



BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE AGED OVER 65 OR THOSE CARING FOR THEM

Attendance Allowance

Are you aged 65 or over? Do you have an illness or disability which means you need extra help to stay independent at home? If so, you may be eligible to apply for Attendance Allowance. Attendance Allowance isn't means tested so it doesn't matter what other money you get. It doesn't matter how much you have in savings either - there's no limit. Lots of people are entitled to Attendance Allowance but don't know enough about it to claim.

There are two different rates of Attendance Allowance depending on the level of care that you need in order to cope in your own home with your illness disability. The lower rate applies if you need help or supervision during the day and is currently paid at a rate of £58.70 per week. The higher rate applies if you need help or supervision throughout both day and night, or you're terminally ill. This is paid at a rate of £87.65 a week. The amount of these payments can change, usually every April. Attendance Allowance does not cover mobility needs.

Other benefits you get can increase if you get Attendance Allowance. Please get in touch if you would like us to undertake a quick benefit check to make sure you are getting everything you are entitled to.

You do not have to have someone caring for you in order to claim, but if you do have a carer, they could get Carer's Allowance if you have substantial caring needs. If someone claims Carer's Allowance for looking after you, this could affect your benefits so always seek advice before claiming it.

Carer's Allowance

You could be eligible to claim the Carer's Allowance if you care for someone for at least 35 hours a week and the person you care for is already claiming PIP (daily living), DLA, Attendance Allowance or some other benefits. You could get £66.15 a week, provided you earn £123 or less a week after tax, National Insurance and expenses.

You do not have to be related to, or live with, the person you care for.

Carer's Allowance can affect the other benefits that you and the person you care for get. You must pay tax on it if your income is over the Personal tax allowance.

For more information or help about Attendance Allowance, Carer's Allowance or general advice, contact Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre at 64 Commercial Road, Paddock Wood, TN12 6DP Email: info@pwadvice.org Tel: 01892838619