

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

The ILF will send an ILF assessor to see you to consider your application further. Our assessor will check that you understand why they are visiting you and will gather information about you, who you live with and your disability.

If there is anyone else who looks after your affairs for you they will need to be at the visit too.

The ILF assessor completes a report with all the information you give and sends it back to the ILF. The ILF use this information to work out how much money we may be able to offer you.

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:

Telephone 0845 601 8815
or
0115 9450700



Textphone 0845 601 8816

Fax 0115 945 0944
0115 945 0945
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Website www.ilf.org.uk



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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The Joint Visit



This leaflet explains what happens when the ILF Assessor visits you



**Independent
Living Funds**

Creating Choice for Disabled People

Once you have filled out the forms we need before we can accept your application, you will need to send them all to us at the same time. We will then check that all the conditions are being met—see leaflet 1 for more information.

We will also need to check with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) that you are getting the highest rate care component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA). You must receive this benefit to get money from the ILF.

By filling in the application form, you give us your permission to check you are receiving DLA. Once we have done these things we will be able to continue with your application and arrange for one of our assessors to visit you.

What happens next?

We will write to tell you that your application has been successful and send you a User Guide pack and agreement form. The pack tells you all about the ILF and the obligations you have if you get money from us.

We also now need to arrange to visit you. We will write to your social worker and our assessor so they can contact you to sort out the best time and day for them to visit. If someone else signed the forms for you, such as a benefits appointee or your power of attorney, they need to be at the visit as well.

Power of Attorneys, Receivers/Deputy and Benefits Appointees

The ILF may have to deal with someone who looks after your affairs for you. This means if you have given someone Power of Attorney (POA) or someone is a 'receiver' or appointed as 'deputy' by the Court of Protection in England and Wales or 'controller' by the Northern Ireland Office of Care and Protection, or a 'financial guardian' by the Scotland Office of the Public Guardian, we will need to deal with them. They must be there when our assessor comes to visit you.

If someone has POA this means they have been given the legal right to act on your behalf as an attorney/agent. A 'receiver/deputy' is someone the court says must deal with your health issues and your money.

A Benefits Appointee (BA) is someone that the DWP say can deal with your benefits for you. The ILF would want to deal with your BA if you do not have someone with power of attorney, or a receiver/deputy, looking after your affairs. Your BA must be there when our assessor visits you.

If there is any other legally appointed person looking after your affairs because you are not able to, the ILF will deal with them.

If anyone mentioned above looks after your affairs, we sometimes mean them when we say 'you' or 'user' in our forms or leaflets.



The joint visit by the ILF assessor and your local authority social worker

During the visit we will gather a lot of information about you, people you live with and your disability. We will also check that you or the person who signed your application form understands what we will do with this information. If you want to manage the money we give you, we need to check that you understand your responsibilities and can manage your own affairs, with or without help.

Most importantly, our assessor will talk to you about how much personal care and domestic assistance you need and who will provide it for you. While our assessor is talking to you, they will fill in a report with all the information you give. After the visit, they will send the report to the ILF in Nottingham.

Once we have received the report we will put all the information on our computer system. We will then be able to work out how much money we may be able to offer you on top of what you already get from your local social services department. See leaflets 4 and 5 for more information about how we work out your offer.

If you want to talk to us about the assessor's report, please contact us.