

## **Disability Living Allowance and Carer's Allowance**

**Please read this then pass it to your carer if you have one**

This leaflet is in two parts:

- Part one - for you; and
- Part two - for your carer, if you have one, and gives information about Carer's Allowance.

### **Part one - For you**

**Your benefit could be affected if someone claims Carer's Allowance for providing you with care.**

If your claim for Disability Living Allowance is successful, you may get an extra amount paid as part of:

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Support
- Pension Credit
- Housing Benefit

The extra amount is called severe disability premium or, in Pension Credit, **additional amount of severe disability.**

If someone is paid Carer's Allowance for providing you with care, you may not be able to receive the extra amount. You can find out more about this from the office dealing with these benefits. **However, Carer's Allowance will not affect your Disability Living Allowance.**

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### **Part two - For your Carer**

If you are caring for someone who intends to claim Disability Living Allowance (DLA) you may wish to claim Carer's Allowance (CA). You may be entitled to CA if we award the care component of DLA at the middle or highest rate. You should wait until the person you are caring for gets a decision on their claim for DLA. If we award DLA you should claim CA. **You should claim within three months of the DLA decision being made or you could lose benefit. Ask for the claim pack - DS700 (or DS700SP if you get State Pension).**

### **Carer's Allowance and other Social Security benefits**

Payment of some benefits, allowances or pensions affect payment of CA. This means that if you are receiving another benefit, we may not pay CA at all or pay it at a reduced rate. However, you may still be entitled to CA even if we cannot pay it, and being entitled means you may get an extra amount paid with income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Income Support, Pension credit to Housing Benefit.

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## **How to get help and advice and claim Carer's Allowance**

- You can obtain information from the website at [www.dsdni.gov.uk](http://www.dsdni.gov.uk). You can also claim on-line at this address
- Write to Disability and Carers Service, Castle Court, Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1HR or phone 028 9090 6186
- Phone the Benefit Enquiry Line (BEL) on 0800 220 674 for people with disabilities, their representatives and their carers
- People with speech and hearing problems using a textphone can dial 0800 243 787
- Your local Social Security office/jobs & Benefits office and many local advice centres can provide claim forms and help with completion.

The claim pack and website contains notes, which explain Carer's Allowance in more detail.

Other conditions of entitlement apply. This is not intended to be a complete statement of law and you should not rely on it as such.