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Department
for Work &
Pensions

Disability Living Allowance is ending

for people who were born
after 8 April 1948 and
are aged 16 or over

Find out more about DLA ending and claiming
Personal Independence Payment

dla-ending.campaign.gov.uk

Disability Living Allowance is ending for people who were born after 8 April 1948 and for people who are 16 years old or over

Disability Living Allowance, also known as DLA, is ending for most people. A benefit called Personal Independence Payment (PIP) has been introduced to help with some of the extra costs if you have a long-term health condition or disability.

We will write to you if you're getting DLA and were born after 8 April 1948 and are aged 16 or over inviting you to make a claim for PIP. We are not writing to everyone at the same time, this will happen over a number of years from 8 April 2013 (the day PIP was introduced).

You won't automatically get PIP if you're getting DLA, even if you have an indefinite or long-term award because PIP is a different benefit, assessed in a different way. The amount you receive may also change.

Important

You'll not be affected by this change and will continue to receive DLA if:

- you were born on or before 8 April 1948; or
- you're under the age of 16.

Where a child under 16 receives DLA, they'll be invited to claim PIP when they reach 16.

No action needs to be taken until we write to you unless your needs change or there has been a change in your circumstances.

What will happen?

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will write to tell you about when your DLA will end.

The letter will invite you to make a claim for PIP and tell you what to do next. We will send a reminder letter in case you missed the first one.

What do I need to do?

Once you get your letter, you'll need to decide if you want to apply for PIP. You'll have 28 days from the date on the letter to make a claim.

As you won't be able to choose to keep DLA, it's worth finding out about claiming PIP. You'll find more information in this leaflet or go to

www.gov.uk/pip

If you don't want to claim PIP, other benefits or schemes you or your carer get, such as Motability or Carer's Allowance may also change or end.

You could contact a **local support organisation** who can provide independent help and support. You can find their details online, at your local library or in the telephone directory.

Important

You don't need to contact us until we write to you unless you need to tell us about a change in your needs or there has been a change in your circumstances.

Please tell us if your contact details have changed. If we don't have your current address, you could miss your letter.

What is PIP?

PIP helps with some of the extra costs if you have a long-term health condition or a disability and face difficulties with daily living, mobility or both.

Who is PIP for?

PIP is for people with a long-term health condition or a disability who are:

- aged between 16 and 64; or
- receiving DLA and were aged 64 or younger on 8 April 2013 (the day PIP was introduced) and are now aged 65 or over.

Your health condition or disability doesn't have to be permanent but you must have had these difficulties for 3 months and expect them to last for at least 9 months, unless you're terminally ill.

**You can get PIP whether you're in or out of work and it's tax free.
You can also get PIP if you're in education or training.**

To get PIP you must:

- currently be in, and have been in Great Britain for at least 2 of the last 3 years - there are some exceptions to these conditions for members of HM Armed Forces and their families or if you're living in or come from another European Economic Area or European Union country or Switzerland
- usually be living in the UK, Ireland, Isle of Man or the Channel Islands
- not be subject to immigration control (unless you're a sponsored immigrant).

How is PIP different from DLA?

What hasn't changed?

Both DLA and PIP:

- are non-means-tested, non-taxable cash benefits
- are benefits you can claim if you're in or out of work, do voluntary work or are in education or training
- are linked to getting other benefits and support – such as Carer's Allowance and the Blue Badge scheme
- have special rules if you're terminally ill.

What has changed?

- PIP is assessed on different criteria to DLA – it has a points-based system that relates to the help you need with daily living and mobility activities
- If you apply for PIP, your needs will be assessed by an independent health professional. This will usually happen face-to-face
- Most PIP awards will be for a fixed term and will be reviewed.

What will happen if I claim PIP?

1



You'll get a letter telling you your DLA will end.

Read all the information to decide if you want to apply for PIP.



If you choose to make a claim, contact us to start the process and we will send you a 'How your disability affects you' form.

2



Fill in the form telling us about how your health condition or disability affects your daily life and return it to us with your supporting evidence.

If you need help to fill in the form, you can ask a friend, relative or a local support organisation.



We will ask an independent health professional to look at your form and supporting evidence to help work out the level of support you need.

3



You may be asked to attend a face-to-face consultation with an independent health professional.

You'll be able to take someone with you to your consultation.



We will then make a decision about your claim.

How is PIP worked out?

PIP is made up of 2 parts:

- daily living – for help participating in everyday life;
- mobility – for help with getting around.

You can be paid either the daily living part or the mobility part on its own, or both at the same time.

You may get the daily living part if you need help with things like:

- preparing food
- eating and drinking
- washing and bathing
- managing toilet needs
- dressing and undressing
- communicating verbally
- reading and understanding signs, symbols and words
- managing your medicines or treatments
- making decisions about money
- mixing with other people face to face.

