

Blue Badge Fact Sheet

A Blue Badge helps you park close to your destination. You can apply as a passenger or a driver as long as you meet the eligibility criteria.

Getting a Blue Badge: What You Need to Know

You might automatically qualify for a Blue Badge, or we might need to check if you're eligible.

Things You Need to Show Us:

1. **Where You Live**
2. **Who You Are**
3. **Proof You Qualify**

Proof of Address

You can use one of these to show where you live:

- A current Council Tax bill or reference number
- A signed rental agreement
- A recent letter from the government (like HM Revenues or DWP)
- A driver's license showing your current address

Proof of Who You Are

You can use one of these to prove who you are:

- A driver's license with your current address
- A passport
- Your birth or adoption certificate
- A marriage or civil partnership certificate
- A divorce or dissolution certificate

Proof You Automatically Qualify for a Blue Badge

If you're 3 or older, you automatically qualify if:

- You get Disability Living Allowance (DLA) or Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
- You get a War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement
- You're registered as blind

To Prove This:

Provide one of the following:

- **DLA:** A letter showing you receive the Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance
- **PIP:** A letter showing you can't walk more than 50 meters (or score 8 points for mobility) or you struggle with journeys due to overwhelming psychological distress

- **War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement:** A letter proving you get this, or proof you received a lump sum for a disability that makes it hard to walk
 - **Registered Blind:** A certificate showing you're severely sight impaired/blind
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Proof You Might Qualify for a Blue Badge

If you don't automatically qualify, you may still be able to get a badge if you:

- **Have trouble walking** (need help, use aids, or walking is painful or unsafe for your health)
 - **Have a terminal illness** that makes walking hard
 - **Have a severe disability in both arms** and can't use pay-and-display parking machines
 - **Have a young child with a medical condition** that means they need to be near a car
 - **Are at high risk around cars or traffic** (such as wandering without awareness of traffic)
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If You Have a Hard Time with Journeys

You might be eligible if:

- You struggle to plan or follow a journey
 - You can't control your actions and don't understand the effects on others
 - You have intense reactions to situations that make you lose control
 - You feel very anxious or afraid of public spaces
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Medical Evidence for Hidden Disabilities

If you are applying under the **hidden disability** criteria, you must provide medical evidence from a **certified healthcare professional** explaining your condition and why you need a Blue Badge.

Key Points:

- **GP Involvement:** Your GP cannot act as an "expert assessor" under updated Blue Badge Scheme guidance (since 2019). However, a **GP medical printout** can still be useful if no other health professionals are involved. This is usually provided free of charge.
 - **Other Accepted Evidence:** The council accepts recent **correspondence** from other medical professionals about your condition.
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Role of Expert Assessors:

- **Occupational therapists (OTs) and physiotherapists** are involved in the assessment process and help determine if you meet the Blue Badge criteria.
- These experts assess the **physical limitations** that affect your ability to walk and complete journeys.

Contact us

To find out more, including how to apply, visit our website or call customer services directly on 020 8489 5715.