



Personal Independence Payment

A quick guide

January 2013



Easy Read

DWP Department for
Work and Pensions

Important

Green writing

In this easy-read booklet we sometimes explain what words mean.

The first time we mention any of these words, it is in **bold green** writing. Then we write what the words mean in a blue box. If any of the words are used later in the booklet, we show them in **normal green** writing.

These words and what they mean are also in a word list at the back of the booklet.

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What this booklet is about

From 8 April 2013, **Personal Independence Payment** will take the place of **Disability Living Allowance**.

Personal Independence Payment

This is a new benefit to help disabled people live full, active and independent lives. Disabled people who can get the benefit will get money to help them pay the extra costs of being disabled.

Disability Living Allowance

This is money that someone with a disability or a health condition may be able to get to help them pay for the help and support they need.



About Personal Independence Payment

Personal Independence Payment will help people meet the extra costs of being disabled. It is based on how a person's condition affects them, not the condition they have.



Personal Independence Payment is for people aged between 16 and 64.

We will carry on paying **Disability Living Allowance** for children up to the age of 16 and for people who are aged 65 or over on 8 April 2013.

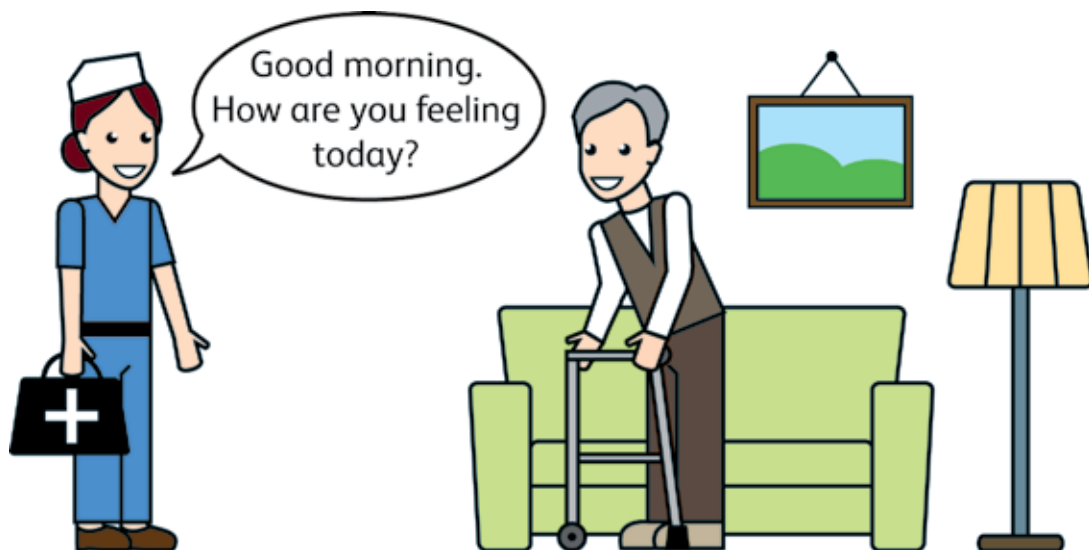
People can get **Personal Independence Payment** if they have a job or they do not have a job.

Personal Independence Payment is not taxed.

Also, it does not matter how much money people have saved or how much money they have coming into their home every week, they can still get **Personal Independence Payment**.

Personal Independence Payment has 2 parts. A daily living part and a mobility needs part. And each part has 2 different rates, a standard rate and an extra rate for those people with the greatest needs, called an enhanced rate.

If a person makes a claim for **Personal Independence Payment** they will normally have to see a health worker, like a doctor or a nurse. The health worker will talk to the person to see what their normal needs are.



When is Personal Independence Payment starting?

April 2013

In April 2013, new claims for **Personal Independence Payment** are starting for people living in these areas.

- Cheshire.
- Cumbria.
- Merseyside.
- North East England.
- North West England.

People will still be able to make new claims for **Disability Living Allowance** in all the other parts of the country.

June 2013

In June 2013, new claims for **Personal Independence Payment** will start for people who live in other parts of the country. There will be no new claims for **Disability Living Allowance** for people aged between 16 and 64.