You may get the mobility part if you need help going out or moving around.

Each part is paid at two different levels: a 'standard rate' and an 'enhanced rate'.

The rate you're paid depends on whether your ability to carry out daily living or mobility activities is 'limited' or 'severely limited'.

If you live outside of the UK you won't be able to get the mobility part of PIP. You can only get help with your daily living needs.

How is the level of support worked out?

For the daily living part and the mobility part, there is a list of ‘descriptors’. Descriptors are sentences which describe how much support, and the type of support, you need to do different activities. Each descriptor has a point score.

The number of points you’ll get depends on how much help you need. Your scores for the activities are added together to give a total for the daily living and mobility parts.

You’ll get the most points if you can’t do the activity at all.

You’ll get some points if you need special equipment, or if you need prompting, supervision or help from another person to do the activity.

You won’t get any points if you can do the activity safely, to an acceptable standard, as often as you need to and in a reasonable time without any help.

Total score	Daily living part	Mobility part
12 or more points	Enhanced rate	Enhanced rate
8-11 points	Standard rate	Standard rate
Less than 8 points	Not entitled	Not entitled

How you’re assessed

The ‘How your disability affects you’ form (also known as PIP2) is an opportunity for you to explain how your condition or disability affects your daily life, both on good and bad days and over a range of activities.

Your form, and any supporting evidence you send, will be looked at by an independent health professional. This will help DWP work out the level of help you can get based on the support you need for day-to-day living.

How you're assessed (continued)

You may also be asked to attend a face-to-face consultation to help us fully understand how your health condition or disability affects your daily life. If you need a face-to-face consultation, you'll usually hear from us about 4 weeks after sending your form.

What is a face-to-face consultation?

A face-to-face consultation is a meeting with a health professional in an assessment centre or possibly in your home. They will ask questions about your ability to carry out activities and ask you for more information about how your health condition or disability affects your daily life.

It will usually last around an hour. However, if your health condition or disability is particularly complicated, it may take a little longer.

You'll be given as much time as you need to help the health professional understand how your health condition or disability affects your daily life.

You can take another person with you to the consultation if you would find it helpful.

Supporting Evidence

It's very important that you provide us with any relevant evidence or information you already have that explains your circumstances.

For example, this might include prescription lists, care plans, reports or information from professionals such as a GP, hospital doctor, specialist nurse, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, support worker or counsellor.

Don't request other documents which might slow down your claim or for which you might be charged a fee – for example, from your GP. If we need this evidence, we will ask for it ourselves.

If you're terminally ill

You can get PIP more quickly if you're not expected to live more than 6 months. There is a dedicated phone service when you phone to make a claim to help speed up the claim process. You won't need to complete the 'How your disability affects you' form or go to a face-to-face consultation. To find out more go to

www.gov.uk/pip/how-to-claim

You'll get the enhanced daily living part if you're not expected to live more than 6 months. The rate of the mobility part depends on your needs.

Our decision

DWP makes the decision about your claim based on the results of the assessment, your application and any supporting evidence you include.

You'll usually get a decision 3 weeks after your assessment, whether or not your assessment includes a face-to-face consultation.

If you don't agree with our decision, you can ask for it to be looked at again – your decision letter will tell you how.

What you'll get if you qualify for PIP

The weekly rate for the daily living part of PIP is either £55.65 or £83.10 and the weekly rate for the mobility part of PIP is either £22.00 or £58.00.*

PIP is usually paid every 4 weeks.

To make sure you carry on getting the right level of support, you must tell us if there's a change in how your health condition or disability affects your daily life. We will also normally contact you while you're getting PIP to see if your needs have changed and to review the amount you get.

How you're paid

All benefits, pension and allowances are paid into an account, for example a bank account.

Other financial help

You or your carer might also qualify for other financial help, for example Carer's Allowance, or help with housing, transport costs and work-related costs. To find out more go to

www.gov.uk/financial-help-disabled

**These are the 2017-2018 amounts. Benefit rates are reviewed every year.*

Change in circumstances

Your circumstances can affect how much you get. You must tell us if you have a change to any of the following:

- the help you need or your condition changes
- you go into hospital or a care home
- if you intend to leave the country for more than 13 weeks
- you're imprisoned or held in detention.



You must also tell us if you change your name, address or bank details.

To tell us about your changes contact our helpline, for more information visit:

www.gov.uk/disability-benefits-helpline

To find out more about DLA ending and PIP visit:
dla-ending.campaign.gov.uk

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This leaflet is only a guide and does not cover every circumstance. We have done our best to make sure that the information in this leaflet is correct as of April 2017. It is possible that some of the information is oversimplified, or may become inaccurate over time, for example because of changes to the law.