

# Independent Living Fund



## What it is?

The Independent Living (1993) Fund is designed to help you, if you are disabled, to live independently at home rather than in residential care. You can use payments from the Fund to employ people to give you personal and domestic care in your home.

## Who is eligible?

You can apply to the Independent Living Fund if you:

- are over 16 and under 66
- already get social services support to the value of at least £200 a week (this can include direct payments and/or services from your local authority, such as day-centre placement)
- receive or are entitled to the care component of the Disability Living Allowance at the highest rate
- live alone or with people who cannot fully meet your care needs
- are at risk of entering residential care (or are currently in residential care and wish to leave and live independently)
- are capable of living in the community for at least six months
- have capital of less than £18,500

## How much can I get?

The amount you receive is based on the cost of the care you need, worked out on an hourly or weekly basis.

The maximum available payment is £420 per week. Your capital and income, and certain other benefits and expenses also affect how much you get.

## How do I apply?

You can fill in the form either on paper or by using a computer. Once you have finished the form, you need to sign it and take it back to your local neighbourhood office providing the following evidence:

# Independent Living Fund

- Proof of your (and your partner's, if you have one) identity and National Insurance number
- Proof that you live in your property
- Proof of other people who live with you
- Proof of your income and any savings or investments you have
- Proof of your tenancy and the rent you pay

## **What happens next?**

Your local council will write to you with their decision and if granted the amount of benefit granted to pay your rent.