People who are already getting Disability Living Allowance will carry on getting it for the time being.

October 2013

From October 2013, we will start inviting people who are getting **Disability Living Allowance** to claim **Personal Independence Payment**. This will be these people.

- People who get **Disability Living Allowance** that needs to be renewed.
- Young people who have reached age 16.
- People who get **Disability Living Allowance** and they tell us that their needs have changed

October 2015

From October 2015 we will write to any people who are still getting **Disability Living Allowance**. We will tell them that their **Disability Living Allowance** is going to end and how to claim **Personal Independence Payment**.

How to make a claim for Personal Independence Payment

Thinking about claiming Personal Independence Payment

If a person is thinking about making a claim for **Personal Independence Payment** they can find out about it from many places. For example, on the internet, from leaflets and from support groups.

The information that people get will tell them who can claim **Personal Independence Payment**. It will also help them decide if they want to make a claim.

We will get in touch with people who are getting **Disability Living Allowance** and ask them if they want to claim **Personal Independence Payment**.

Making a claim for Personal Independence Payment

If a person wants to make a claim for **Personal Independence Payment** they should telephone the Department for Work and Pensions.

Each person will be asked some questions. They have 4 weeks from the date on the letter to make their claim.



Telling their story

After people claim Personal Independence Payment the Department for Work and Pensions will send them a form which they need to fill in. They need to say how their condition affects their daily life, both on good days and bad days, when they are doing different things.

When they have filled in the form they will need to post it back to the Department for Work and Pensions. They have a month to fill in the form and send it back.



Seeing a health worker about a claim for Personal Independence Payment

We will give the form and anything else the person has sent to us to a health worker.

If we can use the form to decide if a person can or cannot get **Personal Independence Payment**, then some people will not need to see a health worker. If we cannot use the form the person will be asked to go to see a health worker to talk about their claim.

The health worker can tell the Department for Work and Pensions what their support needs are.

After the meeting, the health worker will be able to work out what things the person will come up against in their daily life.

How the Department for Work and Pensions decides who can get Personal Independence Payment

If a person has made a new claim for **Personal Independence Payment**, one of our workers at the Department for Work and Pensions, who is called a Decision Maker, will do these things.

- Look at what the person has said in the claim form.
- Look at what the health worker has said after the person has been seen.
- Look at anything else the person sent in with the claim form.

When the Decision Maker has looked at everything they will be able to say if the person can get **Personal Independence Payment**.



If the Decision Maker says the person can get **Personal Independence Payment** they will also say how much the person will get and how long they will get it for.

Some people will get **Personal Independence Payment** and some people will not get **Personal Independence Payment**. But in all cases, **Disability Living Allowance** will stop being paid.

Does Personal Independence Payment affect other benefits?

Personal Independence Payment will not affect benefits like the **Employment and Support Allowance**, **Jobseeker's Allowance** or **Attendance Allowance**.

Employment and Support Allowance

This is a benefit people can get if they do not have a job and they cannot work at all, or cannot work now but could work some time in the future.

Jobseeker's Allowance

This is money people get if they do not have a job, but they can work.

Attendance Allowance

This is money that people aged 65 or over may be able to get if they need someone to help look after them because they are disabled.

If people get **Personal Independence Payment** they may be able to get other help. This is help like **Blue Badges**, free travel on buses and trains or the **Motability Scheme**.

Blue Badges

These are for disabled people who cannot walk very far. **Blue Badges** let disabled people park cars close to where they want to be, even in places where other people cannot usually park cars.



Motability Scheme

This is a scheme that lets disabled people use part of their benefit to rent or buy a car, a powered wheelchair or a scooter.

People who look after a person who gets **Personal Independence Payment** or **Disability Living Allowance** may be able to get **Carer's Allowance**.

Carer's Allowance

This is money that is given to people who look after people who are too ill or disabled to look after themselves.



If people cannot get **Personal Independence Payment** they may not be able to get these benefits or services.

More information

If you want to find out more about **Personal Independence Payment** you can look at www.gov.uk/pip which is a website.

Also, Department for Work and Pensions Partner Managers may be able to help. You can find out more about Partner Managers at www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/partnerships which is a website.

Word list

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