

Introduction to PIP

PIP (Personal Independence Payments) are there to help with some of the extra costs that may incur when a person has a long term illness or disability. PIP is not means tested and is for both people who are employed and unemployed; it is paid every 4 weeks unless you are terminally ill. The amount a person is entitled to depends on how their condition affects them and is not based on the actual condition itself. A health professional will assess the level of help a person can receive. Payments are regularly reviewed to ensure a person is getting the right type of support. PIP replaces DLA at age 16.

To be entitled to PIP a person's condition or disability must mean

- they have difficulties with daily living or getting around (or both) and these difficulties are expected to continue for at least 12 months (unless terminally ill with less than 6 months to live)
- they have been a resident in the UK for at least 2 of the last years.

PIP is made up of 2 parts; daily living and mobility.

To be entitled to the daily living component of PIP a person must need support more than half of the time with things such as:

- prepping/eating food
- hygiene routines/self-care e.g. washing and using the toilet
- managing medicines/treatments

To be entitled to the mobility component of PIP a person must need support with things such as:

- going out
- moving around
- making or planning journey
- following routes when out



The weekly rate for the daily living component is either £73.90 or £110.40 depending on the person's disability/illness and the impact this has on them. The weekly mobility rate is either £29.20 or £77.05 again depending on a person's disability/illness and the impact this has on them.

A person who is in receipt of PIP may also be eligible for:

- travel support and council tax discount
- if a person is working and receiving PIP they may be entitled to the disability element of working tax credit and a top up on some benefits such as housing benefit or jobseeker's allowance

Applications for PIP are to be made to DWP (Department for Work and Pensions). If awarded, a person will receive a decision letter which will state how long their PIP has been awarded for, this is usually a fixed period of time.

Further Reading:

To find out how to claim and about the claims process visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/pip/how-to-claim>

Information correct at time of writing June 2025

