

Appendix A – qualifying criteria for premiums in the Housing Benefit scheme

Disability Premium

You may qualify for the Disability Premium in your Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Housing Benefit if you are under the age when you qualify for Pension Credit (in couples the one who qualifies must be under Pension Credit age) and you receive:

- Disability Living Allowance/Personal Independence Payment at any rate
- Armed Forces Independence Payment
- Incapacity Benefit (long-term rate) or, in certain circumstances, at the short-term higher rate
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- Working Tax Credit disabled worker or severe disability element
- a vehicle under the Invalid Vehicle Scheme or War Pensioner's Vehicle Scheme, or have a grant towards an invalid vehicle
- are registered as blind - or still treated as registered blind for 28 weeks after regaining sight
- are incapable of work or treated as being incapable of work for at least 364 days (196 days if terminally ill) or because you are protected by the 52 week linking rules (this particular rule does not always apply as other additional amounts are available linked to incapacity for work)

Enhanced Disability Premium

You qualify for an Enhanced Disability Premium if you are under the age when you qualify for Pension Credit (for couples the one who qualifies must be under Pension Credit age) and one of you receives Disability Living Allowance higher rate care component, Personal Independence Payment Daily Living component enhanced rate or Armed Forces Independence Payment. You can also qualify for an enhanced disability premium if you claim main-phase Employment and Support Allowance and receive the support component.

This premium can be included alongside the disability premium or severe disability premium.

Severe Disability Premium

The rules for whether you are entitled to a severe disability premium are complicated. For more information see when a severe disability premium may be added to your benefit award.

In brief, a Severe Disability Premium is awarded at the lower rate to single claimants where: Attendance Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance, the middle or higher rate DLA care component, the daily living component of Personal Independence Payment or Armed Forces Independence Payment are received, and no one is entitled to Carer's Allowance (CA) for looking after you.

It is awarded at a higher rate to couples where:

- both members receive one of the benefits listed above; and
- no non-dependant aged 18 or over is living with them, for example a grown up child; and
- no one is receiving a payment of [Carer's Allowance \(CA\)](#) for looking after either of them.

If someone receives Carer's Allowance for looking after one member of a couple but not the other they may qualify for the lower rate of this premium. They may also qualify for the lower rate if one member of a couple meets the conditions above and the other is registered blind.

The Disabled Child Premium

If you are responsible for a disabled child under 19, or in certain circumstances under 20, you will get this premium if either:

- The child is getting Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- The child is registered blind.

Appendix B - exemptions to the Bedroom Tax and Overall Benefit Cap

Overall Benefit Cap

The benefit cap is applicable to all working age benefit claimants unless they, their partner or any children that live with them, qualify for any of these benefits:-

- Working tax credit
- Attendance allowance
- Disability living allowance
- Personal independence payment
- Employment and support allowance (support component)
- Industrial injuries benefits (and equivalent payments as part of a war disablement pension or the armed forces compensation scheme)
- War widow or war widower's pension

Bedroom Tax

Bedroom Tax is applicable to all working age Housing Benefit claimants living in Social Rented Sector (ie Council or Housing Association) properties, unless:-

- they are disabled and have an overnight carer (only 1 spare bedroom is allowed)
- they have a disabled child under 16 who is unable to share a room
- they are a foster carer who has been approved by social services and is between placements or newly approved (for up to 52 weeks)
- they have a child away in the armed or reserve forces (if they plan to return to live with you)
- someone who normally lives with them is away for up to a year, if they intend to return and are away for particular reasons (for example, they are in hospital)

Appendix C – exemptions within Brent's Council Tax Support scheme

Council Tax Support

Under Brent's current scheme, all working age claimants are required to pay at least 20% of their Council Tax liability, unless they or their partner or any of their dependent children receive any of the following benefits, which will protect them (from paying the minimum 20% charge):-

- Disability Living Allowance
- Personal Independence Payment
- Carers Allowance
- Incapacity Benefit
- Employment & Support Allowance (Support Component ONLY)
- Armed Forces Independence Payment
- Disabled Person's Tax Credit
- Attendance Allowance / Constant Attendance Allowance
- Severe Disablement Allowance
- Disabled Persons Reduction for Council Tax purposes
- War Disablement Pension
- War Widow's Pension
- War Pensioners Mobility Supplement

Appendix D – minimum contributions for CTS schemes in London boroughs

Name of Authority	Minimum % Council Tax Payable
Barking and Dagenham	25%
Barnet	20%
Bexley	20%
Brent	20%
Bromley	25%
Camden	0%
Croydon	15%
Ealing	25%
Enfield	26.5%
Greenwich	15%
Hackney	15%
Hammersmith & Fulham	0%
Haringey	19.8%
Harrow	30%
Havering	15%
Hillingdon	25%
Hounslow	8.5%
Islington	0%
Kensington & Chelsea	0%
Kingston	0%
Lambeth	15.86%
Lewisham	33%
Merton	0%
Newham	20%
Redbridge	20%
Richmond	15%
Southwark	15%
Sutton	17.5%
Tower Hamlets	0%
Waltham Forest	24%
Wandsworth	30%
Westminster	0%

For the London area, the above can be summarised, as follows:

- Minimum payment of 0% = 8 (25%)
- Minimum payment of above 0% up to 5% = 0 (0%)
- Minimum payment of 5% up to 10% = 1 (3.1%)
- Minimum payment of 10% up to 15% = 0 (0%)
- Minimum payment of 15% up to 20% = 9 (28.1%)
- Minimum payment of 20% up to 25% = 6 (18.8%)
- Minimum payment of 25% up to 30% = 5 (15.6%)
- Minimum payment of 30% up to 35% = 3 (9.4%)

Appendix E – links to Brent’s DHP policy and LWA scheme qualifying criteria

DHP policy: <https://www.brent.gov.uk/services-for-residents/benefits-and-money-advice/claim-discretionary-housing-payment/>

LWA scheme: <https://www.brent.gov.uk/services-for-residents/benefits-and-money-advice/claim-local-welfare-assistance/>

LWA qualifying benefits:

- ☐ Income Support
- ☐ Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based)
- ☐ Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- ☐ Pension Credit
- ☐ Working Tax Credit
- ☐ Child Tax Credit
- ☐ Universal Credit
- ☐ Disability Living Allowance
- ☐ Personal Independence Payment
- ☐ Armed Forces Independence Payment
- ☐ Disabled Person's Tax Credit
- ☐ Attendance Allowance
- ☐ Constant Attendance Allowance
- ☐ War Pensioners Mobility Supplement
- ☐ Severe Disablement Allowance
- ☐ Incapacity Benefit
- ☐ Employment and Support Allowance (support component)
- ☐ Disabled Persons Reduction for CTAX purposes
- ☐ War Disablement Pension
- ☐ War Widow's Pension
- ☐ Carer's Allowance