

Child Disability Payment - CDP (2025-26)

CDP is a tax-free payment for extra costs disabled children under 16 might have for their care, to get around, or both. CDP has replaced Disability Living Allowance for children and young people living in Scotland.



What does CDP involve?

Children must be mainly resident in Scotland and have spent 26 of the last 52 weeks in the UK or Ireland. If they're under six months, it must be 13 weeks of the last 26 weeks.

There is no residency period required for terminally ill children.

If a young person is receiving CDP before they are 16, they can continue to receive it until they are 18.

Child Disability Payment includes two components – care and mobility. They have different criteria and rates. Children may qualify for one or both.

How does a child qualify for the Care Component?

They will be at least 3 months old and have needed extra care or supervision due to their disability or health condition for at least 13 weeks, and will likely need this for at least 26 further weeks. (The minimum age and period of need does not apply if the child is terminally ill.)

The care or supervision must be more than, or in a different form from, what a child of their age would ordinarily require. The rate depends on level of need.

Lowest Rate. £29.20 per week. For some help during the day.

Middle Rate. £73.90 per week. For frequent help or constant supervision during the day, repeated help or supervision at night, or help while on dialysis.

Highest Rate. £110.40 per week. For help or supervision both day and night, or if they are terminally ill. (They will also get Child Winter Heating Payment.)



Midlothian Financial Inclusion Network

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How does a child qualify for the Mobility Component?

At the Lower Rate. £29.20 per week.

They must be 5 or over, and because of mental or physical difficulties, cannot get around outside on an unfamiliar route without supervision or guidance most of the time – at a higher level than usual for a child of their age.

At the Higher Rate. £77.05 per week.

They are over 3 years old and one of the following applies:

- They are unable, or virtually unable to walk outdoors, the exertion needed to walk could be a danger to their life or cause deterioration to their condition, or they have no legs or feet.
- They have a severe visual impairment, or are both blind and deaf.
- They are terminally ill.
- They qualify for highest rate of the Care Component and have a severe mental impairment and severe behavioural difficulties.

What information do I need for the application?

- ✓ The child's date of birth, address, and reference number, your National Insurance Number and bank/building societies for payment of CDP.
- ✓ Details of your disability or condition, medical tests and results, Contact details of your GP and carers, family, etc. who can talk about your condition.
- ✓ Supporting documents confirming your disability, condition or needs, eg. letter from your GP or other health professional, prescriptions, care plans.

How do I claim Child Disability Payment?

- Ring Social Security Scotland free on 0800 182 2222, 8am – 6pm, Mon-Fri to start the application. They will send you a form to finish and post back.
- Apply online at <https://tinyurl.com/Child-Disability-Apply> or scan this QR code. You will need to register or log into your “my account” to complete the online application.

