02-25: Legacy Benefits and State Pension Credit - The Social Security (Scotland)) Act 2018 (Disability Assistance) (Consequential Amendments) Order 2024

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Introduction

1. The purpose of this memo is to give guidance to decision makers (DM) on The Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018 (Disability Assistance) (Consequential Amendments) Order 2024. The amendments came into force on 21.10.24.¹

1 SS (Scot) Act 2018 (Dis Ass) (CA) Order 2024

Background

2. This order¹ makes changes to social security legislation to reflect the introduction by the Scottish Government (SG) of the Pension Age Disability Payment (PADP). This is to replace Attendance Allowance (AA) for pension age adults resident in Scotland.

Income Support and Jobseeker's Allowance

Definitions

3. <u>DMG 23071</u> defines Attendance allowance for JSA(IB) and IS purposes¹. From 21.10.2024 PADP² is to be included in these definitions.

1 JSA Regs, reg 1(3); IS (Gen) Regs, reg 2(1); 2 SS (Scot) Act 2018 (Dis Ass) (CA) Order 2024

Regular Carers

4. Entitlement for individuals regularly and substantially engaged in caring for another person¹ will now extend to those caring for someone who is in receipt of PADP² (<u>DMG 20116</u>).

1 IS (Gen) Regs, Sch IB, para 4(a); SS CB Act 92, s 70(2) 2 SS (Scot) Act 2018 (Dis Ass) (CA) Order 2024

Remunerative work exclusion

5. From 21.10.2024, individuals regularly and substantially engaged in caring¹ for someone receiving PADP² will be treated as not being in remunerative work² (DMG 20502 and 20252).

1 <u>IS (Gen) Regs, reg 6(4)(c)</u> & <u>Sch IB, para 4</u>; 2 <u>SS (Scot) Act 2018 (Dis Ass) (CA) Order 2024</u>; 3 <u>JSA Regs, reg 51(3)</u> (c)

Premiums and deductions

6. From 21.10.24 PADP will be included as a qualifying benefit when considering entitlement to the HPP¹, DP^2 and SDP^3

1 <u>IS (Gen) Regs, Sch II, para12(1)(a)(i); JSA Regs, Sch I paras 20F & 20H; JSA Regs, reg 1(3); 2 IS(Gen)</u> <u>Regs, Sch II Paras 11 & 12(d)(ii); JSA Regs, Sch I paras 20G & 20H</u> 3 <u>IS(Gen) Regs, Sch II para 13 (2)(b)</u> (i); JSA Regs, SchI para 20I

7. From 21.10.24 PADP is added to the list of benefits when considering whether a non-dependant deduction from the claimant's housing costs is applicable¹ .(DMG 23770)

1 JSA Regs Sch II para 17(6)(b)(i); IS(Gen) Regs, Sch II para 18(6)(b)(i)

Claims for linked benefits

8. For the purposes of the date of claim rules, PADP is a 'qualifying benefit' (<u>DMG 02264</u>) (<u>DMG 02263</u>) if an award of PADP makes a relevant benefit either payable or payable at an increased rate¹. This means the rules that, in certain circumstances, allow a claim for a relevant benefit to be backdated to the date from which another benefit has been awarded or made payable (<u>DMG 02267-8</u>, <u>02269-70</u>, <u>02273</u> and <u>02277</u>)² will apply where the other benefit is PADP. Also, the condition in <u>DMG 02277</u>.4 is satisfied where a further claim for a relevant benefit is made within 3 months of the date on which it is decided that PADP is payable again as a result of the claimant leaving a

1 SS (C&P) Regs, reg 6(22); 2 regs 6(16)-(21), (30) & (33); 3 reg 6(20)(c)(v)

Revision and Supersession

Definitions of 'Scottish disability benefit'

9. The definition of 'Scottish disability benefit' for revision and supersession purposes¹ has been amended so that it now includes PADP. The consequences of this change are explained below.

1 SS CS (D&A) Regs, reg 1(3)

Supersession of a SPC award because of entitlement to PADP

10. Where

1. an award of SPC is superseded on the ground that there has been a relevant change of circumstances since the award took effect **and**

2. the change of circumstances is that the claimant or partner has become entitled to

2. 1. the ADP daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate or

2. 2. the PADP pension age disability payment

the superseding decision takes effect from the beginning of the benefit week in which the first day of the new ADP or PADP entitlement falls or, if that is not practicable, on the first day of the following benefit week¹.

