



THE BENEFIT SYSTEM AND DISABLED YOUNG PEOPLE 16+



A brief introduction to the Social Security Benefits available to young people who are unable to work, and their carers. For benefits when working, see our leaflet Pb12A.

From 16 most disabled young people can claim at least two benefits: Employment & Support Allowance (which is due to be replaced by Universal Credit) **and** Personal Independence Payments (PIP).

FROM THE AGE OF SIXTEEN

DLA will cease at 16, with the young person invited to claim Personal Independence Payments (PIP) instead. There is a period of change as PIP is introduced:

- Anyone already aged over 16 and on DLA will usually have it for a fixed period of time. At the end of that period DLA will stop and you will be invited to claim PIP. If you do not claim PIP your DLA will cease anyway.
- Those with an 'indefinite award' of DLA are being contacted and invited to claim PIP. For more detail see our leaflet Pb94 DLA-2-PIP.

1. PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE PAYMENTS	CLAIM FORM PIP1
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Split into two components – DAILY LIVING and MOBILITY – both can be claimed at the same time.

Although there are a lot of similarities between DLA and PIP, PIP uses a different assessment criteria and claiming process.

● DAILY LIVING COMPONENT

The Daily Living Component is paid at 2 rates – **STANDARD & ENHANCED** so it covers a wide range of needs. These are outlined in a list of 10 *Activities*. Each activity – such as dressing or being sociable – is broken down into levels of difficulty, with higher difficulty giving higher *points*. The points are totted up, with 8 points getting you the standard rate and 12 points gets the enhanced rate.

The **standard** rate is for people who a limited ability to carry out the tasks of daily living, such as washing, dressing, engaging with people, budgeting; the **enhanced** rate is paid where you have a severely limited ability to carry out these daily living tasks.

● MOBILITY COMPONENT

The Mobility Component is paid at two rates – **STANDARD & ENHANCED**

The **STANDARD RATE** is for the young person who is able to walk but who needs help planning the journey, or needs to have someone with them. Examples would be those with a learning disability, visual impairment, behavioural problems, communication difficulties or having fits.

The **ENHANCED RATE** is for anyone who has significant walking problems. Note: This is harder to get than under DLA, so get advice and appeal if refused.

SPIN-OFFS: People in receipt of the standard mobility rate can get a blue parking badge, many on the enhanced mobility rate are entitled to a blue badge, free car tax and some can use the allowance to obtain a car via "Motability".

TO CLAIM: Ring 0800 917 2222 to start your PIP claim.

APPEALS If you are unhappy with a PIP decision you must first ask the DWP to look at your case again (mandatory reconsideration). The DWP will issue a fresh decision. If you are still unhappy you have the right of independent appeal. In each case you must appeal within 1 month of the adverse decision.

2. EMPLOYMENT AND SUPPORT ALLOWANCE: CLAIM FORM ESA1

ESA is paid to anyone aged 16 and over who passes the 'Work Capability Assessment' (WCA) – the test of who is considered to have 'limited capability for work' and is therefore entitled to the benefit. Some, e.g. in the Rugby or Stratford areas, may have to claim UNIVERSAL CREDIT instead – get advice.

Initially the claim form has to be accompanied by a Med 3 from your GP; then the assessment is via a form called an ESA50.

ESA can be claimed while at special school/by some in mainstream education

If the young person has little or no savings and passes the WCA test s/he will be eligible for the "income-related ESA" (IR-ESA).

Entitlement to IR-ESA triggers entitlement to:-

- * Free school meals
- * Free NHS Benefits (e.g. prescriptions, dental care, glasses, hospital fares)
- * 16-19 Bursary paid by the school/college.

IR-ESA can be claimed while still at school, but the young person will also need to be getting Disability Living Allowance/PIP.

NOTE: As part of the ESA payment was abolished for new claims in April 2017, it is important that parents/carers read the next section carefully:

PARENTS/CARERS - READ THIS!

Once your child claims Employment and Support Allowance in their own right they are no longer your 'dependants' for benefit purposes and so you will not be able to claim for them on your benefits such as Child Tax Credit or Child Benefit - you must notify the Child Benefit Centre and Child Tax Credit Office. You will also need to tell the local Council if you get Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Reduction.

