

Freedom of Information request 2917/2011

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Information request

Please explain what kind of people are or may claim attendance and disability allowance?

Is this for people who has disability or mental health problems?

If this is for the mental health problems then what kind of?

DWP response

Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance provide a cash contribution towards the disability related extra costs of severely disabled people.

Disability Living Allowance is available to children and adults with long term impairments. Claims must be made before the age of 65 but once awarded, Disability Living Allowance may continue to be paid after the age of 65 as long as entitlement conditions continue to be met. Attendance Allowance is for adults with long term impairments who claim after the age of 65.

Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance are tax-free, non-contributory benefits which are not income-related and are for recipients to meet their needs as they choose.

Entitlement to Disability Living Allowance is not based on having a specific health condition, but depends on what help the individual needs with personal care as a result of their disability and/or the extent of their mobility difficulties. Entitlement to Attendance Allowance depends on the help a person needs with personal care only. Both benefits can be claimed by people who have physical and/or mental disabilities.

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

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

Information on the main types of disabling conditions including mental health conditions claimed in respect of these benefits can found using the following link:

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/adhoc_analysis/2011/dla_care_mob_may_2010.xls