Benefit and Pension Rates

April 2008

DWP Department for Work and Pensions
How much money you could get

If you are claiming or are thinking of claiming a benefit, you may want to know how much money you could get. If you are already getting a benefit or benefits, you may want to check the amounts you get.

This leaflet can help, but it is only a general guide. It provides a list of standard benefits and the basic rates of benefits from April 2008. It then sets out some rules on extra amounts payable for dependants, and on how income and savings can affect entitlement to benefits. It does not list all the rules which explain whether or not you can get a benefit, or guarantee that you will get any amount shown. There are other leaflets which provide more detailed information on benefits and you should read these alongside this leaflet.

The rules which decide how much benefit you can get can be complicated. We can only work out what benefit, and the amount, you may be able to get, when you apply for a benefit.

Most rates usually change from the first Monday in the new tax year, however some rates change from an earlier date in April (the tax year starts on 6 April). The rates published in this leaflet apply from April 2008.

Key
Throughout this leaflet we refer to certain benefits using the key below.

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</thead>
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<td>CAA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional Severe Disablement Allowance</td>
<td>ESDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Practitioner</td>
<td>GP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income Support</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Jobseeker’s Allowance</td>
<td>JSA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Insurance Contributions</td>
<td>NICs</td>
</tr>
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<td>Unemployability Supplement</td>
<td>US</td>
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| **C**   | Carer’s Allowance  
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### Attendance Allowance
Higher rate ................................................................. £67.00
Lower rate ............................................................... £44.85

### Bereavement benefits
Bereavement Payment (lump sum) ........................................ £2,000.00
Widowed Parent’s Allowance ........................................... £90.70
Bereavement Allowance (standard rate) .............................. £90.70

### Age-related Bereavement Allowance
Your age when your wife, husband or civil partner dies, or when your Widowed Parent’s Allowance stops
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>£84.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>£78.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>£71.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>£65.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>£58.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>£52.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>£46.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>£39.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>£33.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>£27.21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Carer’s Allowance
Carer’s Allowance ................................................... £50.55

### Christmas Bonus
A bonus of £10 is paid with certain benefits.

### Disability Living Allowance
Care component
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highest rate</td>
<td>£67.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle rate</td>
<td>£44.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowest rate</td>
<td>£17.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mobility component
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Higher rate</td>
<td>£46.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower rate</td>
<td>£17.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Incapacity Benefit

#### Under State Pension age
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short-term lower rate</td>
<td>£63.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term higher rate</td>
<td>£75.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term basic rate</td>
<td>£84.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Over State Pension age
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short-term lower rate</td>
<td>£81.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term higher rate</td>
<td>£84.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Incapacity Age Addition
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower rate</td>
<td>£8.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher rate</td>
<td>£17.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Invalidity Allowance
Only applies to claims prior to 13th April 1995
Lower rate .................................................................................. £5.70
Middle rate ............................................................................... £11.40
Higher rate ........................................................................... £17.75

Income Support
Personal allowances
Single person:
aged 16 to 24 ........................................................................... £47.95
aged 25 or over ....................................................................... £60.50

Lone parent:
aged 16 to 17 .......................................................................... £47.95
aged 18 or over ................................................................ ...... £60.50

Couple:
with both people under 18 ...................................................... £47.95
with both people under 18, payable in certain circumstances . £72.35
with one person under 18 and the other aged 18 to 24 ........ £47.95
with one person under 18 and the other aged 25 or over ...... £60.50
with both people aged 18 or over ......................................... £94.95

Dependent children ................................................................ £52.59

Premiums
Family ..................................................................................... £16.75
Disabled child ....................................................................... £48.72
Carer ....................................................................................... £27.75
Severe disability (for each qualifying adult) ......................... £50.35
Pensioner (couple) ................................................................. £94.40
Disability (single person) ...................................................... £25.85
Disability (couple) ................................................................. £36.85
Enhanced Disability Premium (single person) ................. £12.60
Enhanced Disability Premium (couple) .............................. £18.15
Enhanced Disability Premium (child) ................................. £19.60
Benefit and Pension Rates
April 2008
All amounts are paid weekly unless otherwise stated

Housing costs – deductions for non-dependants
Aged 18 or over, not in work .................................................. £7.40
Aged 25 and over and on IS or income-based JSA ................. £7.40
Aged 18 or over, in paid work and with a gross weekly income
(before tax and National Insurance are taken off) of the following.
Less than £116 ................................................................. £7.40
£116 to £171.99 ................................................................. £17.00
£172 to £222.99 ................................................................. £23.35
£223 to £295.99 ................................................................. £38.20
£296 to £368.99 ................................................................. £43.50
£369 and above ................................................................. £47.75

