

Benefits guide - Getting a Blue Badge

What it is and how to apply



Can I get a Blue Badge?

Many brain tumour patients are entitled to a Blue Badge. This is because the effects of a brain tumour can make it difficult to walk long distances, even after treatment has finished. Having a Blue Badge can be helpful in this situation as it means you can park closely to your destination, reducing the distance needed to walk.

How to qualify

Some people will automatically qualify for a Blue Badge. This could be because:

- You are registered blind
- You receive PIP (Personal Independence Payment) and got a score of 8 or more in the 'moving around' part of the assessment, meaning you were unable to walk more than 50 metres. (If you're not sure what your score was, check your award letter)
- You receive PIP (Personal Independence Payment) and got a score of 10 or more in the 'planning and following journeys' part of the assessment, meaning a mental health or cognitive issue makes it difficult for you to leave home (for example if you get confused or experience overwhelming anxiety).
- You receive the higher rate of the mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- You receive the War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement
- You have received a lump sum payment from the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme in the past

If you don't automatically qualify, you may still be eligible to receive a Blue Badge if:

- You have a severe or permanent disability or condition that greatly affects your mobility
- You're unable to use your arms
- You have problems with walking that are permanent, or that your doctor has said are likely to last a year or more. This is no longer limited to physical issues, but now includes problems caused by stress, anxiety or other mental health issues

There are additional qualifying factors for Blue Badges. If you believe you should qualify for a reason not listed above, more information can be found on the GOV.UK website, or through your local council.

[Read more...](#)

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What is the application process?

You can apply online through GOV.UK, or on paper through the post by obtaining a form from your local authority.

Documents you will need

You'll be required to submit supporting documents with your application. This includes:

- Your National Insurance number
- Your driving licence, if you have one
- Your original decision letter from the Department of Work and Pensions, if you are automatically eligible to receive a badge
- Proof of identification e.g. a birth or marriage certificate, a driving licence, a passport or an ID card
- Proof of your address e.g. a letter from your bank or a utility bill
- A photograph of yourself

Obtain copies of these documents and send them with your application.

What happens if I am not automatically eligible?

If you're not automatically eligible, you will be required to fill out a section on the application form explaining why you need a blue badge. In this section, you should:

- Explain your condition in as much detail as possible
- Describe how your condition affects your daily life and your mobility
- Give a rough estimate how far you can travel without assistance, how long it takes you to travel this distance and how travelling this distance without assistance makes you feel e.g. if it causes you pain or makes you feel out of breath or dizzy
- You should also include any supporting medical evidence of your condition e.g. a note from your doctor

Brain Tumour Support can help with the application process – get in touch and ask to be referred to our Welfare and Benefits Support Professional if you would like support with this process.

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What's next?

After submitting your application, you should expect a response within 12 weeks, but the time to process the application can vary, depending on the local authority covering the area you live in. Your local council should be able to advise on how long the process will take.

Your application will either be approved, rejected, or you'll be asked to provide further information. The extra information could include:

- A mobility assessment. This involves a health professional carrying out an assessment of your mobility by asking you to carry out a range of mobility exercises. They will then inform your local council whether they think your condition limits your mobility enough to need a Blue Badge, based on the assessment.
- You may also be asked to speak to a member of your local council.

Is there a charge?

There is a charge of around £10 by your local authority to process the Blue Badge which is refunded if your application is rejected.

What should I do if my application is rejected?

If your application is refused, you can appeal this decision, however, there is no formal appeals process. If you wish to dispute a decision, you can write to your local council, who will deal with the matter internally. You should put forward your case and explain why you think their decision is wrong. Brain Tumour Support can help with this process.

To find out more, you can call us on 01454422701 and ask to be referred to our Welfare and Benefits Service.

**We are here
to help you**



Contact us: 01454 422701

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www.braintumoursupport.co.uk