

# DLA is ending – know the facts

**DLA is ending for most people. Making sure you get the right information is very important to us so here are some of the key facts to help you understand the changes to Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and the benefit called Personal Independence Payment (PIP).**

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is ending **for people who were born after 8 April 1948 and are 16 or over**. This will happen even if you have an indefinite or long-term award. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will send you a letter to invite you to apply for a new benefit called Personal Independence Payment (PIP). The letter will tell you what to do next and by when. Your DLA will end if you don't claim PIP in time.

**You will not be affected by this change and will continue to receive DLA if:**

- you were born on or before 8 April 1948; or
- you are under the age of 16.

## **PIP is different from DLA**

PIP is intended to help with some of the extra costs caused by long-term health conditions and disabilities. PIP is made up of 2 components (parts):

- daily living – for help participating in everyday life;
- mobility – for help with getting around.

You can be paid either the daily living part or the mobility part on its own, or both at the same time. Each part is paid at two different levels: a 'standard rate' and an 'enhanced rate'.

The rate you are paid depends on whether your ability to carry out daily living or mobility activities is 'limited' or 'severely limited'. Find out more about PIP at

[www.gov.uk/pip/eligibility](http://www.gov.uk/pip/eligibility)



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## What will happen?



The letter from the DWP will tell you what to do next and by when. You will need to telephone us if you want to claim PIP. We also want you to telephone us if you don't want to claim PIP. The letter will tell you the numbers to contact.

If you decide to claim PIP, we will send you a 'How your disability affects you' form. A health professional will look at your application and any other evidence you send to help DWP work out the level of help you need. Most people will be asked to attend a face-to-face consultation.

## What is a face-to-face consultation?



A face-to-face consultation is a meeting with a health professional in an assessment centre or possibly in your home. It will last around an hour. The health professional will ask questions about your ability to carry out activities and for more information about how your condition affects your daily life.

## Do I need to claim PIP right now?

If you were aged 16 to 64 on 8 April 2013 and you're getting DLA, we will write to you inviting you to make a claim for PIP.

You don't need to contact us until we write to you unless there is a change in how your condition or disability affects you. For these changes you should contact the

DLA Helpline. Contact details can be found at [www.gov.uk/disability-benefits-helpline](http://www.gov.uk/disability-benefits-helpline)

## Will I get PIP automatically?

There is no automatic transfer from DLA to PIP. Because PIP and DLA are different benefits, with different assessment criteria, you won't get PIP automatically just because you qualify for DLA. When we write to you, you will need to contact DWP to let them know if you decide to make a claim for PIP or not. If you don't claim in the time available, your DLA payments will stop.

## I've got an indefinite or lifetime award of DLA so will I stay on DLA?

You won't stay on DLA and you won't get PIP automatically just because you have been awarded DLA on an indefinite basis. This is because DLA is ending and PIP is a different benefit, assessed in a different way. DWP will send you a letter and invite you to apply for PIP. If you decide not to apply for PIP, or don't apply for PIP in time, then your DLA payments will stop.

## If I am not awarded PIP, will my DLA payments stop immediately?

If you are not awarded PIP, your DLA will stop being paid 28 days after your next payday following the decision on your PIP claim.



### **If I don't do anything when I receive my letter, will my DLA payments stop immediately?**

You will have 28 days to make a claim to PIP when you are invited to claim. If you don't contact us, after 4 weeks your DLA could be suspended and you may not be paid. If we still have no contact with you, after another 4 weeks your claim could be closed.

### **If I decide not to claim PIP, when will my DLA payments stop?**

If you contact us to tell us you do not want to claim PIP your DLA payments will be stopped 14 days after your next payday.

### **I'm over 65 - do I have to claim PIP?**

If you were born on or before 8 April 1948 you won't be affected by this change and you will continue to get DLA if you are already receiving it, as long as you continue to meet the DLA entitlement conditions. You're not entitled to claim PIP so you won't get a letter from DWP inviting you to apply for it.

### **My child is under 16 - will their DLA stop?**

No. Children under 16 will continue to get DLA. However, when your child turns 16, they will be invited to make a new claim for PIP on or shortly after they have turned 16. The DWP will contact you as your child approaches their 16th birthday to give you notice of this. No action needs to be taken until the invitation to claim PIP is received. If your child decides to make a claim for PIP, they will continue to receive DLA until a decision on the PIP award has been made.

### **Will my money change?**

The rates for PIP are different from DLA. What money you get will depend on how your condition affects you. You could get more than, the same as or less than your DLA, or you may not be entitled to PIP at all.

If you are awarded PIP, we will review your award regularly. You can see the current PIP rates here [www.gov.uk/pip/what-youll-get](http://www.gov.uk/pip/what-youll-get)

### **Will I lose my Motability vehicle?**

If you claim DLA and go on to claim PIP and qualify for the Enhanced Rate of the Mobility Component of PIP you will be eligible to use the Motability Scheme.

If you choose not to claim PIP, or don't qualify for the Enhanced Rate of the Mobility Component of PIP, you will not be able to lease a vehicle from the Scheme. Motability will get in touch with you to advise what support they can give you. You can find out more information on [www.motability.co.uk](http://www.motability.co.uk)



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