

Disability Living Allowance and Carer's Allowance

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, and gives information about Carer's Allowance.

Part one – For you

Your benefit could be affected if someone claims Carer's Allowance for providing you with care.

If your claim for Disability Living Allowance is successful, you may get an extra amount paid as part of:

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Support
- Pension Credit
- Housing Benefit, or
- Council Tax Benefit

The extra amount is called **severe disability premium** or, in Pension Credit, **additional amount for severe disability**.

If someone is paid Carer's Allowance for providing you with care, you may not be able to receive the extra amount. You can find out more about this from the office dealing with these benefits. **However, Carer's Allowance will not affect your Disability Living Allowance.**

Part two – For your carer

If you are caring for someone who intends to claim Disability Living Allowance (DLA), you may wish to claim Carer's Allowance (CA). You may be entitled to CA if we award the care component of DLA at the middle or highest rate. You should wait until the person you are caring for gets a decision on their claim for DLA. If we award DLA you should claim CA. **You should claim within three months of the DLA decision being made or you could lose benefit. Ask for the claim pack – DS700 (or DS700SP if you get State Pension).**

Carer's Allowance and other Social Security benefits

Payment of some benefits, allowances or pensions affects payment of CA. This means that if you are receiving another benefit, we may not pay CA at all or pay it at a reduced rate. However, you may still be entitled to CA even if we cannot pay it, and being entitled means you may get an extra amount paid with income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit.

How to get help and advice and claim Carer's Allowance

- You can get information from the website at www.direct.gov.uk/carers. You can also claim online at this address.
- Write to Carer's Allowance Unit, Palatine House, Lancaster Road, Preston PR1 1HB or phone 0845 6084321 (textphone 0845 6045312 for the hard of hearing) or email cau.customer-services@dwp.gsi.gov.uk
- Ring the Benefit Enquiry Line on 0800 88 22 00. This is a confidential line for people with disabilities, their representatives and carers.
- Your local Jobcentre Plus office and many local advice centres such as Citizens Advice can provide claim forms and help you complete them.

The claim pack and the website explain Carer's Allowance in more detail. We can also provide claim forms in large print or braille.

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