



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Attendance Allowance

**Easy
Read**



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Department
for Work &
Pensions

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Introduction



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Attendance Allowance is a benefit from the Department for Work and Pensions.



You can get Attendance Allowance if you:

- Have a disability and need someone to look after you
- Have reached State Pension age.



Explaining State Pension age

Your **State Pension age** is the youngest age you can get State Pension.

For more information on State Pension age, go to www.gov.uk/state-pension-age

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Who can get Attendance Allowance



When you reach State Pension age, you can get Attendance Allowance if you have a physical or mental disability.



You can get Attendance Allowance if your disability means you need support or supervision to care for yourself.

6
months

You must have needed this support or supervision for at least 6 months.

If your disability or health condition changes, please let us know.

Go to **page 14** of this booklet for more information.



You can still claim Attendance Allowance if you do not get support or supervision.

IMPORTANT

If you are nearing the end of your life, the 6 month rule does not apply.

You can claim Attendance Allowance straight away.



Explanation

Nearing the end of your life means you might have less than 12 months to live.

For more information, go to www.gov.uk/benefits-end-of-life

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Where you live



You must live in Great Britain when you make your claim.

You must have lived in Great Britain for at least 2 of the last 3 years.



Sometimes you can claim outside of Great Britain.

This could be if you or some of your family are in the armed forces.



If you live in a care home and your local council pays towards the costs, you cannot usually get Attendance Allowance.



If you live in a care home and you pay all the costs, you can get Attendance Allowance.

To find out what the Attendance Allowance rates are, go to

www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance/what-youll-get

For information on the benefit rights of UK nationals in the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland, go to

www.gov.uk/guidance/benefits-and-pensions-for-uk-nationals-in-the-eea-or-switzerland

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What you will get

4
weeks

Attendance Allowance is usually paid every 4 weeks.

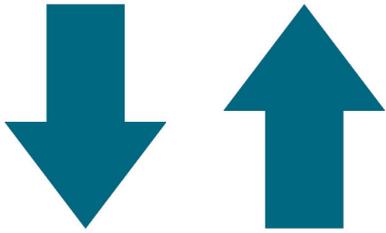
1
week

In some circumstances, you can get paid weekly.



Any savings or investments you have do not affect your claim.

Lower **Higher**



Attendance Allowance has 2 rates.
A **lower rate** and a **higher rate**.



The rate you get depends on how much help or support you need.

To find out what the Attendance Allowance rates are, go to

www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance/what-youll-get

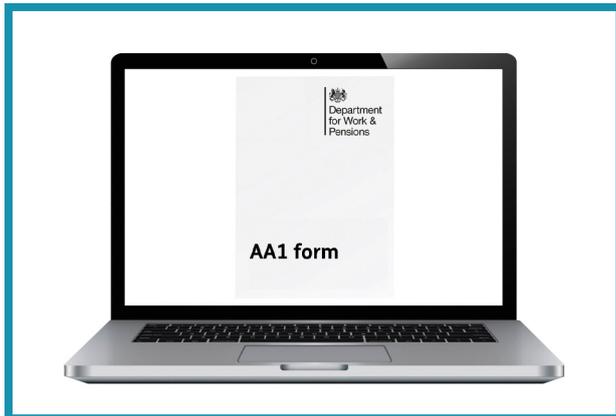
5

How to claim



You need to complete a form called **AA1**.

To get the form online, go to www.gov.uk Search for **AA1 form**.



You can fill the form in on your computer or tablet then print it off.



You can print out a blank form and fill it in with a pen.



Send your completed form to:
Freepost DWP Attendance Allowance
You do not need a postcode or a stamp.



To ask for a copy of the form by phone.
Telephone: **0800 731 0122**
Textphone: **0800 731 0317**



If you cannot hear or speak on the phone, use Relay UK:
18001 then 0800 731 0122

Lines are open Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm.



If you are deaf and use British Sign Language you may be able to use the video relay service.

For more information on how to claim, go to

www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance/how-to-claim

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Reporting a change in your disability or health condition



If your disability or health condition changes, it is very important to tell the Department for Work and Pensions as soon as possible.



A change in your disability or health condition can affect how much Attendance Allowance you get.

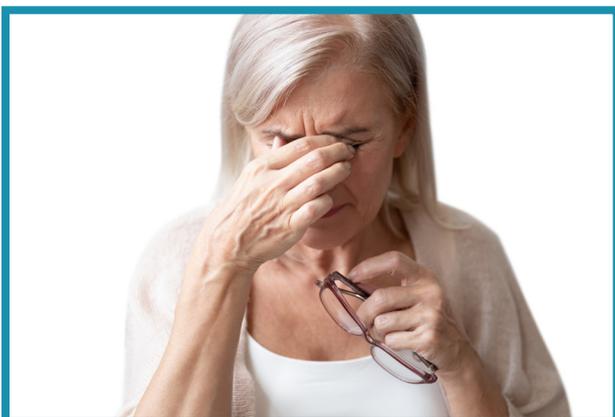


If you do not report a change in your disability or health condition, you may have to go to court or pay a fine.

Contact the Attendance Allowance helpline as soon as possible if:



The level of help or support you need changes.



Your health condition or disability changes.



You go into hospital.



You go into a care home.



You go into prison.



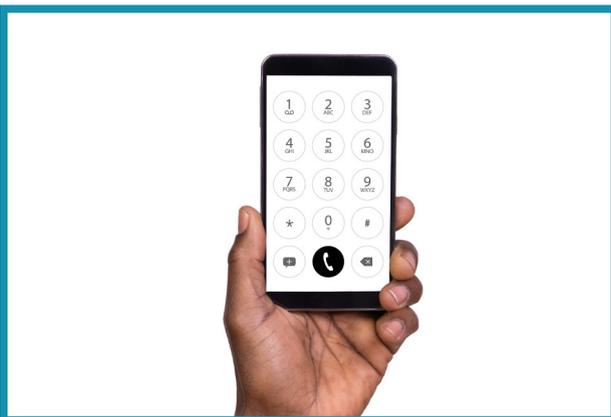
Your name, address or bank details change.



You no longer want to claim your benefit.



Your doctors' details change.



Call the Attendance Allowance helpline:

Telephone: **0800 731 0122**

Textphone: **0800 731 0317**

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Other types of support



If you get Attendance Allowance, you may be able to get extra financial support like Housing Benefit.

For more information, go to www.gov.uk/housing-benefit



You may be able to get Pension Credit.
Pension Credit gives extra money to people who have reached pensionable age and who have a low income.

For more Easy Read information on Pension Credit, go to www.gov.uk

Search for **Easy Read Pension Credit**.



You may be able to get Council Tax Reduction.

This means you will pay less Council Tax.

For more information, go to www.gov.uk/apply-council-tax-reduction