Reduction in benefit for people in work who are on strike ........ £32.50

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit
The amount paid is based on a person’s age and the level of disability, assessed by a
GP on a scale from 20% to 100%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessed level of disability</th>
<th>Aged 18 and over, or under 18 with dependants</th>
<th>Aged under 18 with no dependants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>£136.80</td>
<td>£83.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90%</td>
<td>£123.12</td>
<td>£75.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80%</td>
<td>£109.44</td>
<td>£67.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70%</td>
<td>£95.76</td>
<td>£58.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>£82.08</td>
<td>£50.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>£68.40</td>
<td>£41.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>£54.72</td>
<td>£33.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>£41.04</td>
<td>£25.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>£27.36</td>
<td>£16.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maximum life gratuity (lump sum) .................................. £9,090.00

Constant Attendance Allowance
Exceptional rate ......................................................... £109.60
Intermediate rate ......................................................... £82.20
Normal maximum rate ..................................................... £54.80
Part-time rate ............................................................. £27.40

Industrial Death Benefit
Widow’s or widower’s pension
Higher rate ................................................................. £90.70
Lower rate ................................................................. £27.21
### Benefit and Pension Rates

April 2008

All amounts are paid weekly unless otherwise stated

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**Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£54.80</td>
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</table>

**Unemployability Supplement**

| Basic rate                | £84.50   |

**Amounts added for early incapacity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Higher rate</td>
<td>£17.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle rate</td>
<td>£11.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower rate</td>
<td>£5.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reduced Earnings Allowance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum rate</td>
<td>£54.72</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Retirement Allowance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum rate</td>
<td>£13.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Job Grant**

The Job Grant rates are:

- £100 for single customers and couples without children
- £250 for lone parents and couples with children

**Jobseeker's Allowance**

**Contribution-based JSA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age range</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Person aged 16 to 24</td>
<td>£47.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person aged 25 or over</td>
<td>£60.50</td>
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</table>

**Income-based JSA**

**Personal allowances**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single person</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aged 16 to 24</td>
<td>£47.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aged 25 or over</td>
<td>£60.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with both people aged 16 or 17</td>
<td>£47.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with one person aged 16 or 17, and one person aged 18 to 24</td>
<td>£47.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with one person aged 16 or 17, and one person aged over 25</td>
<td>£60.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with both people aged 18 or over</td>
<td>£94.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lone parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aged under 18</td>
<td>£47.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aged 18 or over</td>
<td>£60.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependent children</td>
<td>£52.59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Benefit and Pension Rates
April 2008
All amounts are paid weekly unless otherwise stated

**Premiums**
- Family ................................................................. £16.75
- Disabled child .................................................. £48.72
- Carer ................................................................. £27.75

**Amount added for severe disability**
- Single person ............................................. £50.35
- Couple (where one person qualifies) ........... £50.35
- Couple (where both people qualify) .......... £100.70

**Pensioner**
- Single person ............................................. £63.55
- Couple ............................................................... £94.40

**Disability premium**
- Single person ............................................. £25.85
- Couple ............................................................... £36.85

**Enhanced disability premium**
- Single person ............................................. £12.60
- Couple ............................................................... £18.15
- Child ................................................................. £19.60

**Housing costs – deductions for non-dependants**
Amounts are the same as for Income Support

**Reduction in benefit for people in work who are on strike** ............ £32.50

**Maternity Allowance**
Paid for 39 weeks at a weekly rate equal to 90% of your average gross weekly earnings up to a maximum of £117.18.

**Pension Credit**

**Guarantee Credit**
- Single person ............................................. £124.05
- Couple ............................................................... £189.35

**Amount added for severe disability**
- Single person ............................................. £50.35
- Couple (where one person qualifies) ........... £50.35
- Couple (where both people qualify) .......... £100.70

**Amount added for carers** .............................................. £27.75

**Savings Credit**
- Maximum for single people ................................ £19.71
- Maximum for couples ......................................... £26.13
- Threshold for single people ................................ £91.20
- Threshold for couples ......................................... £145.80
Benefit and Pension Rates
April 2008
All amounts are paid weekly unless otherwise stated

Housing costs – deductions for non-dependants
Amounts are the same as for Income Support.

Assumed income
For each £500, or part of £500, of capital (for example, savings and investments) you have above £6,000, your entitlement is reduced by £1 a week.
If you live in a care home full-time, your entitlement reduces for each £500, or part of £500, of capital you have above £10,000.

