

# Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

## What is Personal Independence Payment?

Personal Independence Payment (PIP) helps towards some of the extra costs resulting from ill-health or disability. It is based on how a person's condition affects them, not the condition they have.

Personal Independence Payment is gradually replacing [Disability Living Allowance](#) for adults.

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## Am I eligible for Personal Independence Payment?

[Personal Independence Payment](#) is for adults aged 16 to pension age, who have an illness or disability which effects their daily living and/or mobility. You will be assessed to find out if you are eligible for PIP. To be eligible you will:

- have had difficulties with daily living or getting around (or both) for 3 months
- expect these difficulties to continue for at least 9 months (unless you're terminally ill with less than 6 months to live)

If you are pension age or over and want to make a new claim you should claim [Attendance Allowance](#) instead. Those already getting PIP when reaching pension age can continue to get it.

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## How much Personal Independence Payment may I receive?

Personal Independence Payment is not means tested or taxed. This means your financial situation is not taken into consideration when applying for the benefit.

PIP is made up of two components:

- daily living
- mobility for help with getting around

Each component can be paid at **standard rate**, or **enhanced rate** for those with the greatest needs.

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## How do I apply for Personal Independence Payment?

- New claims must be made to the [Personal Independence Payment \(PIP\) Claim Line](#).
- Queries about existing claims should be made to the [Disability Benefits Helpline](#).

Read the [Guide to making a PIP claim](#) from [Disability Rights UK](#) for more information.

[Turn2us](#) helps people with a low income to find funds and grants to apply for when you need money for essential things in life. They provide a benefits calculator, grants search and online Personal Independence Payment (PIP) helper tool.

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## Assessment

Once you have completed your claim form the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) will pass your claim to a health professional.

Most people will then be asked to attend a face-to-face consultation with the health professional at an Examination Centre. You can take someone along for support. Home visits may be available if necessary.

The assessment provides you with the opportunity to explain your support needs in your own words. The health professional will send their conclusions to the DWP.

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## Decision

The Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) will use the information in your claim form and from the health professional, plus anything else that has been provided to make a decision on your claim. You should try to provide as much evidence and information about your needs as you can.

If your claim is turned down or you do not get the rate you were expecting, or the award is not as long as you think it should be for, you can ask the DWP to reconsider their decision. You must ask for a reconsideration within a month of the decision. You can appeal after that.

But be warned that if the DWP reconsider an amount they may reduce it as well as increase it or keep it the same.

See also the article [How to challenge a benefit decision](#).

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## End of Life

The Social Security (Special Rules for End of Life) Bill means that people considered by a clinician as having 12 months or less to live can have fast-tracked access to this benefit. The extended fast-track access means those eligible are not subject to a face-to-face assessment, or waiting period, with the majority of individuals receiving the highest rate of those benefits.

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## How are other benefits affected?

Receiving Personal Independence Payment may provide access to other help including:

- [Blue Badges](#)
- [Concessionary travel passes](#)
- [TaxiCard](#)
- [Motability](#)
- Carers may also receive [Carers Allowance](#) because the person they are caring for is receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment.

Receiving PIP may also increase the amount you receive from other benefits such as [Employment and Support Allowance](#) or [Jobseeker's Allowance](#) and [Pension Credit](#) and it can exempt you from welfare reforms such as the [benefit cap](#)

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## Where to get benefits advice

You can get benefits advice from a local independent service. They can help guide you through the application process and explain how some benefits may impact upon another. Services in Newcastle include:

- [Citizens Advice Newcastle \(CAN\)](#).
- [Newcastle Welfare Rights Service](#) have [self help material](#) on their website
- [Search Newcastle](#) give benefits advice to older people in the West of Newcastle
- [Disability North](#) give disability related benefit advice, help with appeals and representation at tribunals

## Search for Benefits advice organisations

Location:

Postcode:

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## Other Useful Information

[Money Advice Service](#) provides online information on the full range of benefits that you may be entitled to.

