

Carers Allowance (CA)

You could get CA if you care for someone for at least 35 hours a week and they get certain benefits. This includes Personal Independence Payment (PIP) – daily living component, Disability Living Allowance (DLA) – middle/high rate care or Attendance Allowance (AA). To find out more about these benefits please see our other fact sheets.

You also must be over 16, not in full-time education, not studying 21 hours or more, earn no more than £123 / week after tax and expenses. You cannot receive the full amount of both CA and your State Pension at the same time. This is because CA and State Pensions are classed as 'overlapping benefits'. You might still be able to get some extra money in recognition of your caring role.

CA can have an effect on the benefits of the person you care for. The person you care for will stop getting a severe disability premium that is paid with some benefits, stop getting an extra amount for severe disability paid with pension credit and will not get reduced council tax.

CA can have an effect on your benefits and may be reduced, but your total benefit payments will usually go up or stay the same. If you get Working Tax

Credit or Child Tax Credit you must contact the Tax Credit Office.

You can apply online -
<https://www.gov.uk/carers-allowance/how-to-claim>

Or complete a Carers Allowance Application Form that can be downloaded at-
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/carers-allowance-claim-form>

For more information please visit
<https://www.gov.uk/carers-allowance/overview>

There are lots of useful links on the process and what your options are if you are not successful.

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/sick-or-disabled-people-and-carers/carers-allowance/>

<http://www.disabilityrightsuk.org/carers-allowance-ca>

Please contact our Patient and Family Support Worker if you would like more information or support with the process.