Pneumoconiosis, Byssinosis and Miscellaneous Diseases Benefits Scheme
Total Disablement Allowance ........................................ £136.80
CAA or ESDA (or both) may be awarded with Total Disablement Allowance.
Partial Disablement Allowance ...................................... £50.55
Unemployability supplement ........................................ £84.50
Plus increases for early incapacity (where appropriate)
Higher rate ............................................................... £17.75
Middle rate ............................................................... £11.40
Lower rate ............................................................... £5.70
Severe Disablement Allowance
Severe Disablement Allowance ....................................... £51.05
Age-related additions
Higher rate ............................................................... £17.75
Middle rate ............................................................... £11.40
Lower rate ............................................................... £5.70
Social Fund
Sure Start Maternity Grant (lump sum) ....................... £500
Funeral Payment specified costs, plus for other funeral expenses (lump sum) ....................... up to £700
Cold Weather Payment ............................................... £8.50
**Benefit and Pension Rates**  
*April 2008*

*All amounts are paid weekly unless otherwise stated*

**State Pension**  
**Basic State Pension** – rates shown are for full entitlement  
Based on your own or late spouse or civil partner’s National Insurance Contributions (NICs) ................................................................. £90.70  
Based on your husband’s NICs ...................................................... £54.35  

**Over 80 Pension**  
Paid where person receives no State Pension or less than full entitlement to a basic State Pension at age 80 as long as residence conditions are met .......... £54.35  

**Age addition** ................................................................. £0.25

**Graduated Retirement Benefit**  
For every £7.50 (man) or £9 (woman) of graduated contributions paid, you get ................................................................. £0.1098

Any additional pension, also called SERPS or S2P, you were getting before April 2008 will have been increased by 3.9% from April 2008.

**Statutory Adoption Pay**  
Paid for 39 weeks at a weekly rate equal to 90% of your average gross weekly earnings up to a maximum of £117.18.

**Statutory Maternity Pay**  
Paid for 39 weeks.  
First 6 weeks is paid at a weekly rate equal to 90% of your average gross weekly earnings with no upper limit.  
The remaining 33 weeks is paid at a weekly rate equal to 90% of your average gross weekly earnings up to a maximum of £117.18.

**Statutory Paternity Pay**  
Paid for 2 weeks at a weekly rate equal to 90% of your average gross weekly earnings up to a maximum of £117.18.

**Statutory Sick Pay**  
If your average gross weekly earnings are £90 a week or more, Statutory Sick Pay is paid at a standard weekly rate of £75.40.

**Widow’s benefits**  
**Widowed Mother’s Allowance** .............................................. £90.70  
**Widow’s Pension** (standard rate) ........................................... £90.70  

**Age-related Widow’s Pension**  
Based on your age when your husband dies, or when Widowed Mother’s Allowance stops.  
If you started getting this after 11 April 1988  
Your age  
54 ................................................................. £84.35  
53 ................................................................. £78.00  
52 ................................................................. £71.65  
51 ................................................................. £65.30  
50 ................................................................. £58.96  
49 ................................................................. £52.61  
48 ................................................................. £46.26  
47 ................................................................. £39.91  
46 ................................................................. £33.56  
45 ................................................................. £27.21
Benefit and Pension Rates
April 2008
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If you started getting this before 11 April 1988
Your age
49 ................................................................. £84.35
48 ................................................................. £78.00
47 ................................................................. £71.65
46 ................................................................. £65.30
45 ................................................................. £58.96
44 ................................................................. £52.61
43 ................................................................. £46.26
42 ................................................................. £39.91
41 ................................................................. £33.56
40 ................................................................. £27.21

Winter Fuel Payments
The qualifying week for 2008/2009 is 15 to 21 September 2008. Rates are based on your circumstances during this qualifying week.

People aged 60 to 79
You are the only eligible person in your household (lump sum) ............. £200
You get Pension Credit or income-based JSA (lump sum) ......................... £200
There is more than one eligible person in your household (lump sum) ... £100 each
You live in a care home, and are not getting Pension Credit or income-based JSA (lump sum) .................................................. £100

People aged 80 or over
You are the only eligible person in your household (lump sum) ............. £300
You get Pension Credit (lump sum) .................................................. £300
There is more than one person over 80 in your household and you are not getting Pension Credit (lump sum) ............................. £150
You live in a care home and are not getting Pension Credit (lump sum) .................................................. £150
You are the only person aged 80 or over, others in your household are aged 60-79 .................................................. £200

Additional payment for Winter 2008/09
All eligible people will get an additional payment for winter 2008/09
Households with someone aged 60-79 will get an additional .............. £50
Households with someone aged 80 or over will get an additional .......... £100

Workmen’s Compensation Supplementation
Major Incapacity Allowance ........................................................... £136.80
CAA or ESDA (or both) may be awarded with Major Incapacity Allowance.
Lesser Incapacity Allowance ................................................ up to £50.55
Extra amounts for dependents

Dependent adults
For a wife, husband, civil partner (except in the case of State Pension) or a person looking after children if you are receiving any of the following.

