

Carer Support Payment



**Financial support
for unpaid carers**
mygov.scot/CarerSupport



**Social Security
Scotland**

Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

If you look after someone who is disabled or has a long-term health condition you might be entitled to Carer Support Payment.

In Scotland, Carer Support Payment has replaced Carer's Allowance from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

To be eligible, you must provide 35 or more hours of care a week to someone who gets certain disability benefits.

There are many ways people can provide care including:

- helping someone with washing and dressing
- managing household bills
- taking the cared for person to appointments
- providing emotional support

Who can apply?

To be eligible, you need to:

- be 16 or over
- provide 35 hours or more of care a week to someone of any age who is getting certain disability benefits
- earn £151 per week or less on average after some deductions
- live in an area where the benefit is available

How much is Carer Support Payment and when will it be paid?

Carer Support Payment is paid at the same rate as Carer's Allowance. Currently this is £81.90 per week or £327.60 every four weeks.

Can I get Carer Support Payment if I'm a student?

Carers aged 16 or over can get Carer Support Payment if they're studying part-time. People aged 20 or over who are studying full-time can also apply. Carers aged 16 to 19 studying full-time may be eligible depending on the type of course they are studying and their circumstances.

Can I get Carer Support Payment if I receive other benefits?

Yes, though if you get means-tested benefits such as Universal Credit, Carer Support Payment may affect the amount you receive. You'll usually be better off overall because you can get extra amounts in these benefits for being a carer.


If you get 'income replacement' benefits such as State Pension, this may affect the amount of Carer Support Payment you receive.

If your benefit is worth the same or more than Carer Support Payment, you may have 'underlying entitlement'. This means you will not receive any money in Carer Support Payment, but might be able to get additional benefits or top ups to existing benefits.

Will Carer Support Payment affect the benefits of the person I care for?

The disability benefits of the person being cared for (including Child Disability Payment, Adult Disability Payment, Pension Age Disability Payment, Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) should not be affected because their carer gets Carer Support Payment.

If the person being cared for gets a Severe Disability Premium – an extra amount included in some means-tested benefits – this may stop if the carer gets Carer Support Payment. This is because a Severe Disability Premium helps to cover the cost of care. The rules for Severe Disability Premium can be complex, and changes to Severe Disability Premium may impact other benefits, so we recommend seeking further advice.



How do I apply?

We worked with carers and people with experience of applying for benefits to make the application process as simple as possible. You can complete the application online in stages, saving it as you go.

Find out more and apply online at **mygov.scot/carersupport**

You can also apply over the phone or ask for a paper application form by calling us free on **0800 182 2222**.

Help to apply is available from our specially trained client advisers in every local authority in Scotland. Book an appointment at a location and time that suits you by calling us on **0800 182 2222**.

Other support for carers

For more information on help for carers, go to **mygov.scot/help-for-carers**

How to 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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