

Personal Independence Payment

What is Personal Independence Payment?

Personal Independence Payment is a benefit for people who need help with daily living activities and getting around, live a more full, active and independent life. It will help people meet the extra costs of being disabled.

How does it affect me?

It was introduced in April 2013 for new claimants under 65, and is gradually replacing Disability Living Allowance for 16-64 year olds, between now and 2018.

There are no plans from the Government for it to replace Disability Living Allowance for persons under 16.

After 2018 the upper age limit of 65 will rise in line with the changes to State Pension age at that time. The Government's website can tell you exactly how it affects you: gov.uk/pip-checker

What if I am already claiming Disability Living Allowance?

There is no automatic transfer from Disability Living Allowance to Personal Independence Payment, you will need to be reassessed:

- To be reassessed the Department of Work and Pensions will write to you.
- They will say that your Disability Living Allowance is going to end and invite you to complete a new claim form for Personal Independence Payment.
- This affects you even if you have a long term or indefinite Disability Living Allowance award.
- You will continue to get Disability Living Allowance until the Department for Works and Pensions writes to you, to invite you to apply for Personal Independence Payments.

What are the rules?

Personal Independence Payment has two parts:

- Daily living needs
- Mobility needs.

Each part has two different rates:

- Standard rate
- Enhanced rate.

Enhanced rate is awarded to those people with the greatest needs:

- Awards are based on how a person's condition affects them, not the condition they have
- It does not matter how much money people have saved or how much money they have coming into their home every week
- It is not taxed
- People can get Personal Independence Payments if they have a job or they do not have a job
- Personal Independence Payment will not affect eligibility to benefits like Employment and Support Allowance, Jobseeker's Allowance or Attendance Allowance.

How does it work?

- You will need to call the Department for Work and Pensions on **0800 917 2222** to tell them about your condition and have a claim form sent to you
- The form will ask you to describe how your health condition or disability affects you in to completing daily living tasks and your mobility. You have 30 days to return the completed form.
- Most people will be seen face-to-face by a health worker, like a doctor or a nurse some time after the form has been sent off
- A decision-maker at the Department for Work and Pensions will look at everything, and will decide if you can get the Personal Independence Payment
- The Department for Work and Pensions will also say how much you can get and how long you will get it for
- Personal Independence Payment has special rules for terminally ill people.

Need further support?

Call the Government's information line on **0845 605 7064** or visit **gov.uk/pip**



Thank you for downloading this information sheet from **accordgroup.org.uk**.
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 178 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B70 6QG

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