



Attendance Allowance

What is Attendance Allowance?

Attendance Allowance is a benefit for people over State Pension age who need help with personal care or supervision because of a health condition or disability.

Who Qualifies?

To apply for Attendance Allowance, you must have reached State Pension age and meet the following criteria:

- You to need help caring for yourself or someone to supervise you because of your disability or health condition
- You satisfy one of the disability tests for 6 months (there are special rules if someone is terminally ill)
- You are not subject to immigration control and are habitually resident

Entitlement is based on the help you need or may reasonably need, not the actual help you receive. It does not matter whether you live alone, with other people or have a carer.

How is it Assessed?

Attendance Allowance is awarded at lower rate or higher rate:

Higher	The higher rate of Attendance Allowance is awarded if you fulfil both the day and night conditions.
Lower	The lower rate of Attendance Allowance is awarded if you fulfil either the day or night conditions.



It is assessed based on your day-time needs and night-time needs:

Day-Time	You need either frequent attention throughout the day in relation to your bodily functions, or continual supervision to avoid harm to yourself or others. Continual doesn't mean non-stop, you can have breaks of around an hour.
Night-Time	You may need another person to be awake to 'watch over' you for prolonged periods (20 minutes or more) or at frequent intervals (usually at least 3 times a night), to avoid the risk of danger e.g. falls or wandering.

Day-Time Disability Conditions

To meet the day-time supervision condition, you must need someone around you continually. You meet the day-time conditions if you need physical or verbal help with the following 'bodily functions':

- Eating
- Washing and bathing
- Dressing
- Taking medication
- Walking
- Reading
- Getting in and out of bed
- Going to the toilet
- Communicating

Night-Time Disability Conditions

You meet the night-time conditions if you require attention for prolonged spells (one spell for at least 20 minutes) or repeatedly (two or more shorter spells). Or, you may require someone to watch over you to avoid the risk of harm to yourself or others. This could include:

- Going to the toilet

- Getting in and out of bed, or moving in bed

Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer
Is Attendance Allowance means-tested?	No, Attendance Allowance is not means-tested. What you earn or how much you have in savings will not affect what you get.
How much will I receive?	Attendance Allowance is awarded at lower rate or higher rate depending on your needs: • Lower rate is £73.90 per week • Higher rate is £110.40 per week
Where and how will the money be paid?	It is usually paid every 4 weeks, into your bank account. In some circumstances, you can get paid weekly.

How to Apply

- Apply online: www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance/how-to-claim
- Telephone: 0800 731 0122
- Textphone: 0800 731 0317
- Relay UK (if you cannot hear or speak on the phone): 18001 then 0800 731 0122

How We Can Help

If you live in the Barnsley borough and would like some advice on Attendance Allowance, you can:

- Email us at first.contact@dialbarnsley.org.uk



Passionate
about
possibilities.

- Or call our Advice Line on 01226 240273