

Benefits and Financial Support (ENGLAND ONLY)

HH can present varying types of disability on which can impact on financial resources of a family if caring for a child or just on be on your own. There are different sources of financial support available to be claimed on which you may be entitled. For more information please go to: <https://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/disability>

- **Carers Credit** – you can get this credit if you are over 16 year of age and if you are looking after someone for 20 hours a week.
- **Carers Allowance** – you can get this allowance if you looking after someone with substantial caring needs. You don't have to be related to, or live with, the person you care for. You must be 16 or over and spend at least 35 hours a week caring for them. Carer's Allowance is taxable and it can affect your claim for other benefits and the financial support received by the person you are caring.

How to claim: <https://www.gov.uk/carers-allowance/how-to-claim>

- **Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for children** - help with the extra costs of looking after a child who is under 16 years and has difficulties walking or have more needs than the child of the same age. When claiming this allowance, try to give more information about the child's condition and its effects on his/her quality of life and the normality of daily living.

With HH, the significant barrier to normal functioning is epilepsy, challenging behaviour and learning disability. We can categorise these to; effects of epilepsy, effects of challenging behaviour and effects of learning disability. We can explain that these barriers defines our children's degree of need through their; cognition and learning (recognition, comprehension and ability to digest information), communication (can he/she express himself/herself, understand commands), orientation/consciousness (seizures affects consciousness), ability to understand danger and their physical ability. Their level of abilities can be of moderation or severe. These conclusions you have can be supported by your child's neurologist, social worker, GP etc. when claiming DLA.

How to claim:

Disability Living Allowance

Telephone: 0345 712 3456

Textphone: 0345 722 4433

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

- **Personal Independent Payment (PIP)** - helps with some of the extra costs caused by long-term ill-health or a disability if you're aged 16 to 64. The rate depends on how your condition affects you, not the condition itself. You'll need an assessment to work out the level of help you get. Your rate will be regularly reassessed to make sure you're getting the right support.

To get this allowance, you must have a long-term health condition or disability and have difficulties with activities related to 'daily living' and or mobility. You must have had these difficulties for 3 months and expect them to last for at least 9 months.

You may get the daily living component of PIP if you need help with things like:

- preparing or eating food
- washing, bathing and using the toilet
- dressing and undressing
- reading and communicating
- managing your medicines or treatments
- making decisions about money
- engaging with other people
- Mobility difficulties – you may get the mobility component of PIP if you need help moving around.

How to claim:

DWP - Personal Independence Payment claims

Telephone: 0800 917 2222

Textphone: 0800 917 7777

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

Please be ready to provide this information when you call.

- Contact details and your date of birth
- National Insurance number
- Your doctor or health worker's name
- Dates and details of any length of time you spent outside UK, care homes or hospitals
- your bank or building society account number

- **Employment Support Allowance** - You may get Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) if your illness or disability affects your ability to work and you're:
 - under State Pension age
 - not getting Statutory Sick Pay or Statutory Maternity Pay and you haven't gone back to work
 - not getting Jobseeker's Allowance

You can apply for ESA if you're employed, self-employed, unemployed or a student on Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment.

How to Claim:

Contact centre numbers

Telephone: 0800 055 6688

Textphone: 0800 023 4888

Welsh language telephone: 0800 012 1888

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm;

Universal Credit – if you are in low income or out of work you might be able to claim this credit. However, this is being introduced in stages so you might live in a place where you it's not yet active and is dependent on your own personal circumstances might live in area.

Please check if you are eligible to claim;

<https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit/overview>

Disability Premiums (Income Support) - to qualify for a disability premium with Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), you or your partner must be under pension credit age and either registered blind or getting; Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Personal Independence Payment (PIP), Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP), Working Tax Credit with a disability element, Attendance Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance, War Pensioners Mobility Supplement, Severe Disablement Allowance, Incapacity Benefit. An extra amount is added into your income support or income-based job seekers allowance.

How to claim: You don't have to claim disability premium, it's automatically added to your Income Support if you're eligible.

HHUGS-UK