Benefits Series

Benefits from age 16

Easy read

A Down’s Syndrome Association publication
What are benefits?

You can apply for money from the Government.

This money is called a benefit.

This document tells you the benefits that you might receive.
Personal Independence payment (PIP)

Personal Independence payment (PIP).
This is money paid to you by the Department for work and pensions (DWP).

DWP are part of the British government.

This money helps you be more independent.

Your parent or carer will have got this benefit for you before. You can ask them about it.
Personal Independence payment (PIP)

PIP can pay for different things like:

- Reminding you to do things.
- Support with cooking.
- Support keeping you safe.
- Going out or walking.
- A vehicle if you need it.
Personal Independence payment (PIP)

Some people still get Disability Living Allowance, this will change to PIP soon.

You will be told when it is changing to PIP so do not worry.
Universal Credit (UC)

Universal Credit (UC) helps with your daily living costs.

It is paid to you by the Department for work and pensions.

It is usually paid when you leave college.

Daily living costs are things like food, clothes, and gas and electric.
Universal Credit (UC)

It can be paid if you work.

It can also be paid if you do not work.

If you get PIP, you may get more Universal Credit.

It can also help pay for housing costs such as rent.
Employment and Support Allowance (income related)

Employment and Support Allowance

Some people may still get this benefit.

Universal Credit has replaced it, so you do not need to apply for this.

You will be told if you need to change to Universal Credit.

You do not have to do anything.
Dentist and prescription charges and eyesight tests

Dentist and prescription charges and eyesight tests

If you are getting certain benefits, you will get help with these things.

You should not have to pay for your tablets or medicine.

You can have dental check ups or treatment for free.

You will be able to have your eyes checked for free and get cheaper glasses.
The Down’s Syndrome Association is here to support people who have Down’s syndrome and to help them live their lives to the full. We also stand up for their rights, campaign for change and challenge unfairness and discrimination.

Call us on 0333 1212 300
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