

Will I qualify for Disability Living Allowance? Eligibility Criteria for Disability Benefits

This benefit is **not** means-tested and is for children under 16. You qualify for it on your need for care or for help with mobility due to an illness or disability.

You have to have been resident and present in Great Britain for 104 weeks out of the last 156 weeks (2 out of the last 3 years) and be currently present in Great Britain in order to make a claim.

Care Component

For the care component the child needs to have significantly higher needs for care, supervision or watching over than another child of the same age, by reason of illness or disability. The care is described as “attention in connection with bodily functions” or “supervision in order to avoid substantial danger”. The DLA award will be based on needs arising from the disability rather than the usual care that children get.

Mobility Component

To qualify for the low rate of mobility the child must be 5 or over. The child must need substantially more guidance or supervision from another person than other children of their age.

To qualify for the high rate of mobility the child must be 3 or over. Children will qualify if they:

- Are unable to walk
- Are virtually unable to walk
- The exertion required to walk would be a danger to life or lead to a serious deterioration in health
- Have no legs or feet
- Have a severe visual impairment
- Are both deaf and blind
- Are entitled to the high rate care component and are severely mentally impaired and have extremely disruptive and dangerous behaviour

The need has to have existed for three months and be likely to continue for at least 6 more months.

To order forms for Disability Living Allowance: 03457 123456

Or download or claim online at

<https://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children>

N.B. There are still many adults receiving DLA. If they were over 65 on 8 April 2013 then they will stay on it. If not they will gradually be moved over to PIP either at a review or request for change of circumstances, or eventually by being requested to apply for PIP.