

## About the Independent Living Fund

The ILF may make payments to disabled people to be used towards the cost of appointing personal assistants or using a care agency, to provide the personal care and domestic assistance they need to live at home. To get payments from the ILF, you need to meet certain conditions (see leaflet 1 for more information).

## Summary

This leaflet explains what you need to do and what happens to your ILF payments if you go into residential care. If your stay is planned please tell us before you go. If your stay is unplanned, please tell us as soon as you can. If you are unable to tell us, please ask somebody else to tell us for you.

If you use an agency, we will suspend our payments from the day after you go into residential care. If you employ a PA we can carry on paying you for up to 4 weeks. We do this so that your PAs do not find another job whilst you are in residential care.

The payments from us will start again as soon as you tell us you have returned home.

## Other formats

We can provide this leaflet in different formats, please contact our Public Communications Managers for more details.

## How to get in touch with us:

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or  
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**This leaflet is not legal advice, and although it does not deal with your specific situation, it does set out your general obligations to the ILF. Any figures or references to documents are correct at the time of issuing. The ILF reserves the right to update this leaflet from time to time.**

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Leaflet 15

## Going into residential care?



**This leaflet explains what happens to your ILF payments if you go into residential care**



**Independent  
Living Funds**

Creating Choice for Disabled People

## Going into residential care?

You **must** tell the ILF if you go into residential care because it may affect your ILF money.

You need to tell us **every time** you go into residential care. We realise that you may not always be able to tell us about it straight away especially if you go into residential care in an emergency, but you must tell us as soon as you can so you don't end up in debt.

If you cannot tell us yourself about going into residential care, please ask someone else to tell us. They can write to us or phone us.

## What happens if I use a care agency or my personal assistant (PA) is self employed?

If you use a care agency or your PA is self-employed, your ILF payments will normally stop from the day after you go into residential care. Payments from the ILF will start again once you let us know you have gone home.

If you go into residential care permanently your payments will stop from the day after you go into the care home. We can however, consider payment to an employed PA after this date if you are liable to pay them. Please contact the ILF or ask somebody to do it for you to discuss in more detail if this is the care.



## What happens to my payments if I employ a personal assistant (PA) and I go into residential care?

If you employ your PA, your money from the ILF will not be affected if you go into residential care for up to 28 days. You still need to tell us you are not at home, but the money you get from us will stay the same.

A retainer payment is when we carry on paying you for up to 28 days whilst you are in residential care. We pay this so you can carry on paying your PA, so you don't have to worry that your PA may find another job because they aren't getting paid.

We can pay your PA up to their normal weekly amount.

When you tell us you are going into residential care, we will ask you how long you think you will be there for.

If you are in residential care for more than 28 days, your ILF payments will stop from the 29th day. If this happens we will write to you to let you know.

If you go into respite quite frequently, you can receive a retainer payment for a maximum of 26 weeks a year.

## How do I get my payments started again?

If you have been in residential care and ILF have stopped paying you, your payments can be started again when you let us know you have gone home. Your payments can start on the first day that you are back at home, or the first day you start having to pay for care, whichever is later.

To get your payments started again, all you need to do is phone us and tell us—

- your name and reference number
- the date you returned home.

You will then get your payments as normal. We will also write to you to explain how much money you will get and when.



## Don't get into debt

It is very important that you let the ILF know if you go into residential care. If you do not tell us about a change it may lead to an overpayment. An overpayment means the ILF have paid you money you should not have had. You will have to pay this money back. If someone else deals with your money, please make sure that they know they must tell us if there is a change in your circumstances as described in this leaflet or other ILF leaflets.