

DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE (DLA)

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for children 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 doesn't have a disability

They will need to meet all the eligibility requirements.

Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance care component - weekly rate	Rates 2023 (£)
Highest	101.75
Middle	68.10
Lowest	26.90

Disability Living Allowance mobility component - weekly rate	Rates 2022 (£)
Higher	71
Lower	26.90

Eligibility

Usually, to qualify for Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for children the child must:

- be under 16
- need extra looking after or have walking difficulties
- be in Great Britain, another European Economic Area (EEA) country or Switzerland when you claim - there are some exceptions, such as family members of the Armed Forces
- have lived in Great Britain for 2 of the last 3 years, if over 3 years old
- be habitually resident in the UK, Ireland, Isle of Man or the Channel Islands
- not be subject to immigration control

The child's disability or health condition

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

- they need much more looking after than a child of the same age who doesn't have a disability
- they have difficulty getting about

They must have had these difficulties for at least 3 months and expect them to last for at least 6 months. If they're terminally ill (that is, not expected to live more than 6 months), they don't need to have had these difficulties for 3 months.

Care component

The rate the child gets depends on the level of looking after they need, for example:

- lowest rate - help for some of the day or night
- middle rate - frequent help or constant supervision during the day, supervision at night or someone to help while they're on dialysis
- highest rate - help or supervision throughout both day and night, or they're terminally ill

Mobility component

The rate the child gets depends on the level of help they need getting about, for example:

- lowest rate - they can walk but need help and or supervision when outdoors
- highest rate - they can't walk, can only walk a short distance without severe discomfort, could become very ill if they try to walk or they're blind, severely sight impaired

How to claim

Use the [DLA claim form](#) to apply for Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for children under 16.

The form tells you where to send your application.

You can order a printed form by telephoning the Disability Living Allowance helpline.

Disability Living Allowance Helpline

Telephone: 0800 121 4600

Textphone: 0800 121 4523

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

For further information regarding the above please contact:

Tracy Gilson (tgilson@columbusschoolandcollege.org) or access the [Gov.UK Disability Living Allowance website](#)