

DMG - Volume 10: Benefits for incapacity, disability, maternity, bereavement, and widows

Chapters 55 - 63

Summary of changes from January 2022

October 2026

Chapter 62

Paragraph 62524 - final sentence added to clarify when some weeks of the 13 weeks have zero earnings recorded. Sentence "However, they need to have earnings covering each of the 13 weeks" at Note 1 removed.

Paragraph 62517 - removal of wording 'career breaks' following decision made in UA-2025-000996-MA Bartley v The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. The sentence has been amended as follows:

"However, a woman who is on unpaid leave for another reason may be considered as not engaged in employment (Please consider contacting DMA Leeds for guidance on this issue)."

April 2026

Chapter 60

DMG Memo 02/26: giving guidance on the 2026 Up-rating Amendment to paragraph 60051

January 2026

Chapter 60

Following changes have been made to include the DMG 05-25 Uprating Memo:
Paragraph 60051: Link removed

December 2025 update

Chapter 61

Minor amendment made to DMG chapter 61 paragraph 61461, 1.1.2

November 2025 update

Chapter 60 & 61

New DMG memo **12-25: Cross-Border Issues and Devolved Benefits** added with cross references to the DMG chapters 60 and 61 paragraphs 60025, 60062 and 61015.

Chapter 62

Unfortunately, Appendix 1 unexplainably disappeared from this chapter. It has now been reinstated.

October 2025 update

Chapter 61

Which has been amended to include changes set out in DMG Memo 06/25. Changes have been made to paragraphs 61461, 61466, 61568, 61558, 61581, 61583 and 61584.

Chapter 63

Minor re-numbering amendments have been made to paragraphs 63052 to read 63051 and 63049 to read 63052

Chapter 61

Minor amendments have been made to paragraph 616350 and a new heading at paragraph 61620.

DMG Memo 07-25 has been fully incorporated and is now deleted.

September 2025 updates

Chapter 59

Incorporated “DMG Memo 02-23 - The Bereavement Benefit (Remedial) Order 2023 - Widowed Parent's Allowance and Higher Rate Bereavement Support Payment” into the chapter. Please be aware that this change has involved renumbering paragraphs 59001, 59003, 59007-8, 59011, 59018-59023, 59032-33, 59051, 59071-72 and the addition of Appendix 1.

Chapter 61

Amendments have been made to incorporate DMG Memo 07-25: ADHD and SMI. Amendments have largely been made to paragraphs 61359 and 61360.

Chapter 63

“DMG Memo 02-23 - The Bereavement Benefit (Remedial) Order 2023 - Widowed Parent's Allowance and Higher Rate Bereavement Support Payment” and “DMG Memo 09-23 Change to Underlying Entitlement Conditions for Widowed Parent's Allowance due to the Introduction of the Bereavement Benefits (Remedial) Order 2023” Incorporated into the chapter. Renumbering of paragraphs required and insertion of term ‘cohabiting partner’ where required affecting paragraphs 63017, 63019, 63022, 63023, 63026, 63030, 63035-63072, 63088-63090. Please be aware that this change has involved renumbering

paragraphs and the addition of Appendix 1– The Bereavement Benefits (Remedial) Order – Widowed Parent's Allowance and Higher Rate Bereavement Benefit.

DMG Memo 09-23 is now deleted as it's been fully incorporated into the DMG.

Chapter 62

Amendments made to various paragraphs 62017 - 62582 Addition of The Social Security (Class 2 National Insurance Contributions Increase of Threshold) Regulations 2022 No.1329 to SI abbreviations.

June 2025 updates

Chapter 61

New 07-25: DLA: ADHD and severe mental impairment – Effect of Upper Tribunal Decision: and uprating. Amendments to paras.: 61255, 61350, 61351, 61352, 61355, 61359, 61360, 61376, 61377, 61618

Also please note additions to DMG SI abbreviations added which are - SMI Severe Mental Impairment and ADHD Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

May 2025 updates

Chapter 62

Amendment made DMG paragraph 62534: **Calculating Earnings of employees –** Number 11 added to list to include statutory neonatal care pay due to amendment to reg 2 (1) of the MA (Earnings) Regs 2000 by The Neonatal Care Leave and Pay (Consequential Amendments to Subordinate Legislation) Regulations 2025. Legal reference added.

April 2025 updates

DMG Memo 06-25: Legacy Benefits and State Pension Credit - The Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018 (Disability Assistance) (Consequential Amendments) Order 2025, added with cross references to the DMG Abbreviations, Statutes & S.I. lists plus DMG chapters 61, 35, Vol 1 Annex A, 02, 04, 03, 04, 53, 23, 41, 44, 78, 20, 28 & 86

Chapter 60

New DMG Memo 5/25: and uprating amendment to para. 60051

November 2024 updates

Chapter 63

DMG Memo 12/23 incorporated at paragraphs 63064 and 63069 - addition of CSP where CA is mentioned in paragraphs.

