



Living permanently in a care home – Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance

- Social security benefits need to be claimed from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) in good time to ensure that you receive your full entitlement.
- You are advised to contact each part of the DWP that deals with each individual social security benefit you receive to inform them that you have moved into a care home. The DWP will then decide whether you are entitled to further payments of each benefit and if so how much?
- Attendance Allowance (for those over Pension Age when they first claim) and Personal Independence Payment (for people between 18 and Pension Age when they first claim) are not means-tested and can be claimed, regardless of other income or savings. These benefits are for people who need assistance and/or supervision with their personal care. Personal Independence Payment (but not Attendance Allowance) can also be paid to people who have problems with their mobility.
- Please note, you must have needed care or supervision for six months before Attendance Allowance can be paid. For Personal Independence Payment you must have needed assistance for three months before it can be paid and the needs must be likely to last for at least a further nine months.
- In order to claim you should telephone the Attendance Allowance enquiry line on 0800 731 0122 or the Personal Independence Payment Helpline on 0800 917 2222.
- You may have an existing on-going award of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) rather than Attendance Allowance or Personal Independence Payment. If you need to contact the DWP about DLA and you were born on or after 8 April 1948 Telephone 0800 121 4600. If you were born before 8 April 1948 Telephone 0800 731 0122.

Adult Social Care



- Payment of Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance should stop after you have been in hospital for four weeks. You will need to let the DWP know that you are in hospital.
- If the council is helping with the cost of you living in a care home, Attendance Allowance, the Daily Living Component of Personal Independence Payment and the Care Component of Disability Living Allowance should also stop after you have been in permanent care for four weeks, or possibly earlier if you have had recent stays in hospital. You will need to let the DWP know that you are in a care home.
- The Mobility Component of either Personal Independence Payment or Disability Living Allowance can still be paid to you when you are living in a care home. If your mobility component was stopped because you were in hospital you will need to let the DWP know that you have moved to a care home.
- If you will be paying the full cost of your care home place, without support from the council or you have a Deferred Payment Agreement with the council, you can continue to be paid Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance. If payment was stopped because you were in hospital or you had help with the costs from the council for the first 12 weeks of your stay in a care home you will need to ask the DWP to put your benefit back into payment.
- If you are already receiving Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment Daily Living Component or Disability Living Allowance Care Component at the lower/standard rate you may feel that you now qualify for the higher/enhanced rate because you have more needs for assistance/supervision. If this is the case, you should seek advice about this.
- If you leave your care home for example to stay with family or friends for a short while, you may be entitled to be paid some of your Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment Daily Living Component or Disability Living Allowance Care Component Absences. You will need to let the DWP know the dates you were away from the care home.