



i Helpline

Open 8.00am to 8.00pm,
seven days a week

Phone **0845 300 3900**

Textphone **0845 300 3909**

Do you qualify for the disability element of Working Tax Credit?

If you meet **all of the following three** conditions you may qualify for more Working Tax Credit.

Condition 1

You usually work for 16 hours or more a week.

Condition 2

You have a disability that puts you at a disadvantage in getting a job.

At least one of the following descriptions must apply to you.

i Please note

We may ask for the name of someone involved in your care, like an occupational therapist, community nurse, district nurse or doctor, who can confirm how your disability affects you.

Physical disability

- When standing you **cannot** keep your balance unless you continually hold on to something.
- You **cannot** walk a continuous distance of 100 metres along level ground without stopping or without suffering severe pain – even when you use your usual walking aid, such as crutches, walking frame, walking stick, prosthesis or similar.
- You **cannot use either of your hands** behind your back, as if you were putting on a jacket or tucking a shirt into trousers.
- You **cannot extend either of your arms** in front of you, as if you were shaking hands with someone, without difficulty.
- You **cannot**, without difficulty, **put either of your hands** up to your head, as if putting on a hat.
- Due to a lack of ability in using your hands, you **cannot** pick up a coin that is 2.5 centimetres or less in diameter, such as a 10 pence coin, with one hand.
- You find it difficult to use your hands or arms to pick up a full, one-litre jug and pour from it into a cup.
- You **cannot turn either of your hands** sideways through 180 degrees.

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Visual impairment

- **If you live in England or Wales** – you are registered as blind or partially sighted on a register compiled by a Local Authority.
- **If you live in Scotland** – you have been certified as blind or as partially sighted. Because of this, you are also registered as blind or partially sighted on a register maintained by, or on behalf of, a regional or island council.
- **If you live in Northern Ireland** – you have been certified as blind or partially sighted. Because of this, you are also registered as blind or partially sighted on a register maintained by, or on behalf of, a Health and Social Services Board.
- You **cannot** see to read 16 point print at a distance greater than 20 centimetres, even if you are wearing your usual glasses.

Hearing impairment

- You **cannot** hear a telephone ring when you are in the same room as the telephone, even if you are using your usual hearing aid.
- You have difficulty hearing what someone two metres away is saying, even when they are talking loudly in a quiet room and you are using your usual hearing aid.

Other disability

- People who know you well have difficulty in understanding what you say.
- When a person that you know well speaks to you, you have difficulty in understanding what that person says.
- At least once a year, during waking hours, you are in a coma or have a fit where you lose consciousness.
- You have a mental illness that you receive regular treatment for under supervision of a medically qualified person.
- Due to mental disability, you are often confused or forgetful.
- You cannot do the simplest addition and subtraction.
- Due to mental disability, you strike people or damage property, or are unable to form normal social relationships.
- You **cannot** normally sustain an eight-hour working day or a five-day working week, due to a medical condition or, to intermittent or continuous severe pain.
- As a result of an illness or accident, you are undergoing a period of habilitation or rehabilitation. This does not apply to you if you have been getting a disability element of Working Tax Credit in the past two years.

Condition 3

You have evidence that you are receiving, or have recently received, a qualifying sickness or disability-related benefit.

You will meet this condition if at least **one** of the following **four** descriptions applies to you, **or if**:

- you were entitled to the disability element of Working Tax Credit within the last eight weeks, **and**
- this entitlement existed because you satisfied description 2 below or descriptions 3 or 4 on pages 5 and 6.



We may ask to see evidence

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or go to **www.hmrc.gov.uk**

1. You are currently receiving **one** of the following benefits:

- Disability Living Allowance
- Attendance Allowance
- Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, with Constant Attendance Allowance for you
- War Disablement Pension, with Constant Attendance Allowance or Mobility Supplement for you
- a vehicle provided under the Invalid Vehicle Scheme.

2. For at least one day in the last six months, you have received one of the following:

- Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) where you have received this allowance for 28 weeks or more or you have received Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) followed by ESA for a combined period of 28 weeks or more (see Note 1 on page 5)
- Incapacity Benefit at the short-term higher rate or long-term rate
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, with a Disability Premium or Higher Pensioner Premium for you
- Income Support, with a Disability Premium or Higher Pensioner Premium for you
- Council Tax Benefit, with a Disability Premium or Higher Pensioner Premium for you
- Housing Benefit, with a Disability Premium or Higher Pensioner Premium for you.

Note 1: The 28 weeks does not need to be a single continuous period. You can add together:

- any periods that you received ESA, as long as they were no more than 12 weeks apart
- any periods that you received SSP, as long as they were no more than eight weeks apart
- any periods that you received SSP with periods that you received ESA, as long as they were no more than 12 weeks apart.

3. You have been 'training for work' for at least one day in the last eight weeks.

'Training for work' means attending government-run training, for example, that provided by the New Deal, Work Based Learning for Adults (Training for Work in Scotland) or a course that you attended for 16 hours or more a week to learn an occupational or vocational skill.

In the eight weeks before you started training for work you must have been getting one of the following:

- Incapacity Benefit paid at the short-term higher rate or long-term rate
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- Contribution-based ESA for 28 weeks or more
- Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) followed by contribution-based ESA for a combined period of 28 weeks or more (see Note 2 below).

Note 2: The 28 weeks does not need to be a single continuous period. You can add together:

- any periods that you received contribution-based ESA, as long as they were no more than 12 weeks apart
- any periods that you received SSP, as long as they were no more than eight weeks apart
- any periods that you received SSP with periods that you received contribution-based ESA, as long as they were no more than 12 weeks apart and you met the contribution conditions for contribution-based ESA on the days that you received SSP.

4. **All** of the following **four** points apply to you.

- You have been getting at least **one** of the benefits in box **A** or box **B** for 20 weeks or more (see Note 3 below), and you got this benefit within the last eight weeks.

A

- Statutory Sick Pay
- Occupational Sick Pay
- Incapacity Benefit paid at the short-term lower rate
- Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for work
- National Insurance credits awarded on the grounds of incapacity for work.

B

- Employment and Support Allowance
- National Insurance credits awarded on the grounds of limited capability for work.

Note 3: The 20 weeks does not need to be a single continuous period. You can add together:

- any separate periods that you received the benefits and credits in box **A**, as long as they were no longer than eight weeks apart
- any separate periods that you received the benefits and credits in box **B**, as long as they were no longer than 12 weeks apart.

- Your disability is likely to last for at least six months or the rest of your life.
- Your gross earnings (before tax and National Insurance contributions are taken off) are at least 20% less than they were before you had the disability.
- Your gross earnings (before tax and National Insurance contributions are taken off) are at least £15 a week less than they were before you had the disability.