



# Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance and terminal illness

**mygov.scot**



**Social Security  
Scotland**

Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

## Scottish Adult DLA and terminal illness

Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is replacing Disability Living Allowance for adults in Scotland.

If you are receiving DLA under special rules for terminal illness, your benefit will continue to be managed and paid by the Department for Work and Pensions until it is transferred to Social Security Scotland.

We will write to you when your benefit award transfer starts and again when it is completed. It should take 4 to 8 weeks.

You will not lose any money as a result of the transfer and there will not be any gaps in payments. We will take over any existing Motability agreements you have. We will not review your Scottish Adult DLA award unless your circumstances change.

## Diagnosed as terminally ill before or during the transfer

If you are diagnosed as terminally ill before or during the transfer, you or your representative should tell the Department for Work and Pensions as soon as possible. To confirm your diagnosis the DWP will need one of the following documents:

- Benefits Assessment under Special Rules in Scotland (BASRiS) form
- SR1 form
- DS1500 form
- a letter confirming they have a terminal illness

You can ask your doctor or health professional to send one of these documents to the DWP or you can send one yourself if you have it.

The next steps will depend on your age:

- If you were born on or after 9 April 1948 the DWP will automatically transfer your award to Social Security Scotland.
- If you were born on or before 8 April 1948 the DWP will review your benefit award under their special rules process. If eligible, your award will stay with the DWP until it is selected for transfer. If you are not eligible under DWP's special rules, your award will be transferred to Social Security Scotland.

### Special rules in Scotland

The Department for Work and Pensions requires someone to have a life expectancy of 12 months or less to be eligible under their special rules for terminal illness. This is not a requirement in Scotland. When we receive an award that has been transferred under special rules for terminal illness we review it under our own definition.

If we review your award and you are eligible under our special rules you will get highest possible award for the care part of Scottish Adult DLA. You will be paid from the date you became eligible, normally the date you were diagnosed as terminally ill.

If you were under state pension age when diagnosed as terminally ill you will also get the higher rate of the mobility part of the benefit.

For more information visit **[mygov.scot/moving-to-scottish-adult-dla/terminal-illness](https://mygov.scot/moving-to-scottish-adult-dla/terminal-illness)** or call Social Security Scotland on **0800 182 2222**.

Social Security Scotland is an executive agency of the Scottish Government. We help people in Scotland by delivering social security payments.

Social security is a human right and our service is based on treating people with dignity, fairness and respect.

We now deliver benefits for a wide range of people, including disabled people, carers, young people, older people and families.

For the latest information on the benefits we deliver visit **[mygov.scot/benefits](https://mygov.scot/benefits)**

### How to contact us?



Call us free on: 0800 182 2222



Text Relay Service: 18001 +0300 244 4000



British Sign Language users: [contactscotland-bsl.org](https://contactscotland-bsl.org)



Webchat: [chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot](https://chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot)



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