State Pension on your own NICs .................................................£54.35
Unemployability Supplement ..................................................£50.55
Carer’s Allowance .................................................................£30.20
Severe Disablement Allowance ...............................................£30.40
Long-term Incapacity Benefit ....................................................£50.55
Short-term Incapacity Benefit if you are under State Pension age ........£39.40
Short-term Incapacity Benefit if you are over State Pension age ..........£48.65
Maternity Allowance .............................................................£39.40

Dependent children
With any of the benefits listed above:

For the oldest child who gets Child Benefit ....................................£8.75
For each other child who gets Child Benefit ..................................£11.35

Not available to new claims starting from 6 April 2003 or later.
Earnings rules

Your own earnings
If you get Carer's Allowance, you can earn up to £95 (after certain expenses) before it affects your benefit.
If you get Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance, you may be able to earn up to £20 or £88.50 before it affects your benefit.
If you get State Pension or a widow's benefit, you can earn any amount and it does not affect these benefits. But if you also get Income Support, Pension Credit or income based JSA, anything you earn could reduce these benefits.

Other person's earnings
Amounts added for dependent adults
If a dependent adult lives with you, you will not get extra for them or your benefit will be reduced if they earn more than the amount which applies below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Type</th>
<th>Weekly Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Pension</td>
<td>£60.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term Incapacity Benefit if you are under State Pension age</td>
<td>£39.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term Incapacity Benefit if you are over State Pension age</td>
<td>£48.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term Incapacity Benefit</td>
<td>£60.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternity Allowance</td>
<td>£39.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Disablement Allowance</td>
<td>£60.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployability Supplement standard rate</td>
<td>£60.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One of the above benefits and your extra benefit started before 16 September 1985</td>
<td>£45.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carer's Allowance</td>
<td>£30.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If your dependent adult does not live with you, the limits are as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit Type</th>
<th>Weekly Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Pension</td>
<td>£54.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term Incapacity Benefit if you are under State Pension age</td>
<td>£39.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term Incapacity Benefit if you are over State Pension age</td>
<td>£46.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term Incapacity Benefit</td>
<td>£50.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternity Allowance</td>
<td>£39.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployability Supplement</td>
<td>£50.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe Disablement Allowance</td>
<td>£30.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carer's Allowance</td>
<td>£30.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amounts added for dependent children
This extra benefit may be affected if your husband, wife or civil partner lives with you and earns more than the following.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Children</th>
<th>Weekly Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For one child</td>
<td>£185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For each extra child</td>
<td>£25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Occupational and Personal pensions
For claims since 26 November 1984, an occupational or personal pension paid to your partner counts as earnings for the purposes of the earnings rules for amounts added for dependent adults and dependent children above.
Common rules
Some common rules apply to:
- Income Support; and
- Jobseeker’s Allowance.

These rules are set out below.

Savings rules (also called capital rules)
The following limits apply
- Upper limit (income-based IS and JSA) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . £16,000
- Lower limit (income-based IS and JSA) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . £6,000

For people living in care homes, the following limits apply
- Upper limit (income-based IS and JSA) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . £16,000
- Lower limit (income-based IS and JSA) . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . £10,000

Income from capital rules
These are also called tariff income rules. Owning capital may mean you get less benefit.

Income-based JSA and IS
If you have capital over £6,000 up to £16,000
For each £250 of further capital (or part of £250) your benefit is reduced by £1 a week.

If you have capital of over £16,000
You cannot normally get these benefits.

If you live in a care home, and have capital over £10,000 up to £16,000
For each £250 or part of £250 of capital you have, your benefit is reduced by £1 a week.
Important information about this leaflet

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 2008. It is possible that some of the information is oversimplified, or may become inaccurate over time, for example because of changes to the law.

This leaflet is available in other formats.

• In Welsh
• In large print

You can get these by:

• calling the Pensions Information Line on 08457 31 32 33 (from 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 5pm at weekends);
• visiting our website www.dwp.gov.uk; and
• textphone if you have speech or hearing difficulties on 08456 04 02 10.

Textphones are for people who find it hard to speak or hear clearly. If you do not have a textphone, some libraries and citizens advice bureaus may have one. Textphones cannot receive mobile-phone text messages.

Call charges

From 1 August 2007, calls to 0845 numbers from BT land lines should cost no more than 4p per minute with a 6p call set up charge. You may have to pay more if you use another phone company or a mobile phone, or if you are calling from abroad. Calls from mobile phones can cost up to 40p per minute, so check the cost of calls with your service provider.

If you prefer, you can ask us to call you back. Tell our operator that this is what you want to do and give them your phone number.