# Claim your Rights Now!

Important Update on changes to disability benefits

The benefits system is changing. We can help you get all the money you are entitled to - contact us now on 0800 432 0422!

# **GDA Rights Now!**

Our Welfare Rights Officers can help make sure you get everything you are entitled to! Get support on the phone, video meeting and email.

#### **Contact GDA Rights Now for help to:**

Apply for Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

Challenge DWP decisions you are not happy with.

Get as much money as you are entitled to.

**Claim** your Rights Now!

Call: 0800 432 0422 or Email: RightsNow@gdaonline.co.uk

See inside for some important information about Personal Independence Payment (PIP) >>>>



Thanks so much for

I would have really struggled without

your help and advice.

So happy I got my PIP

everything.

awarded.



### **Personal Independence Payment**

#### You can get PIP even if you do not have someone to help you.

PIP is for you. It is not for your parent or carer.

#### **PIP replaces Disability Living Allowance** and is a benefit for:

- people aged 16 to 64, who
- have a disability or a long-term health condition and
- have difficulties with mobility or carrying out daily tasks.

# About the help you may need or the difficulties you may have.

You may be able to get PIP even if you can do tasks some of the time or if you need an aid or appliance to do them. Thank you so much for speaking to me today about my PIP mandatory reconsideration and possible future tribunal, it is a great relief to know you are there if I need you.

Different people may struggle for different reasons.

For example someone may be able to wash or go to the toilet but need a rail to hold on to due to a mobility issue.

Someone else may need to be prompted to carry out a task due to depression.

Someone may be able to cook, but require a perching stool as an aid. Someone else may be forgetful and require supervision while cooking.

For mobility, the distance you can walk will be looked at, along with difficulties finding your way around due to physical difficulties, mental impairment or learning difficulties.

Our Rights Now advisers will give you more information and advice on whether you should apply. Our Rights Now advisers can help you understand and complete the PIP application form. An award of PIP may mean that some of the other benefits you receive are increased.

## **PIP** is not based on the condition that you have or the medication that you take. It is based on:

- The level of help that you need because of how your condition affects you even if you do not get the help you need.
- Your ability to carry out such tasks **safely, repeatedly,** to an **acceptable standard** or within a **reasonable time**.

If your disability or health condition means you find it difficult to do some or all of these tasks, or if you need help with any of these activities, you may be able to get PIP - **contact Rights Now for advice!** 



Preparing or cooking food. Eating and drinking.



Reading and understanding written information.



Managing treatments, taking medication, etc.



Mixing with others.



Washing and bathing. Dressing and undressing.



Making decisions about money.



Managing toilet needs or incontinence.



Moving about inside or outside.



Communicating with other people.



Planning a journey or following a route.

## **PIP** is not "means tested" – this means any income or savings you have will not affect your claim for PIP.

- ✓ You can get PIP if you are in work or a student.
- Getting PIP will not affect your other benefits like ESA (Employment Support Allowance) or Universal Credit.
- You do not need to have worked or to have paid National Insurance contributions to get PIP.

### What will happen after you apply for PIP.

You will be contacted by a health care professional to be assessed. They may want to assess you on the phone or see you in person. The person who makes the decision will look at your form and the assessment from the health care professional. They will then make a decision about your claim.

If you are not successful, our Rights Now advisers can help you challenge the decision. They can also represent you if your case goes to a tribunal.

### If you are getting Disability Living Allowance (DLA) at the moment.

#### Some people are still getting DLA and have not been assessed for PIP.

Some people choose to wait until the DWP reassess them, others ask for this to be done sooner.

There are advantages and disadvantages to both, depending on your health condition.

We would strongly advise anyone on DLA to speak to one of our Rights Now advisers before asking DWP to reassess them for PIP.

#### If you are approaching state pension age.

You should apply for PIP **before** you reach the state pension age.

If you wait, you may only be able to apply for Attendance Allowance if you make a new claim as a pensioner. Attendance Allowance does not have a mobility element so you would miss out on this important payment.

The Rights Now team can also advise on child DLA for children and on Attendance **Allowance** for those who have reached pension age.

For more advice and information on PIP and to discuss your possible entitlement to this benefit, contact our Rights Now team on 0800 432 0422 or email: RightsNow@gdaonline.co.uk



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