[Payment Exception Service](#) was introduced as cheques are no longer used to pay state benefits and Pension credit.

[The Cinemas Exhibitors' Association \(CEA\) Card](#) helps to ensure cinemas make reasonable adjustments for you if you need them because of a disability. With the card you can claim a free ticket for a carer or person accompanying you to the cinema. The card costs £6. You can apply if you receive Disability Living Allowance; Attendance Allowance; Personal Independence Payment or Armed Forces Independence Payment or are registered as blind.

[Advicenow](#) produce guides that are easy-to-read and practical. They explain what you need to know, where you need to go, and what you need to do to solve your problem.

## Useful Organisations

### Citizens Advice Newcastle (CAN)

**Email:** [citycab@newcastlecab.org.uk](mailto:citycab@newcastlecab.org.uk)

**Website:** <http://citizensadvice-newcastle.org.uk>

**Telephone:** 0808 223 1133

**Address:** 4th Floor, City Library, NE1 8AX

### Newcastle Welfare Rights Service

**Email:** [welfare.rights@newcastle.gov.uk](mailto:welfare.rights@newcastle.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.newcastle.gov.uk/welfarerights](http://www.newcastle.gov.uk/welfarerights)

**Telephone:** 0191 277 2627

**Address:** \*\*POSTAL ADDRESS ONLY - No face-to-face advice is given here, NE7 7LX

### Cinemas Exhibitors Association (CEA) Card

**Email:** [info@ceacard.co.uk](mailto:info@ceacard.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.ceacard.co.uk](http://www.ceacard.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 01244 526016

**Address:** CEA Card, CH7 5BW

### Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

**Website:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions>

**Telephone:** 01244 526016

### Money Helper

**Email:** [pensions.enquiries@moneyhelper.org.uk](mailto:pensions.enquiries@moneyhelper.org.uk)

**Website:** <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/en>

**Telephone:** 01244 526016

**Address:** Holborn Centre, EC1N 2TD

## **Personal Independence Payment (PIP) Claim Line**

**Website:** <https://www.gov.uk/pip/how-to-claim>

**Telephone:** 0800 917 2222

**Address:** Personal Independence Payment New Claims, WV99 1AH

## **Turn2us**

**Email:** [info@turn2us.org.uk](mailto:info@turn2us.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 0800 917 2222

**Address:** Unit 9, CF15 7QQ

## **Disability Service Centre**

**Website:** [www.gov.uk/disability-benefits-helpline](http://www.gov.uk/disability-benefits-helpline)

**Telephone:** 0800 121 4600

## **Advicenow**

**Website:** [www.advicenow.org.uk](http://www.advicenow.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 0800 121 4600

**Address:** Law for Life: the Foundation for Public Legal Education, SE1 7NJ

## **Disability North**

**Email:** [reception@disabilitynorth.org.uk](mailto:reception@disabilitynorth.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.disabilitynorth.org.uk](http://www.disabilitynorth.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 0191 2840480

**Address:** The Dene Centre, NE3 1PH

## **Encephalitis Society**

**Email:** [comms@encephalitis.info](mailto:comms@encephalitis.info)

**Website:** <https://www.encephalitis.info/>

**Telephone:** 01653 692 583

**Address:** 32 Castlegate, YO17 7DT

## North East Law Centre

**Email:** [reception@nelawcentre.co.uk](mailto:reception@nelawcentre.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.nelawcentre.co.uk](http://www.nelawcentre.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 0191 230 4777

**Address:** 2nd Floor, 10 - 13 Saville Row, NE1 8JE

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## Related Articles

[Attendance Allowance](#)

[Carer's Allowance](#)

[Disability Living Allowance \(DLA\)](#)

[Nexus TaxiCard Scheme – Accessible Transport](#)

[Payment Exception Service](#)

[How to challenge a benefit decision](#)

[Blue Badge Scheme](#)