



Department
for Work &
Pensions

An introduction to Carer's Allowance

**Easy
Read**



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Department
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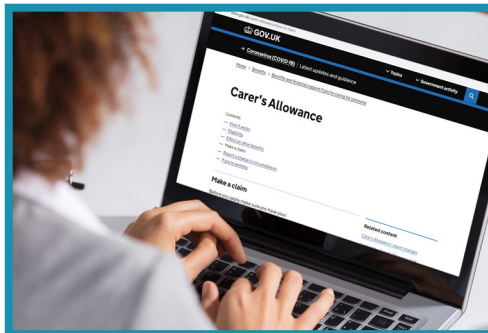
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Introduction



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Carer's Allowance is a benefit from the Department for Work and Pensions.

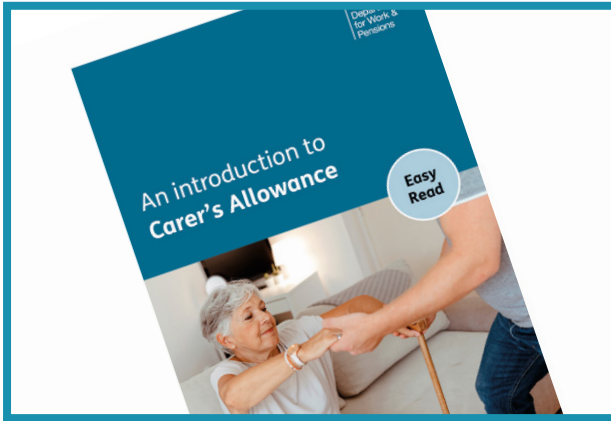


You could get Carer's Allowance if:

- You care for someone for at least 35 hours a week
- They get certain disability benefits.



The person you care for does not need to be a relative, and you do not need to live with them.



This information will tell you:

- About Carer's Allowance
- Who can get it
- How it affects other benefits.

For more Easy Read information on Carer's Allowance, go to www.gov.uk

Search for **Easy Read Carer's Allowance**.

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Qualifying benefits



To get Carer's Allowance, the person you care for must get a qualifying benefit.

By qualifying benefits, we mean:



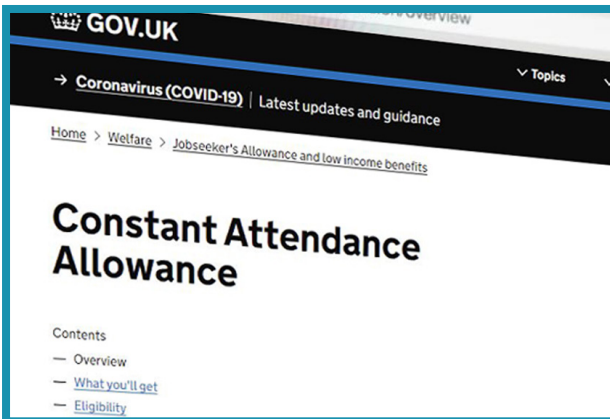
The daily living component of Personal Independence Payment (PIP).



The middle or highest care rate of Disability Living Allowance.



Attendance Allowance.



Constant Attendance Allowance:

- At or above the normal maximum rate with an Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit
- At the basic or full day rate with a War Disablement Pension.



Armed Forces Independence Payment.



If you live in Scotland:

- Child Disability Payment at the middle or highest care rate
- Adult Disability Payment at the standard or enhanced care rate of the daily living component.

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Who can get Carer's Allowance

You can get Carer's Allowance if:



You are 16 years old or over.



You spend at least 35 hours a week caring for the person.



You have lived, for at least 2 of the last 3 years, in:

- England
- Scotland
- Wales

Or abroad, if in the armed forces.

You cannot get Carer's Allowance if you are:



In full-time education or studying 21 hours or more a week.



Subject to immigration control.



Earning over a certain amount of money per week or month.

For more information, go to www.gov.uk/carers-allowance/eligibility

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The type of care you provide

**35
hours**

To get Carer's Allowance, you need to spend at least 35 hours each week caring for someone.

The type of care you give the person can include:



- Washing their clothes or dishes
- Making and cooking meals for them.



- Taking the person you care for to:
- Doctors
 - Hospital.



Helping with day-to-day tasks, such as:

- Shopping
- Looking after money, bills, and bank accounts.



If you care for more than 1 person at a time, you do not get extra Carer's Allowance.



If someone else cares for the same person as you, **only 1 of you can get:**

- Carer's Allowance
- Universal Credit Carer's Element.

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How Carer's Allowance can affect other benefits



When you get Carer's Allowance, your other benefit payments may change. Your total benefits will usually go up or stay the same.



When you get Carer's Allowance, the person you care for will usually stop getting:

- Severe disability premium paid with their benefits
- An extra amount of severe disability paid with Pension Credit.



The person you care for may stop getting reduced Council Tax.

For more information, contact your local council.

To find out how Carer's Allowance can affect other benefits, use our online digital calculator. Go to www.gov.uk/benefits-calculators

State Pension or Pension Credit



If you get State Pension, you can still get Carer's Allowance if this is more than your State Pension.



If you get Pension Credit, you may also get Carer Premium.

For Easy Read information on Pension Credit, go to www.gov.uk/government/publications/easy-read-pension-credit

For information on Carer's Allowance and State Pension, go to www.gov.uk/carers-allowance/eligibility