

## What is a Personal Independence Payment's (PIP's)?

These are benefits designed to provide some financial support to people who require help to do 'everyday' activities or who have problems getting around.

The award is specifically for you; not for a carer and it doesn't matter if you have someone to help you or not. Instead it depends only on your health condition or disability and how it impacts on the help you need.

Unlike many other benefits, PIP is affected by whether you are in employment, whether you have any capital or savings, or if you have paid any national insurance contributions.

*PIP is divided into 2 components;*

**Daily Living** – for help participating in everyday life

**Mobility** – for help with getting around

Each component is made up of 2 rates; 'standard' and 'enhanced', which are based upon whether your ability to do daily things or moving around is 'limited' or 'severely limited'.

Some people will be awarded wither the daily living or mobility component, while others will receive both, depending on their situation.

### So, who can get a PIP?

There are some basic criteria:

- Be aged between 16 – 64 years of age when claiming
- *For those 65 and older, claim attendance allowance, whilst those under 16 should apply for Disability Living Allowance (DLA).*
- Have been present in Great Britain for 2 out of the past 3 years (104 weeks out of 156) prior to claiming. *\*If terminal ill, you only need to be in Great Britain now.*
- Be a habitual resident in the UK, Channel Island, Republic of Ireland or Isle of Man.

In addition you need to meet both of the 'disability conditions'\*:

- The daily living and/or mobility activities test (see section three for details)
- Satisfy the activities test for 3 months prior to making you claim **AND** will continue to do so for 9 months after the initial 3 months.

*\*These do not apply to those with terminal illness*

