Disability Assistance
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Disability benefits are gradually being transferred (“devolved”) to the Scottish Government.

These benefits include -

Children’s Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and
Attendance Allowance (AA)
(a) social security is an investment in the people of Scotland,
(b) social security is itself a human right and essential to the realisation of other human rights,
(c) the delivery of social security is a public service,
(d) respect for the dignity of individuals is to be at the heart of the Scottish social security system,
(e) the Scottish social security system is to contribute to reducing poverty in Scotland
Rights and Duties in the Act

• Right to advocacy support for all disabled people

• Scottish Ministers must have regard to communicating in an inclusive way - ensuring that individuals who have difficulty communicating can both receive information and express themselves in ways that best their needs

• In fulfilling this duty Scottish Ministers must have regard to the importance of providing information in a way that is accessible for individuals who have a sensory, physical or mental disability
Experience Panels

- The Experience Panels were set up in 2017 and will run until the disability and carers' benefits are being delivered by Social Security Scotland.

- More than 2,400 volunteers from across Scotland signed up for them.

- All are in receipt of the benefits being devolved.

- Drew up the Social Security Charter.
Timetable (until Covid)

2020
Child Disability Payment (similar to Children’s DLA) was due in Summer 2020.

2020
Disability Assistance for Older People (similar to Attendance Allowance) was due to be introduced by the end of 2020.

2021
Disability Assistance for Working Age People (similar to PIP) “early” in 2021.
Assessments

No more Private Sector Assessments
No more “unnecessary” face to face assessments
Commitment to significantly reduce the number of face-to-face assessments.
Assessments

Choice of appointment date and time

Right to have someone with you

All assessments will be audio recorded
Applications

Application forms will be accessible in a range of formats and routes (online, phone, post)

Information about claiming will be accessible too.
Different Groups

Young Disabled People will be able to claim Children’s Disability Assistance until Age 18

Qualifying children aged 3 months or over will be entitled to a payment for their care. Children over three years old can also get a payment to help with their mobility needs.

All disabled people will have a right to advocacy support when claiming Disability Assistance.