

The Blue Badge scheme is administered by your local authority.

You should contact your local authority:

for information on eligibility criteria;
to get an application form for a badge;
if your application was unsuccessful and you want to request a review; and
if your badge has expired or is about to expire.

You can also apply on-line at www.mygov.scot/apply-blue-badge

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1. THE BLUE BADGE SCHEME

The Blue Badge scheme provides a national arrangement across the UK and a partnership arrangement in other European Union member states.

The scheme is designed to help disabled people who have severe mobility problems lead independent lives by knowing that when they reach a destination, either as a driver or passenger, that they will be able to park near to a venue and therefore have easier access to the services they want to use.

The Blue Badge parking concessions only allow badge holders to park on-street. They do not apply to off-street privately operated car parks, such as supermarket car parks or on privately owned roads, such as those you find at airports. There may, however be special concessions for badge holders in these areas and you should check for signs detailing these.

you were in receipt of a lifetime or indefinite award of the Higher Rate of the Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance immediately before being assessed for Personal Independence Payment (PIP); or
you are blind or registered blind; or
you receive a _____ ; or
you have received a lump sum benefit within tariffs 1 to 8 of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation) Scheme and have been certified as having a permanent and substantial difficulty which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking.

If you are applying under any of these criteria you will automatically qualify for a Blue Badge, provided you have the appropriate documentation, such as your most recent DLA award letter, to support your application and can provide proof of your identity and proof that you are a resident in the local authority in which you are applying.

If you do not meet the above criteria you may still be eligible for a badge, see page 4.

3. WHO ELSE MAY QUALIFY FOR A BADGE?

You may also be eligible for a badge if you are more than two years old and meet one of the following criteria:

you have a permanent and substantial disability which means you are unable to walk, or virtually unable to walk; or
you are unable to walk, or virtually unable to walk because of a temporary but substantial disability which is likely to last for a period of at least 12 months but less than 3 years.

If you are applying for a badge under the above criteria you will need to show that you

Your local authority is responsible for deciding whether you are eligible and may ask you to undergo a mobility assessment by an independent mobility professional, such as a physiotherapist or an occupational therapist. In such cases they will make the necessary arrangements.

You may also be eligible if you **drive** a motor vehicle regularly, have a severe disability in both upper limbs, and are unable to operate, or have considerable difficulty in operating, all or some types of parking meter.

To qualify for a badge under this criterion you will need to show that you meet **all** of the following:

- that you drive a vehicle regularly;

- that you have a severe disability in both arms; and

- that you are unable to operate, or have considerable difficulty operating, all or some types of on-street parking equipment.

Most drivers with disabilities in both arms drive a vehicle with adapted steering. Only drivers with the most severe disabilities in both their arms will be eligible under this criterion. It does not apply to people, who for example, have difficulty carrying parcels or shopping or to people who travel solely as a passenger.

Personal Independence Payment, having been given a total of at least 8 points from the following sections:

- section 7 (communicating verbally)
- section 8 (reading and understanding signs, symbols and words)
- section 9 (engaging with other people face-to-face)

In these cases the application form you have to complete is different to that in other cases. This is because your local authority needs to ask different questions. Therefore, you need to contact your local authority to request a mental disorder/cognitive impairment Blue Badge application form.

4. SPECIAL RULES FOR CHILDREN UNDER THREE

A parent of a child who is less than three years old may apply for a badge for their child if the child has a specific medical condition which means that they must always be accompanied by bulky medical equipment which cannot be carried around without great difficulty.

Bulky medical equipment includes any of the following:

- ventilators;
- suction machines;
- feed pumps;
- parenteral equipment;
- syringe drivers;
- oxygen administration equipment;
- contin

A parent of a child who is less than three years old may apply for a badge for their child if the child has a specific medical condition which means need to be kept near a vehicle at all times, so that they can, if necessary, be treated in the vehicle or quickly driven to a place where they can be treated, such as a hospital.

Examples of highly unstable medical conditions that mean children who have them may need quick access to transport to hospital or home may include:

tracheostomies;
severe epilepsy/fitting;
highly unstable diabetes; or
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5. BADGES FOR ORGANISATIONS

Some organisations may be eligible for a Blue Badge if they **both** care for and transport disabled people who themselves meet the eligibility criteria for a badge (described in sections 2-4). The local authority

6. HOW TO APPLY FOR A BADGE

The Blue Badge scheme is administered by your local authority. You should contact them directly for enquiries or information about the administration of the scheme and for an application form.

You can apply online at www.mygov.scot/apply-blue-badge online under the mental disorder/cognitive impairment criteria discussed at pages 6-7. This is because the form should be countersigned. You need to contact your local authority for a paper form.

The Blue Badge is two-sided with a digital photograph of the badge holder on the back. Your application should therefore be accompanied by a full colour passport sized photograph of the badge holder. The photograph must be a true likeness, taken within the previous six months; the face should be uncovered and un-obscured, looking directly at the camera. You should print your name, or get a parent or guardian to print, on the back of the photograph.

If you live in Scotland and think you may be entitled to a Blue Badge you should apply to your local authority (the address and telephone number will be in your local phone book). If you are contacting your council

Your local authority will decide if you are eligible for a badge. If they decide that you are not eligible and you think that they did not take account of all the facts, you can ask them to consider your application again. You cannot appeal to the Scottish Government.

A local authority may refuse to issue a badge if they have reason to believe that the person applying for it is not who they claim to be or that the applicant would allow the badge to be used by someone else. They can also refuse to issue a badge if you do not supply sufficient evidence to support your claim that you are eligible.

Local authorities have the option to make a charge of up to £20 for the issue of a badge. Please ask whether there er er

7. LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTACTS

All enquiries about applying for a badge, eligibility assessments, the administration and the enforcement of the scheme should be directed to your local authority.

Local Authority	Number	Email address
Aberdeen City	0845 608 09 10	disabledbadges@aberdeencity.gov.uk
Aberdeenshire	0345 608 12 08	bluebadge@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Angus	0345 27 77 778	www.angus.gov.uk
Argyll & Bute	0154 660 55 17	bluebadges@argyll-bute.gov.uk
Clackmannanshire	01259 450 000	roads@clacks.gov.uk
Dumfries & Galloway	030 33 33 3001	contact@dumgal.gov.uk

Local Authority	Number	Email address
Falkirk	01324 506 070	bbteam.ds@falkirk.gov.uk
Fife	03451 550 066	European.Parkingbadges@fife.gov.uk
Glasgow, City of	0141 287 4578	bluebadgeteam@glasgow.gov.uk
Highland	01349 886 604	blue.badge@highland.gov.uk
Inverclyde	01475 715 330	icil@inverclyde.gov.uk

Copies of this leaflet can be downloaded from www.mygov.scot/apply-blue-badge.

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