

Help to complete DLA forms

Factsheet 403 – 01 July 2008 (2 pages)

Disability Living Allowance - Who is it for?

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is a benefit you can get if you need help getting around and/or looking after yourself because you are ill, disabled or terminally ill. You can also claim Disability Living Allowance for an ill or disabled child. DLA is for people under 65 but if you have claimed DLA before you are 65 it will continue when you are over 65. You may also be eligible if you need someone to keep an eye on you, for example, because you have a mental health condition or sensory impairment.

To qualify, you need to have had difficulty walking or looking after yourself for at least three months. These difficulties should be expected to last for at least the next six months. Disability Living Allowance can be awarded for a set period of time (at least six months), or indefinitely.

For forms please contact:

- DLA Helpline on 08457 12 34 56 Textphone 08457 22 44 33. They will act as a 'pen' if you are unable to complete the forms yourself.
- Your local Jobcentreplus www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk/JCP/Customers/WorkingAgeBenefits
- Disability Information Service (DIS) on 0845 1551 005
- Benefits Enquiry Line 0800 88 2200

DIS can send you the following guides to help you complete the DLA form

Guide to making a DLA Claim

Guide to DLA for children under 16 and adults with brain injury related conditions

Child -mental grounds

Adult – mental grounds

Child – Physical grounds

Adult – Physical grounds

How to appeal

Renewal claims

How far can you walk?

If you need help completing the DLA forms the following organisations can help:

DIAL nationwide

An organisation run by people with disabilities who have experience of completing DLA forms.

Telephone 01302 310123

Fax 01302 310404

Text phone 01302 310123 please use voice announcer

The Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

See www.citizensadvice.org.uk/ or look in your local Phone Book to find your local bureau.

If you are over 60 (or younger in some cases) and disabled Age Concern can visit you to help complete the forms.

Age Concern

See www.ageconcern.org.uk/AgeConcern/local.asp or Tel: 020 8765 7200

Help the Aged

See www.helptheaged.org.uk/en-gb/AdviceSupport/FinancialAdvice/HelpClaimingBenefits/ or

Tel: 020 7278 1114

Free advice: **Senior Line**

See www.helptheaged.org.uk/en-gb/AdviceSupport/FrequentlyAskedQuestions/AskAnAdvisor or

Tel: 0808 800 6565 (Textphone-Minicom 0800 26 96 26)

There are also organisations which offer advice to people with specific disabilities for example Action for Blind People can help people who have any sight impairment please contact DIS if you would like further information.

For other advocacy groups who may be able to help you to complete the forms, please contact the Disability Information Service 0845 1551 005

If you have any further questions please contact Disability Information Service **0845 1551 005**

Further factsheets can be found online at www.devon.gov.uk/factsheets

A large print version of this factsheet is available on www.devon.gov.uk/largeprint-factsheets but if you would like it in a different format such as Braille or tape, or in a different language, please contact our Customer Service Centre on 0845 155 1015 or email customer@devon.gov.uk.