If you get more than simply Child Benefit for your child you may want to **get advice** to ensure that you are overall better off by him/her claiming ESA. See page 4.

TO CLAIM EMPLOYMENT & SUPPORT ALLOWANCE: call 0800 055 6688.

NOTE: DLA/PIP CAN BE CLAIMED AT THE SAME TIME AS ESA

3 CARERS ALLOWANCE CLAIM FORM DS700 or DS700(SP) if pensioner

This is for a carer who looks after someone on any rate of PIP Daily Living (or the higher or middle rate of the Care Component of the Disability Living Allowance). The carer has to be aged 16 or over. S/he can work while claiming, but there is an earnings limit, £116 per week from April 2017.

CLAIM: call 0345 608 4321 or online: www.gov.uk/apply-carers-allowance.

4 INCOME RELATED EXTRA HELP FOR CARERS

Many carers who are on a low income and have low savings may also get one or more of the following:

- * Income Support, or JSA (income-based), or ESA (income-related) , or
- * Pension Credit (over pension age), and
- * Rent Rebate (Housing Benefit - HB), and
- * Council Tax Reductions (CTR - these vary from area to area)

Getting Carers Allowance triggers an addition on the above benefits, called the 'carers premium' [or carers 'addition'].

There will also be entitlement to the carers premium if the only reason Carers Allowance is not in payment is the carer is either already on another "overlapping" benefit (e.g. Retirement Pension)..

To get the carers premium with your benefits contact your local Jobcentre Plus (for Income Support/JSA(ib)/UC), Pension Service (for Pension Credit) or the Benefits Section of the Local Council (for HB/CTR).

Carers on a low income with a dependent child may also be eligible for Child Tax Credit.

These income-related benefits will be replaced by Universal Credit – see below

5 OTHER HELP – Whatever your income or savings

(i) COUNCIL TAX DISABILITY REDUCTION

If the disabled young person's home has been adapted/ added to, or simply there is a room whose use has changed in a way that enhances their wellbeing, the Council Tax payer may be entitled to a DISABILITY REDUCTION. This could mean a lower overall Council Tax bill.

(ii) COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNT

A discount can reduce the gross Council Tax by up to a half. Certain categories of Carers are entitled to a discount, as are households where there is an adult who is "severely mentally impaired".

Apply for a disability reduction or a discount from your Council Tax Section.

See our leaflet **Pb35** for detail on the Council Tax help for carers / disabled people. Some Councils do not apply this assistance properly, so get advice if refused

HOW TO CLAIM

Claim forms are available from:-

- * JOBCENTRE PLUS - address and number in the telephone book.
- * Your local Council (for Council Tax Reductions/Housing Benefit).

PLEASE NOTE: For most benefits for people of working age (not DLA/PIP) the claim has to be via your Jobcentre Plus office, with an interview with a "Personal Adviser".

FUTURE CHANGES: Universal Credit

The Government is replacing the following benefits by a single 'Universal Credit':- Income Support, income-based JSA, income-related ESA, Housing Benefit, Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit. This has been fully introduced in the Rugby, and Stratford upon Avon District areas, and will be brought in everywhere else in 2017/18 area by area – see our leaflet **Pb92** for more detail.

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

Citizens Advice		Tel No:
Old Market Tavern, 25 Congreve Walk, (Covers Nuneaton and Bedworth) (To book appt at Nun call 02476351049)	BEDWORTH , CV12 8LX	0344 855 2322 (switchboard)
The Parish Rooms, Welcome Street	ATHERSTONE , CV9 1DU	
1 st Floor, Chestnut House 32 North St,	RUGBY , CV21 2AQ	
10 Hamilton Terrace,	LEAMINGTON SPA , CV32 4LY	
25 Meer Street,	STRATFORD , CV37 6QB	

INTEGRATED DISABILITY SERVICE [IDS]

The IDS brings together professionals from Education, Health and Social Care. It provides a range of services to support children and young people with additional needs and their families/carers at home, school and other settings. **IDS is based in the following two locations:**

Saltisford
Ansell Way
WARWICK,
CV34 4UL
Tel: 01926 413737

Lancaster House
Exhall Grange Campus
Easter Way
ASH GREEN
CV7 9HP
Tel: 024 7636 8800

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