October 2024 updates

Chapter 60

DMG Memos 04/23 and 02/24 incorporated at paragraph 60061.

August 2023 updates

Chapter 61

Amended para 61342 to remove out of date contact details for DMA.

July 2023 updates

Chapter 61

DMG Memo 03-23 incorporated at paras. 61491 & 61492.

May 2023 updates

Chapter 62

Various amendments as follows:

Note under para 62524 to provide greater clarity within guidance about the Earnings Test and specifically about the fact that whilst a woman doesn't have to have received a payment in each of the chosen 13 weeks within her Test Period, they need to have earned an amount equal to the MAT (when averaged) for each of those 13 weeks – irrespective of when the payment is made.

Para. 62017 amended to give example of certificate of confinement (MATB1) and para. 62020 changed to clarify the types of evidence required for stillbirth.

Note 2 added to para. 62516 for clarification regarding zero hours contracts and agency workers.

Amendment to paras. 62540 and 62541 to show that for women who have not paid their NICS to qualify for the standard rate of MA the legislation does clearly indicate that they should be treated as receiving earnings equal to the MAT (£30) for that week. At present the fact that this relates to each individual week isn't clear.

Para. 62524 – legislative reference amended from 'SS (MA) (Earnings) Regs, reg 6(1)' to 'SS (MA) (Earnings) Regs, reg 6(1)(b)'. Additional note added "Note: The position differs for the self-employed (see DMG 62540)".

Para 62541 – legislative reference corrected.

Para. 62544 – legislative reference added.

Added para. 62545 'Payment of class 2 contributions treated as paid' due to legislation introduced by The Social Security (Class 2 National Insurance Contributions Increase of Threshold) Regulations 2022.

Numbers changed at paras. 62546 to 62552 due to addition of para. 62545.

Para. 62025 – removal of sentence - "If, as a result of this calculation, disallowance would be appropriate because the length of pregnancy falls short of a full 24 weeks by one week or less, the case should be referred to Medical Services for advice."

April 2023 updates

Chapter 60

Updated Appendix 1 – earnings limit for gainful employment.

Chapter 61

Updated Appendix 3 – rates of benefit (AA) and Appendix 4 – rates of benefit (DLA).

November 2022 updates

Chapter 60

incorporate DMG Memo 2-17. That Memo is also deleted from the Memo list.

July 2022 updates

Chapter 61

Note added below para. 61491 to advise change of terminology for terminal illness to end of life in operations/comms.

June 2022 updates

Chapter 61

Amendment 1 in Qualifying Period – Disability Living Allowance - DLA Care Component at **61461 1.2** addition of CDP care component x2 into following sentence:

1.2 ending on the day the person was last entitled to AA, the DLA care component or the CDP care component, and that day is not more than two years before the date on which the award of the DLA care component or the CDP care component would begin³**and**

Amendment 2 in Qualifying Period – Disability Living Allowance - DLA Mobility Component at **61466 1.2a and 1.2b** addition of CDP mobility component x2 into

following sentences:

1.2 ending on a day

1.2.a when the person was last entitled to the DLA mobility component or the CDP mobility component **and**

1.2.b which cannot be more than two years before the date on which the award of the DLA mobility component or the CDP mobility component would begin²**and**

Chapter 60

Paragraph 60033 has been updated to refer to equivalent benefits from an EU member state “the definition of a severely disabled person” (Memo DMG 02/20 incorporated.)

Paragraphs 60025 – 60081 has been updated 'Conditions for entitlement to Carer's Allowance' at Meaning of severely disabled person - 60033. Addition of legal reference, equivalent benefit from an EU member state' and correct citation inserted into legal references.

Appendix 1 - Earnings limit for gainful employment. DMG Memos 3/19, 5-20, 4/21, 7-22 incorporated - Amounts added for tax years from 9.4.18 to 11.4.22 to list (amended previous amount that was incorrect for period 9.4.18 – 7.4.19)

March 2022 updates

Chapter 60

Amendment in 'Conditions for entitlement to Carers Allowance 60025 – 60081' at meaning of severely disabled person - 60033. Addition of ADP on list at number 7 and relevant legal references.

January 2022 updates

Chapter 60

Amendment in 'Conditions for entitlement to Carers Allowance paras. 60025 – 60081' at Meaning of severely disabled person - 60033. Addition of CDP on list at number 6.