



Social Security
Scotland

Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

Adult Disability Payment for people who are terminally ill

Adult Disability Payment will provide someone with financial support if they have been diagnosed with a terminal illness.

It is available to people aged between 16 and state pension age. They can apply no matter how long ago they were diagnosed and no matter their life expectancy.

How to apply

All we need is:

- a shortened Adult Disability Payment application form that asks only for basic information
- confirmation of the terminal illness diagnosis from a registered doctor or nurse involved in the care or diagnosis of the terminally ill person

The form the doctor or nurse should complete and return to us is the Benefits Assessment under Special Rules in Scotland (BASRiS) form. The BASRiS is used by doctors and nurses to confirm someone is terminally ill, allowing us to fast-track their application.

The terminally ill person can request the form from them, or they can ask us to request it on their behalf. If their doctor or nurse has already completed a DS1500 or SR1 form, we will accept that.

When we receive an application

If they are eligible under the special rules:

- they will automatically get the highest award for daily living and mobility
- the award will be ongoing without needing a review, unless there is a change of circumstances
- the award will be calculated from the date we receive their application or the date the BASRiS form says they were diagnosed, whichever is earliest. The award can be backdated to the date of diagnosis of terminal illness, up to a maximum of 26 weeks before the date of application.

Payments are made weekly in advance.

How long will this take?

An application will be fast-tracked and dealt with by our specially-trained staff. We will send a letter with our decision.

Getting a second opinion on a diagnosis

Someone can seek a second opinion if they think they need it. Find out more about the Charter of Patients' Rights and Responsibilities by going to gov.scot/patientcharter.

Can someone apply for any related benefits?

They may also qualify for related benefits, services and premiums. For more information, go to mygov.scot/benefits.

If someone receives a terminal illness diagnosis at a later date

If someone is already getting Adult Disability Payment and later receives a terminal illness diagnosis, they can contact Social Security Scotland free on 0800 182 2222. Our specialist advisors can help take them through the process at their own pace.'

How do they find out more and apply?

People can find out more and apply online at mygov.scot/benefits. People can also apply in person, over the phone or ask for a paper application form by post by calling us free on **0800 182 2222**.

Does someone need support from an advocate?

VoiceAbility independent advocacy service supports disabled people when applying for Social Security Scotland benefits. Contact VoiceAbility for free on **0300 303 1660** or by visiting www.voiceability.org.

How can people contact us?



Call us free on: 0800 182 2222



Text Relay Service: 18001 +0300 244 4000 (for the hard of hearing)



British Sign Language users: contactscotland-bsl.org



Webchat: chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot

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