

Disability and Carers Service

Department for
Work and Pensions

Disability Living Allowance (Adult), Carer's Allowance and Carer's Credit

Please read this then pass it to your carer if you have one.

This leaflet is in two parts:

- Part one – for you and
- Part two – for your carer, if you have one. It gives information about Carer's Allowance and Carer's Credit.

Part one – for you

Your benefit could be affected if someone claims Carer's Allowance for looking after you.

If your claim for Disability Living Allowance is successful, you may get an extra amount for severe disability with an income-related benefit or Pension Credit.

If someone is paid Carer's Allowance for looking after you, you may not be able to get this extra amount. Contact the office dealing with your benefits for more information. **Your Disability Living Allowance will not be affected.**

Part two – for your carer

Carer's Allowance

If you are caring for someone, for 35 hours or more each week, who is going to claim Disability Living Allowance, you may want to claim Carer's Allowance. Do not claim Carer's Allowance until the person you care for is awarded Disability Living Allowance at the middle or highest rate for care, but you must claim Carer's Allowance within three months of the Disability Living Allowance decision being made or you could lose benefit.

Carer's Allowance and other benefits

Some benefits, allowances or pensions can affect how much Carer's Allowance we can pay. This means that if you get another benefit, we may not pay Carer's Allowance at all, or pay it at a reduced rate. But you may still be entitled to Carer's Allowance even if we cannot pay it, and being entitled means that you may get an extra amount paid with income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit.

How to claim Carer's Allowance or find out more information

- Visit our website at **www.direct.gov.uk/carers**
- Call the Benefit Enquiry Line from 8.30am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday, or 9am to 1pm on Saturday
Telephone **0800 88 22 00**.
Textphone **0800 24 33 55**.
- Write to Carer's Allowance Unit, Palatine House,
Lancaster Road, Preston, PR1 1HB.
- email **cau.customer-services@dwp.gsi.gov.uk**

Carer's Credit

If you cannot get Carer's Allowance and look after one or more disabled people for a total of 20 hours or more a week, you may want to apply for Carer's Credit. This is a National Insurance Credit for carers of working age that can protect your future entitlement to the basic element of the State Pension and bereavement benefits. The credit may also help you build up some additional pension, sometimes called State Second Pension.

Any additional pension you are entitled to will be paid with your basic State Pension when you claim it.

You do not need to apply for Carer's Credit if you get Child Benefit for a child under age 12 or get Carer's Allowance as you will already get National Insurance credits.

You can find out more about Carer's Credit and how to apply by visiting **www.direct.gov.uk/carers** or by phoning **0845 608 4321** or by Textphone **0845 604 5312**.

We can send you this leaflet in other formats, such as large print.

Other conditions of entitlement may apply. This is not intended to be a complete statement of law and you should not rely on it as such.