

ANNEX I: Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) - Personal Independence Payments (PIPs) Supporting Information

PIP (<https://www.gov.uk/pip>) are tax free payments made by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) to assist individuals with ‘*some of the extra costs of their long-term ill-health or disability*’. PIP consists of two parts: daily living and mobility.

Who is eligible?

A person over the age of 16 years of age and not of State Pension age with a health condition or disability that effects how they carry out activities of daily living or mobility activities.

Daily living activities	Mobility activities
Preparing and eating food	Going out of home
Washing and bathing, using the toilet	Moving around in or out of home
Dressing and undressing	
Managing medicines and treatments	
Communicating and reading	

That effect must be present for at least 50 percent of the time for a minimum of three months and be expected to continue for at least nine months. If found eligible, the amount (minimum: £23.20 to maximum: £148.85 per week) the person receives, depends on the level of assistance they are deemed to require to perform these activities.

The Application Process

To determine whether they are eligible to apply for PIP, a person must contact DWP, who advise that this initial contact is by phone. During that contact, an advisor will gather

information (primarily to establish age and UK residency) from the person and enter that into a PIP1 form.

Based on the information in that initial form the person is:

- found not eligible to apply and is informed of the outcome by letter; or
- found eligible to apply and is sent a “*how your disability affects you*” or PIP2 form, which they must complete and return within one month

An *independent healthcare professional (doctor, nurse, physiotherapist, occupational therapist or paramedic) then uses the information in the PIP2 to conduct a paper-based assessment. The person may also be required to attend a ‘face to face’ assessment, which usually occurs at an assessment centre but can be held in the persons home.

As a result of the assessment/s, the health professional allocates points to each of the daily living / mobility activities, which reflect the level of assistance they determine the person needs for each activity. These then add up to a total number of points for daily living and a total number of points for mobility.

The Outcome of the Application

The outcome of the persons application, therefore, can be based on information provided on the PIP2, that gathered during a ‘face to face’ assessment and any other information submitted by the person or gathered by DWP.

The outcome can include – the person being found:

- ineligible for any payment
- eligible for payment for one or both parts (daily living / mobility)

The person can challenge the outcome by applying for a *mandatory reconsideration* and if that is unsuccessful, go on to an *appeal to a tribunal*

*Healthcare professionals are employed by IAS or Capita