

Pension Age Disability Payment



Pension Age Disability Payment is replacing Attendance Allowance in Scotland. From 21 October 2024, it will be available in:



- Argyll & Bute
- Highland
- Aberdeen City
- Orkney
- Shetland



Pension Age Disability Payment will be available in 13 more areas in Scotland from 24 March 2025. It will be available across the whole of Scotland by 22 April 2025.



You can apply for Pension Age Disability Payment if you are of State Pension age and:

- are disabled or have a long-term health condition
- need help looking after yourself or supervision to keep you safe
- or you are terminally ill



Pension Age Disability Payment is not means-tested. It does not matter if you are working or have any savings.



If you are already getting Attendance Allowance, you do not need to apply for Pension Age Disability Payment. This is because you will automatically be moved over to Pension Age Disability Payment. This move will happen in stages, starting from early 2025.



If you are already getting Adult Disability Payment, you will stay on Adult Disability Payment when you reach State Pension Age. You will not be moved over to Pension Age Disability Payment.



Social Security Scotland needs to understand how your condition or disability affects your life. You'll be asked to give information on your condition in the Pension Age Disability Payment application form.



We'll also need one piece of supporting information from a professional who knows you. This information should confirm your condition or disability. It doesn't need to be a diagnosis.



This supporting information could be:

- A social care plan
- A prescription list
- A referral letter from a doctor or physiotherapist



Supporting information could also be provided by other people you know, including:

- your friends
- your family
- unpaid carers



You can still apply without supporting information. Social Security Scotland can collect supporting information on your behalf.



Pension Age Disability Payment is made up of 2 rates:

- lower
- higher



You will get the lower rate if you meet the criteria because of either your daytime or night-time needs. The lower rate is £72.65 a week.



You will get the higher rate if you meet the criteria because of both your daytime or night-time needs, or if you are terminally ill. The higher rate is £108.55 a week.

The date of your first Pension Age Disability Payment will be worked out from either:



- the date you submit the first part of the application, or
- from the date you phoned Social Security Scotland to start the application, if you are applying by phone or paper.

Pension Age Disability Payment is paid every 4 weeks, for the previous 4-week period. It will be paid into the account you give in your application. If you are terminally ill, it will be paid weekly in advance.





If you have a terminal illness, you can apply under special rules, which speeds up your application. If you are eligible, you will get the higher rate of the benefit no matter how long you have been terminally ill or how long you are expected to live.



To speed up an application, we need something from your doctor or nurse that confirms your terminal diagnosis. They should provide this by completing the Benefits Assessment under Special Rules in Scotland (BASRiS) form.



You can find out more and apply online at **mygov.scot/pension-age-disability-payment**. You can apply over the phone or ask for a paper application form by calling Social Security Scotland free on **0800 182 2222**.



VoiceAbility independent advocacy service helps disabled people when applying for Social Security Scotland benefits. Call VoiceAbility for free on **0300 303 1660** or by visiting **www.voiceability.org**.



Call Social Security Scotland for free on **0800 182 2222**.



Web chat with us at **chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot**



British Sign Language users can contact us at **contactscotland-bsl.org**