



Personal Independence Payment

Personal Independence Payment has started to replace Disability Living Allowance for people of working age with a health condition or disability.

Personal Independence Payment (PIP) is money to help with the extra costs caused by having long term ill health or a disability. Entitlement to Personal Independence Payment is not based on your condition but how your condition affects you.

Personal Independence Payment is non means tested and non-taxable and is payable whether you are in work or not.

Personal Independence Payment may entitle you to other benefits, or increase the value of other benefits that you already receive.

If you receive Personal Independence Payment you will be regularly assessed to ensure the help you get is correct.

There are two components to Personal Independence Payment and each component has two rates:

Mobility Component

- Enhanced Rate £59.75
- Standard Rate £22.65

Daily Living Component

- Enhanced Rate £85.60
- Standard rate £57.30

The amount you actually receive depends on your ability to complete 12 key everyday activities.

10 of these are daily living activities and 2 are mobility activities. Each activity has a set of descriptors which describe your ability to carry out certain tasks.

Who can apply?

- You must be aged between 16 and 64 inclusive
- Have a long term health condition or disability
- Have had these difficulties for 3 months and expect them to last at least 9 months

To claim Personal Independence Payment you can live alone or with other people.

How to apply

There are several stages to claiming Personal Independence Payment.

Those already getting DLA will be contacted to ask if they would like to claim Personal Independence Payment.

See <https://www.gov.uk/pip-checker> for more information on:

- If Personal Independence Payment affects you
- When your Disability Living Allowance may be affected
- When you can make a new claim for Personal Independence Payment

Make a claim

To start a claim for Personal Independence Payment contact the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

- Telephone 0800 917 2222
- Textphone 0800 917 7777

Lines are open Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm.

If you are not able to call yourself, someone else can do this for you provided you are with them. You will be asked to complete an identity check and answer some basic questions. You will then be sent a form called “How your disability affects you”

Once you have completed the “How your disability affects you” form, return it to the address given along with any supporting evidence you think will support your claim.

Assessment

Your claim details, form and supporting evidence are passed to a health professional. A health professional will review the claim against the activities and their descriptors. Most people will be required to attend a face-to-face consultation. Home visits may also be considered.

Decision

A DWP decision maker will look at the information supplied on the claim form, the medical assessment report and anything else that has been provided. You will be sent a letter with their decision about the level and length of Personal Independence Payment you will be awarded.

How to request an increase in your award if your needs have changed

If there is a change in your daily living or mobility needs and you have an existing award of Personal Independence Payment you can ask for the award to be reviewed. It is advisable to seek advice first prior to requesting a review to discuss how your award could be affected.

If you are refused Personal Independence Payment

If you are refused an award of Personal Independence Payment, or if you are not happy with the level you have been awarded, you can ask for this to be reconsidered. You can request this verbally over the phone or in

writing. This is called a ‘mandatory reconsideration’ and must be requested within 1 calendar month of receiving the decision notice.

See our ‘Challenging a benefits decision’ factsheet for further information and advice on this.

People who are terminally ill

People who are terminally ill (with a prognosis of less than 6 months) automatically get the enhanced rate of the daily living component if they apply under Special Rules. The time scales (3 months/9months) do not apply. The Mobility Component can be considered if the conditions are satisfied.

If a person meets the criteria for claiming under Special Rules they will:

- Not have to complete the “How your disability affects you form”
- Not have to attend a face to face consultation
- Have their claim dealt with quickly

If you need further advice on claiming Personal Independence Payment, you can contact Nottinghamshire County Council for more information using the details provided below.

Contact information:

Phone: 0300 500 80 80
Monday to Friday: 8am to 6pm
(Calls cost 3p a minute from a BT landline. Mobile costs may vary).

Email: enquiries@nottsc.gov.uk

Website: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk

Minicom: 01623 434993

Phone 0300 500 80 80 if you need the information in a different language or format.