

Benefits you may be entitled to receive, including Support & Equipment

Some of the benefits are dependent on income and whether a couple or single person is in employment and/or in receipt of other benefits.

www.gov.uk/browse/benefits

Benefit Enquiry Line – 0800 882 200

The following outlines the main benefits families of children and young people with additional needs or disabilities may be able to claim, or to have claimed on their behalf. For more information, contact the Benefits Enquiry Line.

Some of the benefits listed below can also be claimed by individuals without a disability depending on your individual circumstances.

- **Tax Credit** (to top up the earnings of people working on low incomes) or Child Tax Credit - 0845 300 3900 (incl. higher rate of child tax credit – disability element) - you do not have to be working to claim Child Tax Credit.
- **Working Tax Credit** – a payment to top up the earnings of working people on low incomes including those who do not have children. Includes a Childcare Element to help with the costs of childcare.
- **Child Trust Fund** www.gov.uk/childtrustfund
- **Child Benefit**
Tel: 0300 200 3100
- **Family Fund**
Tel: 08449744099
Age 17 or over in receipt of Tax Credits
- **Vaccine Damage Payments**
Tel: 01772 899944
- **Disability Living Allowance** – Mobility Component can be claimed from age 3 for the lower rate and age 5 for the higher rate. There is an automatic entitlement to higher rate mobility for those who are severely visually impaired. For those in receipt of the higher rate of mobility, an application can be made to purchase a Motability vehicle.
- **Disability Living Allowance** – Care Component can be claimed from birth.
- **Carers Allowance** for Carer – aged 16 and over, who spend 35 hours or more per week regularly caring for a severely disabled individual (someone who claims the higher or middle rate care component of DLA and not earning more than £100 per week net).
- **Incapacity Benefit** (provided the young person is not still in full-time education-21 hours a week of supervised study)
- **Income Support** (either on its own or to top up any Incapacity Benefits they may get)
- **Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Benefit** – rent/ mortgage interest only

- **Independent Living Fund T**

el: 0115 945 0700

Email: funds@ilf.gsi.gov.uk Jobseekers Allowance

- **Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)** – There are two types of ESA: Contributory ESA (meaning you must have paid some national insurance to qualify) and Income related ESA (meaning how much you get depends on your income and savings).

Call the Benefits Enquiry Line:

Tel: 0800 882 200 or go to

www.gov.uk

- **Community Care Budgeting Grant or Loan** (claimants of Income Support) from The Social Fund, for individuals who cannot afford to pay for the costs of e.g. fares to visit their child in hospital, bedding, clothing, laundry or safety items. Discretionary payments. Alternative could be a budgeting loan, which must be paid back
- **Other Health Benefits:** e.g. free prescriptions and for those in receipt of Tax Credits Motability is a national UK charity, which helps disabled people and their families, to become mobile, by enabling them to use their government funded disability allowances to lease or buy a car, powered wheelchair or scooter. A grant for larger vehicles can be applied for from the motability grants department.

Young people aged 16-24 on the **higher rate of mobility**, can apply for a motability grant for driving lessons.

Tel: 0845 456 4566

www.motability.co.uk

Universal Credit

Universal Credit will be introduced from October 2013. The transition from the current system of benefits and Tax Credits to Universal Credit will be gradual and it is expected to be completed by the end of 2017.

Universal Credit will replace:

- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Child Tax Credits
- Working Tax Credits
- Housing Benefit

Useful Websites

- www.gov.uk
- www.gov.uk/browse/benefits
- www.direct.gov.uk

Support and equipment available through the London Borough of Bromley

- Some of the services and equipment you may be eligible for, through the Education and Care Services on: 020 8466 9988.
- For **Social Care Services** contact the main switchboard on 020 8464 3333.
- **Bromley Housing Department**
Tel: 020 8313 4098
Email: housingsolutions@bromley.gov.uk
www.bromleyhomeseekers.co.uk
- **Blue Badge** (from age 3 or younger, can apply if you have to make excessive journeys, e.g. appointments) eligible if on the higher rate of mobility, otherwise a DLA assessment will be required.
Tel: 020 8461 7629
- **Disabled allocated parking space.**
Tel: 020 8313 4777
- **Aids and Adaptations to the home**, e.g., bathing equipment / lifting equipment. Contact Occupational Therapy on: 020 8461 7777
- **Council Tax Benefit** – discount/band reduction for adaptations or aids to the home.
Tel: 020 8464 4462
- **Specialist equipment**, e.g. apparatus for the home, highchair, table, chair, walking aids, including specialist shoes. Contact Bromley HealthCare
Tel: 020 8466 9988
- **Wheelchair service** (also for Major Buggy) Beckenham Beacon: 01689 853388 – following referral from OT department
- **Bromley Road Safety Unit** (car seat fitting)
Contact for details on approved car seat fitters and car seat advisors for child safety seats.
Tel: 020 8313 4546
www.bromley.gov.uk/roadsafety
- **Continence Supplies** All children over 4 years of age with disabilities are entitled to assessment for free nappies and continence supplies. Please contact your Health Visitor or School Nurse for more details
- **Taxi card scheme** (through London Borough of Bromley)
Tel: 020 8461 7315 or Freedom Pass
- **Congestion charge**
www.cclondon.com - Exempt for Blue Badge holders
- **Road Tax Exemption** (Vehicle Excise Duty).
Tel: DVLA 0870 240 0010
- **Toll charges exemption** – Dartford River Crossing
www.dart-tag.co.uk (those exempt from Road Fund Tax in the UK)