

Freedom of Information request 2925/2011

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Information request

Please you could clarify whether a person with a “moderate” condition which implies moderate functional limitation and restriction arising from disability is eligible for higher rate mobility benefit?

DWP response

Disability Living Allowance provides a contribution towards the disability related extra costs of children and adults with long term impairments. Claims must be made before the age of 65 but once awarded, Disability Living Allowance can continue to be paid past 65 as long as entitlement conditions are met.

Entitlement to Disability Living Allowance is not based on having a specific health condition, but depends on what help the person needs with personal care as a result of their disability and/or the extent of their mobility difficulties.

The higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance is, in the main, paid to those severely disabled people who are unable or virtually unable to walk.

Applicants to Disability Living Allowance complete a comprehensive questionnaire to identify their care and/or mobility needs and the Department’s Decision Makers consider each claim on its own merits. Additional evidence is often obtained before a decision is made.

For this reason it is not possible to predict whether a person with a “moderate” condition, which implies moderate functional limitation and restriction arising from disability, may be eligible for the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance.

Further information on Disability Living Allowance is available from Directgov at:

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/MoneyTaxAndBenefits/BenefitsTaxCreditsAndOtherSupport/Disabledpeople/DG_10018702