



Social Security
Scotland

Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba



Looking after someone who receives disability benefits?

Check if you're entitled
to financial help

mygov.scot/CarerSupport



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 is replacing 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

Carer Support Payment is being piloted now in Dundee City, Perth & Kinross and the Western Isles. It will be available in more areas from Spring 2024.

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.

What if I already receive Carer's Allowance?

If you live in Scotland and get Carer's Allowance you do not need to apply for Carer Support Payment. Your award will be moved from Carer's Allowance to Carer Support Payment automatically. We'll let you know when this is happening.

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

All student carers aged 20 or over can apply for Carer Support Payment. Students aged 16-19 may be eligible depending on the type of course they are studying.

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 you care for should not be affected.

If the person you care for gets a Severe Disability Premium - an extra amount included in some means-tested benefits - they will usually stop getting this if you receive Carer Support Payment. They may also stop getting reduced Council Tax.

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

Find out about other support that may be available to you at mygov.scot/carer-support-payment/support-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



Scan to find out more and apply online.

Follow Social Security Scotland