1 SS CS (D&A) Regs, Sch IIIB, paras 2(b)(v) & (vi)

Revising decisions on linked relevant benefits

- 11. Where
 - 1. the DM awards entitlement to a relevant benefit (DMG 02263) and

2. the claimant or a member of his family is awarded PADP for a period that includes the date from which the relevant benefit has been awarded

the award of the relevant benefit can be revised¹

1 SS CS (D&A) Regs, reg 3(7)

Superseding decisions on linked relevant benefits

12. Where

1. the claimant has been awarded a relevant benefit (DMG 02263) and

- 2. the claimant or a member of their family for benefit purposes is awarded PADP and
- 3. the first day of the award of PADP falls after the first day of the award of the relevant benefit

the award of the relevant benefit can be superseded¹, with effect from the first day of the PADP award².

1 <u>SS CS (D&A) Regs, reg 6(2)(e);</u> 2 reg 7(7)(a)

State Pension Credit

Definitions

13. <u>DMG 78006</u> et seq explains the meaning of terms used throughout the chapter. For the purposes of SPC, from 21.10.24 PADP has been added to the list of terms that are representative of the meaning of "AA"¹

1 SPC Regs, reg 1(2)

Additional amounts for the Severely disabled

Special Groups

14. <u>DMG 78034</u> et seq provides guidance on the qualifying conditions for, and rates of, the extra amount for severe disability for single claimants and claimants with partners¹. (For polygamous marriages², see DMG <u>78611 – 78614</u>.) From 21.10.24 PADP is added to the list of qualifying benefits when considering entitlement.

1 SPC Regs, Sch I, para 1(1) 2 SPC Regs, Sch III, para 1(9)

People whose presence is ignored

15. <u>DMG 78077</u> explains that DMs can ignore the presence of persons in receipt of certain benefits when determining a claimant's entitlement to the extra amount for severe disability¹. From 21.10.24 PADP is added to the list of benefits.

1 SPC Regs, Sch I, para 2(2)(a)

Deductions for non-dependants

16. Where a claimant or partner is in receipt of certain benefits, no non-dependant deduction is applied¹. From 21.10.24, PADP is added to the list of those benefits. PADP is included in the list of benefits to be disregarded when calculating the gross weekly income of a non-dependant². (DMG 78524).

Amounts disregarded from earnings

17. Where a claimant or partner is in receipt of certain benefits, £20 a week is disregarded from the earnings of the claimant or partner¹. From 21.10.24, PADP is added to the list of benefits which qualify for the £20 disregard.

1 SPC Regs, Sch VI, para 4(1)(a)(iiia)

Social Fund Funeral Payments

Deductions to an award

18. SFMFE <u>DMG 39408</u> and <u>Appendix 1 to DMG Chapter 39</u> gives guidance on arrears of benefit payable to the deceased not being counted as assets of the deceased when considering deductions from the amount of award of funeral payment. From 21.10.24 arrears of PADP payable to the deceased as at the date of death are added to the list of benefits excluded from the assets of the deceased¹.

1 SFMFE (Gen) Regs, reg 10(1A)(gg)

Employment and Support Allowance

Caring for another person

19. Claimants' partners are treated as not being in remunerative work where they are regularly and substantially engaged in caring for another person¹ that is in receipt of a relevant benefit. From 21.10.24 PADP² has been added to the list of relevant benefits. (DMG 41514)

1 ESA Regs, reg 43(2)(c); 2 IS (Gen) Regs, Sch IB, para 4; 2 SS (Scot) Act 2018 (Dis Ass) (CA) Order 2024

Carer's Allowance

Meaning of 'Severely disabled person'

20. For the purposes of entitlement to CA, DMG 60033 et seq defines a severely disabled person¹ as someone eligible for certain specified benefits. Effective from 21.10.24, PADP will be included in this list of qualifying benefits.

1 SS CB Act 92, s 70(2); SS(ICA) Regs, reg 6

Annotations

The number of this memo should be annotated against the following DMG paragraphs;

<u>20502, 20252, 23071, 23106, 02263, 02264, 02267, 02268, 02269, 02270, 02273, 02277, 39408, Appendix 1</u>

of DMG Chapter 39, 41514, 60033, 75549, 75555, 78006, 78034-60, 78611-14, 78077, 78524.

Contacts

If you have any queries about this memo, contact Decision Making and Appeals (DMA) Leeds, 3rd floor South, zone E, Quarry House, Leeds. Existing arrangements for such referrals should be followed, <u>Requesting case</u> guidance from DMA Leeds for all benefits

DMA Leeds: February 2025

The content of the examples in this document (including use of imagery) is for illustrative purposes only