

## **Key Benefits**

### **Attendance Allowance (AA)**

for people who need additional help with personal care and daily living. Need to have met the conditions for at least 6 months

- Over retirement age
- Non-means tested
- Cannot get if on DLA or PIP

#### **Process:**

Paper form to be completed.

Printable of Gov.uk website or call AA on 0800 731 0122

---

### **Carer's Allowance (CA)**

for people who regularly spend at least 35 hours a week caring for someone.

- The person being cared for must be in receipt of daily living component of PIP, middle rate care component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or AA.
- Applicant must be over 16yr
- Applicant cannot be studying for more than 21 hours a week
- Applicant cannot be earning more than £151.00 per week
- Carer's Allowance – **cannot** be paid alongside State Pension
- **NB** Carers Allowance will be deducted £4£ from UC, but you should also get the Carers Element of UC.

#### **Process:**

Application can be made on line

Or printable application form on Gov.uk website

---

### **Council Tax Support**

for people on a low income

- Single person reduction
- Disability reduction

#### **Process:**

Application made on line via RBC website, or the relevant council.

---

### **Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for children**

may help with the extra costs of looking after a child who is under 16 and has difficulties walking or needs much more looking after than a child of the same age who does not have a disability. 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

#### **Process:**

Paper form to be completed

Printable of Gov.uk website

Can telephone for form 0800 121 4600

---

## **Housing Benefit**

Can be claimed if:

- Pension age
  - If living in temporary housing
  - If in supported living.
- 

## **New Style JSA and New Style ESA**

- These can be claimed if the client has paid NI contributions for 26 weeks in the past 2 tax years.
- These are 'contribution based' benefits' – not income based. Income based JSA and ESA are paid through UC

### **Process:**

Application made on line

Applications can be made online side UC if other elements of UC are required)

---

## **Pension Credit**

for older people on a low income

- State pension age
- If part of a couple, and the spouse is below state pension age, then they would need to apply for Universal Credit, not Pension Credit.
- Can get extra premiums if get AA or PIP

### **Process:**

Pension Credit calculator can be done online at Gov.uk

Application made by telephone 0800 99 1234

---

## **Personal Independence Payment (PIP)**

for people who have a physical or mental illness or disability that limits the ability to do daily activities or mobility activities.

- Over 18 but under retirement age
- Non-means tested

### **Process:**

Client needs to phone PIP to register and order a form 0800 917 2222

Paper form sent out for completion.

Helpful to have medical evidence and reports. If enough evidence, a paper-based assessment will be done.

Face to face (or telephone) assessment will be required (if not paper based)

---

## **Universal Credit (UC)**

- Under state pension age (if a couple, and one is over pension age and one below, they still claim UC)
- UC replaces JSA, ESA, Housing Benefit, Child Tax Credits, Working Tax Credits and Income Support
- It is important to ensure that claimants are in receipt of the correct elements of UC based on their circumstances.
- Elements are: Standard Allowance (replacing JSA), Housing Element (Housing Benefit), Child Element (Child Tax Credits), Disabled Child Element, Carer Element, LCWRA element (ESA Support Group))

### **Process:**

Application made on line and needs to be managed on-line

Telephone claims can be made for those who cannot do it on line 0800 328 5644

## **Legacy Benefits**

- These are the old-style benefits: JSA, ESA, IS, HB and Tax Credits.
- Any change in a client's circumstances will force a move to UC.
- Once an application for UC has been made, you CANNOT go back to a legacy benefit.
- If a client is in the Support Group for ESA, and has to move to UC, they will automatically qualify for LCWRA element of UC – and the extra payment this brings.
- If a client has an SDP (Sever Disability Payment) attached to a legacy benefit, if they move on to UC they will receive a transitional payment as UC does to pay SDPs.
- Migration letters are being sent to clients who need to apply for UC. They must apply before the deadline in the letter or they will lose all benefits. They need to apply via the website given in the migration letter as this ensures they get the migration protection.