



2010 Komen Patient Assistance Fund

application instructions for:
**Oncology Social Workers
& Health Professionals**



The Komen Patient Assistance Fund is a financial assistance program for low-income patients in active treatment for breast cancer. In 2009 (through March 2010) eligible patients may receive **up to \$500** in assistance, based on the availability of funds.

Eligibility requirements:

- Patient is within a 3-month window of active breast cancer treatment, meaning surgery, chemotherapy or radiation. Active treatment does not include hormonal treatment.
- Have individual/family incomes under 250% of the Federal Poverty threshold (see Income Guidelines below)
- Live or be treated in Clallam, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum and Whatcom Counties.
- Patients who currently have stage IV breast cancer can apply for assistance regardless of whether they have received assistance from the Komen Fund in the past.
- Patients who currently have stage I-III breast cancer who have never received assistance from the Komen Fund can apply for assistance.
- If you have questions about whether a patient has received funding in previous years, please call (206) 832-1282.

Types of assistance provided:

- Low or fixed-income rent/housing
- Health insurance premiums
- Food gift cards (one time only of \$250)
- Public transportation to and from treatment
- Medication/Nutritional supplements (Ensure, Boost, etc.) not available via pharmaceutical assistance funds
- Naturopathic medication (vitamins, minerals, acupuncture, etc.) not covered by insurance
- Utilities
- Dental care required before or after chemotherapy
- Childcare
- Medical supplies/specialty garments not covered by insurance (ie. Lymphedema sleeves, dressings prosthesis, bras)

How it works:

1. Patients must contact a social worker or other health care professional at their doctor's office or treatment site. This professional will fill out the application form available online at: www.cancerlifeline.org/komen.html
Completed application is submitted to Cancer Lifeline by fax or mail.
2. Cancer Lifeline's Financial Patient Navigator will contact the client to determine for what type of assistance Komen funds can be best used. All other types of matching grants or assistance will be used **PRIOR** to using Komen funds. Based on requirements to access other resources, the Navigator may require some form of minimal financial commitment or partial payment from the client before funds are released.
3. The Navigator will request the client to send supporting documentation (invoice, rental agreement, statement). Upon receipt of documentation, application will be reviewed for final approval.
4. Cancer Lifeline (the fiscal agent for the program) will process the request on a first come, first served basis according to availability of funds.
5. Cancer Lifeline will send the check directly to the vendor and email confirmation to the social worker. Completed applications will be processed within 2-3 weeks.

Guidelines for completion:

Social/health care workers must use the 2009 application form and must submit this form via fax or mail.

- Please complete all fields on the form, or provide explanation for incomplete items. Incomplete applications without explanation will be returned.
- Please request **one check per application form**. Eligible patients can submit up to **2 applications in 2009 for a total of \$500**.
- Social workers are responsible for verifying that clients meet the eligibility requirements as listed above.
- All checks not cashed within 60 days of issue will become void and will not be re-issued.

Income Guidelines:

250% of 2009 Federal Poverty Level Guidelines

Family Size	Annual Net Income
1	\$26,000
2	35,000
3	44,000
4	53,000
5	62,000
6	71,000
7	80,000
8	89,000

Each additional person add \$9,000

For all inquiries regarding the 2009 Komen Patient Assistance Fund, please call (206) 832-1282.