

If you already get Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance do **not** send off this tear-off slip.

Please send me a claim pack for Disability Living Allowance for someone aged 16 or over

PLEASE USE INK AND WRITE IN BLOCK LETTERS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

BUSINESS REPLY SERVICE
 Licence No OL5225

Department for Work and Pensions
 P.O. Box 50
 Heywood
 Lancashire
 OL10 2GF



Rates

Disability Living Allowance provides help for people with a severe disability. There are three rates for help with personal care needs and two rates for help with getting around.

- ▶ The amount of Disability Living Allowance you can get depends on the amount of help you need and the sort of help you need.

It may consist of a combination of the care and help with getting around rates.

There are fixed amounts of money for Disability Living Allowance. You can find the current rates in leaflet **GL23** *Social security benefit rates*. You can get this leaflet from any social security office.

Help and Advice

If you want more information about Disability Living Allowance or other benefits you may be able to claim, ring the Benefit Enquiry Line (BEL) for people with disabilities. The number is **0800 88 22 00**. The person you speak to will be able to give you general advice about Disability Living Allowance, and they can tell you about other organisations that may be able to help you.

People with speech or hearing problems using a textphone can dial **0800 24 33 55**. If you do not have your own textphone system, they are available in some libraries and any Citizens Advice Bureau.

We can provide an interpreter or you may wish to arrange for a friend or family member to interpret for you.

- ▶ If you are aged 65 or over, you cannot get Disability Living Allowance. But you may be able to get Attendance Allowance.

To find out more about how to claim Attendance Allowance just pick up leaflet **DS702** *Attendance Allowance* from any social security office.

This leaflet gives general guidance only and should not be treated as a complete and authoritative statement of the law.

DWP Department for
 Work and Pensions

DS704 October 2003
 Disability Living Allowance

DISABILITY Living ALLOWANCE

YOU
 COULD
 BENEFIT

... if you have a severe
 disability and are not yet aged 65

For someone aged under 16 get leaflet **DS706**
Disability Living Allowance for children.

Disability Living Allowance is a tax-free benefit for adults and children with a severe disability who need

- ▶ help with getting around, or
- ▶ help with personal care, or
- ▶ help with both of these.

This leaflet is about Disability Living Allowance for adults.

Getting Disability Living Allowance

- ▶ does not normally need a medical examination
- ▶ is **not** affected by any savings that you have, nor usually by any money that you have coming in.

If you think that you might be able to get Disability Living Allowance, take action now. Read the rest of the leaflet, then send for a claim pack. If you want to claim for someone aged under 16, you should get leaflet **DS706 Disability Living Allowance for children**.

If you are already getting Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance, do not send off for a claim pack. But

- ▶ if your circumstances have changed, or
- ▶ if you think things are easier or more difficult for you or you need less help or more help,

write to us at
**Disability Benefits Unit, Warbreck House,
Warbreck Hill, Blackpool FY2 0YE.**

Who can get Disability Living Allowance

People whose disability means that they need help with personal care or with getting around, or both, may be able to get Disability Living Allowance if they claim before their 65th birthday.

People may be able to get Disability Living Allowance for help with personal care even if no one actually gives them that help. People could need help with personal care because they

- ▶ need help with washing, dressing or using the toilet
- ▶ need someone there to supervise them
- ▶ need someone with them when they are on dialysis
- ▶ need help with preparing a cooked main meal.

People may be able to get help with getting around if

- ▶ they cannot walk at all
- ▶ they can only walk a short distance before they feel severe discomfort
- ▶ the effort of walking could threaten their life
- ▶ they have had both legs amputated above the ankle or at the ankle, or they were born without legs or feet

- ▶ they are both deaf and blind and need someone with them when they are outdoors (they do not have to be totally deaf or blind but they must have a large amount of hearing and sight loss).
- ▶ they are severely mentally impaired and have severe behavioural problems and need help with personal care both day and night.
- ▶ they can walk but need guidance or supervision to help them find their way around when they are outdoors in places they do not know well.

Special Rules apply to those who are not expected to live longer than six months because of an illness.

The *Special Rules* mean that they will qualify for help with personal care at the highest rate automatically, even if no help is needed. They should claim straight away.

How to claim

If you are not yet aged 65 and think that you may be able to get Disability Living Allowance, please fill in the tear-off slip and post it to us. It does not need a stamp. We will then send you a claim pack containing explanatory notes and forms for you to fill in and return.

Send your tear-off slip to us as quickly as possible. We will usually treat the day we receive the slip as the date from which you are claiming the benefit.