

Disability Living Allowance for Children

If your child is 15 or under and has extra care or mobility needs because they're disabled, you can apply for [Disability Living Allowance \(DLA\)](#) for them. If they're 16 or over they would need to apply for [Personal Independence Payment \(PIP\)](#).

DLA is a benefit to help with the extra costs of raising a disabled child. It takes into account your child's mobility and care needs. DLA is not means-tested.

DLA has 2 parts - care and mobility. You may be paid either, or both. To qualify for either, your child must satisfy the DLA disability tests for 3 months before being paid and be likely to do so for at least 6 months afterwards, unless they're terminally ill.

Care component weekly rates (April 2019 to March 2020)

- Low rate - £23.20
- middle rate - £58.70
- High rate - £87.65

Mobility component weekly rates (April 2019 to March 2020)

- Low rate - £23.20
- High rate - £61.20

Your child can receive only one rate from each component. Your child cannot receive lower rate mobility component until they reach age 5, or the higher rate mobility component until they reach age 3.

If your child is awarded DLA, you may qualify for [Carer's Allowance](#) and for help from the [Motability scheme](#).

Making a claim for DLA

You can either:

- Call the Disability Living Allowance helpline and ask for a claim form (DLA1)

Telephone 0800 121 4600

- [Download a DLA1 claim pack from Direct Gov](#)

Your claim date will be the date you call and ask for the form, if you complete and return it in the time given. If you download a claim form, it will be the date your completed form is received.

Challenging a decision

If you disagree with the decision made on your child's DLA claim, you can ask for a [Mandatory Reconsideration](#).

If you still believe the decision is wrong, for example because incorrect information was used, you can appeal. You have one month to dispute a decision, so it is important to seek advice and act quickly.

[How to appeal against a decision](#)