



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

The School Of
Nursing
And
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Financial
support
for carers

Are you caring for someone with a life limiting or terminal illness?

If you live with or provide care for someone with a life limiting or terminal illness you may be able to claim some of the following benefits and entitlements.

Type of support	Name	Description	How to apply
Government welfare and benefits			
Support paid directly to carer	Carer's Allowance	Payment for those providing at least 35 hours of care a week. Person being cared for must be in receipt of certain benefits.	https://www.gov.uk/carers-allowance
	Universal Credit	Payment for those unable to work due to <i>caring responsibilities</i> or health problems. Carer must be under state pension age, and must meet certain income related or contributory criteria.	https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit
Support paid to patient, which may benefit carer	Personal Independence Payment	Help with some of the extra costs caused by long term ill-health or disability. Those with a terminal illness can be fast-tracked under the 'Special Rules for Terminal Illness Scheme' and will automatically receive the highest rate.	https://www.gov.uk/pip
	Attendance allowance	Helps with extra costs for people with a disability severe enough that they need someone to help look after them. Those with a terminal illness can be fast-tracked under the 'Special Rules for Terminal Illness Scheme' and will automatically receive the highest rate.	https://www.gov.uk/attendance-allowance
	Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit/ Mesothelioma payments	Benefit for those who became ill or are disabled because of an accident or disease at work or on an approved employment training scheme (e.g. asbestos related disease). In some cases a dependent/carer can claim after a patient has died.	https://www.gov.uk/industrial-injuries-disablement-benefit

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Employment related rights and support

Protection of employment rights	Time off for Dependents	All employees have a legal right to 'reasonable' time off work, to deal with unforeseen matters and emergencies relating to dependents or people they care for. However, there is no set time limit and they may not be paid.	Check your own employers policy. For general information see https://www.gov.uk/time-off-for-dependants
Tax or pension credits	Council tax discount	A carer can be treated as not living in a property to reduce council tax. The carer must provide care for min 35 hours/week and must not be the spouse or partner of the person they care for.	Contact your local council for details. For general information https://www.carersuk.org/help-and-advice/financial-support/help-with-household-finances/council-tax-rate-relief
	Carer's Credit	Protects pension rights for people who are caring for someone but are not paying National Insurance (NI) contributions For those providing care for min of 20 hours/week but not claiming carers allowance.	https://www.gov.uk/carers-credit

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Help with out of pocket costs

Home adaptation and equipment	Disabled Facilities Grant	Payments to cover home modifications e.g. adapted heating/lighting, widening doorways, installing stairlifts. Minor adaptations in the home also provided free. Have to own the property or intend to live in house for 5 years if renting.	https://www.gov.uk/disabled-facilities-grants
Parking	Blue Badge Scheme	Allows holder (and anyone travelling with them) to park in disabled parking bays, and to park for free in some pay and display car parks. May be fast-tracked for those with a terminal illness.	Apply on-line https://www.gov.uk/get-blue-badge Or apply by post via your local council. If you are applying for someone with a terminal illness state this on the application form.
	Free hospital parking	Many hospitals provide a free parking pass for those who have been diagnosed with a terminal illness, and their carers.	Check with staff at your local hospital.
Energy and fuel costs	Cold Weather Payment	A payment when there is very cold weather in the area you live in. You may get a Cold Weather Payment if you are getting certain benefits or Support for Mortgage Interest.	https://www.gov.uk/cold-weather-payment
	Warm Home Discount Scheme	Money off your heating bill if you get certain benefits or are on a low income.	https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme
	Winter Fuel Payment	A payment to help with winter fuel costs for people over pensionable age.	https://www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment
Concessions for carers travelling with a disabled person	Disabled Bus Pass (England)/ National Entitlement Card (Scotland)	In some circumstances, carers can travel for free if the cared for person holds a disabled bus pass. Each bus operator has their own policy.	Check with your local bus operator.

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	Disabled Person's Railcard	If the cared for person has a Disabled Persons Railcard the carer is entitled to 1/3rd off their ticket (this is for anyone travelling with them – you don't need to prove you are a carer).	To apply for a Disabled Persons Railcard https://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk/
	Free/ discounted entry for carers	Many venues/events offer free or discounted entry to carers when accompanying a person with a disability. This includes The National Trust, English Heritage, most cinemas, some football clubs.	To apply for a cinema concessions pass that gives one free ticket for accompanying carers https://www.ceacard.co.uk/ To apply for a National Trust 'Essential Companions' Card call: 0344 800 1895 or e-mail enquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk To request a letter of authority from English Heritage giving your carer free access phone: 0370 333 1182. https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/membership-faqs/
Charitable grants	e.g. Macmillan Cancer Care, Motor Neurone Disease Association	Various charities across the UK offer small one off payments to help patients and carers with the extra costs caused by a terminal illness. Some are specific to a particular condition.	Check for grants using this search tool https://grants-search.turn2us.org.uk/ Grants for people with cancer https://www.macmillan.org.uk/information-and-support/organising/benefits-and-financial-support/benefits-and-your-rights/macmillan-grants.html Grants for people with motor neurone disease https://www.mndassociation.org/getting-support/financial-support-information-for-people-with-mnd/

Type of support	Name	Description	How to apply
Help with costs related to healthcare			
Reduced cost or free medications for patient	Free NHS prescriptions	People with certain medical conditions (including cancer) get free NHS prescriptions if they have a valid medical exemption certificate.	To apply for a medical exemption certificate https://www.nhs.uk/exemption-certificates/medical-exemption-certificates
Respite for carer	Carer's breaks and respite care	In certain situations, respite care for a carer may be provided by local council after an assessment.	For further information https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/social-care-and-support-guide/support-and-benefits-for-carers/carers-breaks-and-respite-care/

When someone dies

Help with costs after someone has died	Bereavement Support Payment	You may be able to get Bereavement Support Payment if your husband, wife or civil partner died and was under pensionable age.	https://www.gov.uk/bereavement-support-payment
	Funeral Expenses Payment	A payment to help with the cost of a funeral, for those receiving certain benefits. Means tested and deductible from any money received from deceased's estate.	https://www.gov.uk/funeral-payments

This booklet was produced in collaboration with patients, carers and members of the public.

If you would like more
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please visit our website
**[https://www.sheffield.ac.uk
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