

Change to Disability Living Allowance from April 2013

From April 2013 Disability allowance will be replaced by Personal Independence Allowance (PIP). This change will affect people aged 16-64 only.

PIP is to help towards the extra costs arising from the impact of a disability, health condition or impairment. It is based on how a person's condition affects their ability to lead an independent life. The award of PIP will be assessment based and the assessment will focus on the person's ability to carry out a range of key activities.

Claims for PIP will be made over the phone. Everyone claiming will be asked to complete a questionnaire providing information on how the disability affects them. Most claimants will also be asked to attend a face to face consultation with a health professional as part of the claims process. An award of PIP will be reviewed more regularly to ensure that the right level of support is offered at all times.

PIP will be made up of two components. A person can claim either one or both. The components are:

- A daily living component, which relates to a claimants ability to carry out a prescribed list of daily living activities AND
- A mobility component, which relates to a claimants ability to carry a prescribed list of mobility activities.

Daily Living Component - There are two rates.

- Standard Rate for those whose ability to carry out daily living activities is limited by the person's physical or mental condition. The standard rate will be set at £53.00
- Enhanced Rate for those whose ability to carry out daily living activities is severely limited by the person's physical or mental condition. The enhanced rate will be set at £79.15

Mobility Component - There are two rates

- Standard Rate for those whose ability to carry out mobility activities is limited by the person's physical or mental condition. The standard rate will be set at £21.00
- Enhanced Rate for those whose ability to carry out mobility activities is severely limited by the person's physical or mental condition. the enhanced rate will be set at £55.25

Timetable of events

- **February - March 2013** - The Department for Work and Pensions will send general information about PIP to all existing Disability Living Allowance claimants advertising the change.
- **April 2013** - New claims for PIP will be taken in certain areas in the north West and north East of England.
- **June 2013** - New claims for PIP will be taken for the rest of Great Britain
- **October 2013** - All current claimants in receipt of Disability Living Allowance that have a change in circumstances will be reassessed under PIP. All Disability Living Allowance claimants that are coming to the end of a fixed term award and those reaching 16 will be contacted and advised about claiming PIP.
- **October 2013-2015** - All remaining Disability Living allowance claimants will be invited to claim PIP. Disability Living allowance will remain in payment until a decision on PIP has been made.

Further information

The Department for Work and Pensions has further information on PIP and how it will affect you which can be found on line at www.gov.co.uk under PIP.

Last updated: March 2013