



Social Security Scotland
Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

Moving from Disability Living Allowance to Adult Disability Payment

If you live in Scotland and get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), your disability benefit will move to Social Security Scotland.

The process of moving DLA awards to Adult Disability Payment starts on 29 August 2022. We will start moving your DLA award from this date if you were born on or after 8 April 1948, and:

- have reported a change in your health condition to DWP
- receive a DLA award that is due to end or be renewed
- have requested to have your benefit moved.

If the above doesn't apply, your award will move at a later date still to be decided.

What will happen during the move?

DWP will keep paying you until we start to pay you.

After Social Security Scotland moves your benefit, we will pay you an interim Adult Disability Payment award. This will be the same amount as your DLA. There will be no gaps in payment.

We will not reassess or review your award during the move.

After the move, we will send you a form so we can review your award based on your current circumstances. Your award will be reviewed using the Adult Disability Payment eligibility rules. This may affect your payment, because DLA and Adult Disability Payment are different.

Who to contact if anything changes

If anything changes during the transfer, you must contact DWP as soon as possible by calling free on 0800 121 4600.

This is because DWP administers your award until the Adult Disability Payment award start date.

Differences between Disability Living Allowance and Adult Disability Payment

- the care component of DLA has three rates of payment (lowest, middle or highest) and the daily living component of Adult Disability Payment has two (standard or enhanced)
- Adult Disability Payment is assessed on different criteria to DLA.
- Adult Disability Payment considers your ability to carry out a specific set of activities and allocates points based on the help you might need to complete them
- Adult Disability Payment doesn't distinguish between your day or night time needs the way mobility is considered for Adult Disability Payment is different to DLA. For example, people who are "unable or virtually unable to walk" can get the highest rate of the mobility component. In Adult Disability Payment you can get the equivalent rate if you are unable to walk more than 20 metres.
- Adult Disability Payment considers how someone's disability affects them rather than making decisions on their diagnosis alone
- if someone is diagnosed with a terminal illness they are automatically entitled to both the daily living and mobility components of Adult Disability Payment at the enhanced rate
- the definition of a terminal illness for Adult Disability Payment is different to the definition for DLA. Adult Disability Payment is based on clinical judgement and does not include a fixed life expectancy.

Requesting a Disability Living Allowance award be moved to Adult Disability Payment

When your award is reviewed as a result of moving from DLA to Adult Disability Payment it could:

- stay the same
- be reduced
- be stopped
- be increased.

How and if your award changes will depend on your individual circumstances.

If you're thinking about asking to have your DLA moved to Adult Disability Payment, you should get independent advice by speaking to Citizens Advice Scotland on 0800 085 7145. An adviser will be able to talk to you about your circumstances and discuss what you should consider before asking to move to Adult Disability Payment.

What can Social Security Scotland help you with?

We can answer any questions you have about the transfer process and why this is happening.

You can find out more about the transfer process by going to mygov.scot/benefit-transfer

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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