## Disability Living Allowance for Children

## **Course Handout**



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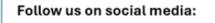
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#### **DLA for Children**

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#### DLA for Children – What is it?

- Any ill or disabled child may qualify, and you don't have to wait for a diagnosis to make a claim.
- Non-means tested benefit.
- DLA can sometimes lead to an increase in other benefits, or help families qualify for them if they don't already get them.



#### May help with the extra costs of looking after a child who:

- Is under 16.
- Has difficulties walking or needs much more looking after than a child of the same age who does not have a disability or condition.
- Needs help with the extra costs of bringing up a child with a disability.

#### **DLA For Children: Eligibility**

- Under 16 anyone over 16 must apply for Personal Independence Payment (PIP);
- Need extra looking after or have walking or mobility difficulties;
- Located in Great Britain, a European Economic Area (EEA) country or Switzerland when you claim there are some exceptions, such as family members of the forces;
- Have lived in Great Britain for 2 of the last 3 years, if over 3 years old;
- Habitually resident in the UK, Ireland, Isle of Man or the Channel Islands;
- Not subject to immigration control;
- Additional rulings on eligibility for refugee status.

### The child's disability or health condition must mean at least one of the following apply:

- They need much more looking after than a child of the same age who does not have a disability
- They have difficulty getting about
- Your child must have been disabled or had the condition for at least 3 months, and you must expect it to last for 6 more.

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#### DLA For Children: Rates 2025 - 2026

Care Component	How much (weekly)?
Higher Rate	£110.40
Middle Rate	£73.90
Lower Rate	£29.20
Mobility Component	How much (weekly)?
Higher Rate	£77.05
Lower Rate	£29.20

#### Completing the form:

- Keep a diary of your child's care needs can help you answer the questions.
- You should try to fill in the form over a few sessions rather than doing it all at once.
- Get support from a welfare benefits adviser.
- Don't just use the tick boxes on the form; give as much information as you can and give examples.
- Focus on the care they need because of their disability rather than the care they need because of their age.
- You can completely omit a question if preferred (e.g., do not tick yes or no) particularly with the 'hobbies and interests' question.
- It is very easy to contradict other areas outlined on the form- For example, if a parent has said that their child cannot walk, but then later discuss the help he needs to get onto his trampoline.

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#### **Notes:**

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