibdconnectinc.org). You may also choose to upload the application directly to our website. Each request will be thoughtfully reviewed by IBD Connect's Board of Directors. Applicants will receive a response via email **within 30 days** of submission. This response may include requests for additional information, supporting documentation, approval, or, if necessary, an explanation for denial. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we strive to assist all eligible applicants. If approved, you will receive a check via mail to help ease this segment of your journey.

Please direct any and all questions regarding the application to [lisafournier@ibdconnectinc.org](mailto:lisafournier@ibdconnectinc.org).

### ***Application Criteria:***

*Applicants are eligible to apply if they:*

- Are 18 years of age or older.
- Are a U.S. citizen or legal resident.
- Demonstrate current financial need.



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- Are a parent or legal guardian of a child diagnosed with inflammatory bowel disease (The child must be under the age of 18 years) OR are a patient diagnosed with inflammatory bowel disease enrolled in college full-time and between the ages of 18-22 years.
- Have active involvement in one of IBD Connect's in-person or virtual support groups, or be a volunteer for the organization.

*Other criteria for application:*

- The submission of a fully completed application, including a detailed description of the financial hardship, is mandatory.
- Applicants may only apply once per calendar year.
- Only one applicant per family is considered.
- For those seeking assistance with prescription co-pays, proof of the prescription may be required.

***Important Notes:***

IBD Connect Inc. has allocated a set amount of financial award funds for the program. Once these funds are depleted, the program will be temporarily closed until the next calendar year. IBD Connect Inc. retains the discretion to either approve or deny an applicant's financial request. Additionally, IBD Connect Inc. reserves the right to approve an amount less than the full sum requested by the applicant.

***Nondiscrimination Clause:***

IBD Connect Inc. is committed to providing financial assistance without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or any other protected status in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws. We do not discriminate in the provision of services, the granting of financial assistance, or any other aspect of our organization's operations.

Wishing you all the best on your IBD journey.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Fournier  
Executive Director  
IBD Connect Inc.



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***Have questions or concerns? Contact us!***

***Website: [www.ibdconnectinc.org](http://www.ibdconnectinc.org)***

***Email Address: [lisafournier@ibdconnectinc.org](mailto:lisafournier@ibdconnectinc.org)***

***Phone Number: (508) 395-2278***

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