

# Disability Living Allowance

## What is it?

Disability Living Allowance - sometimes referred to as DLA - is a tax-free benefit for children and adults who need help with personal care or have walking difficulties because they are physically or mentally disabled. The Care Component has **three** rates of payment and the Mobility Component has **two** rates of payment.

## Who can claim Disability Living Allowance?

- You have a physical or mental disability, or both
- Your disability is severe enough for you to need help caring for yourself or you have walking difficulties, or both
- You are Under 65 when you claim.
- You can get Disability Living Allowance whether or not you work.
- It isn't affected by any savings or income you may have.



## How do you satisfy the disability conditions for an award of DLA?

### Care Component

- Be aged from birth up to your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday
- You need frequent care and/or a lot of supervision during the day and night with things like, washing, dressing, mobility indoors, taking medication, communication, seeing, hearing etc.
- You need this help during the day or the night but not all day or all night.
- You cannot prepare a main meal of the day.
- You have a terminal illness.

### Mobility Component

- Be aged from 3 years up to your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday for the higher rate.
- Be aged from 5 years up to your 65<sup>th</sup> birthday for the lower rate.
- You are unable or virtually unable to walk.
- The exertion required to walk could be risk to your health.
- You have severe behavioural problems due to mental disability.
- You need guidance or supervision out of doors from another person.
- You are both deaf and blind and need someone with you when outdoors.

## How do you claim?

Application forms can be obtained by telephoning 0800 88 22 00 or 08457 123456

**DLA is being replaced by PIP (Personal Independence Payment from April 2013 – See PIP Fact sheet for further details)**