

Appendix D: Disability Related Expenditure -guide amounts 2017-18

DISABILITY-RELATED EXPENSE ITEM	AMOUNT CONSIDERED IN ASSESSMENT	EVIDENCE REQUIRED
Community Alarm System	Actual cost paid unless included in Housing Benefit award	Bills from provider or regular entries on bank statements
Privately-arranged registered ⁴¹ care services (including respite care) - where this is part of the agreed care and support plan and council-arranged support is reduced accordingly	Actual cost paid up to a maximum of £1383 per year (average £26.60 per week)	Bills/receipts from provider
Private domestic help - where Adult Care Assessment confirms this is necessary due to disability and is not provided through council-arranged support. This may include cleaning, shopping, domestic tasks, basic garden maintenance (e.g. grass cutting)	Actual cost paid up to £20.00 per week if single person household, or cost proportionately divided by the number of other adult household members.	Bills/receipts from provider for at least 4 weeks
Additional Laundry	An amount of £3.65 per week.	Adult Care

⁴¹ Registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC)

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and replacement bedding costs (where identified more than 4 loads washing per week required for the individual due to incontinence or other disability-related/medical reason)		assessment confirms incontinence or other condition requiring need for additional laundry and more frequent replacement of bedding.
Additional cost of specialist dietary items required (as confirmed by Adult Care or NHS doctor/specialist) due to a medical condition or disability	Actual cost paid for specific dietary items purchased due to illness or disability	Details and receipts of specialist dietary purchases
Essential equipment purchased due to disability/condition to support independent living at home (if not supplied free of charge, through Adult Care or Health, and not supplied through a Disabled Facilities Grant)	<p>(1) Equipment item purchases costing approximately £1,000 or more:- Actual cost paid, divided by 500.⁴²</p> <p>(2) Equipment purchases costing less than £1000 but more than £100:- Actual cost paid, divided by 250.⁴³</p> <p>(3) Equipment purchases costing less than £100:- ▪</p>	<p>Evidence of purchase (bill, receipt)</p> <p>In cases of doubt, social care worker or Occupational Therapist to confirm purchase is an essential requirement</p>

⁴² Divided by 500 to reflect a 10year equipment life.

⁴³ Divided by 250 to reflect a 5year equipment life.

DISABILITY-RELATED EXPENSE ITEM	AMOUNT CONSIDERED IN ASSESSMENT	EVIDENCE REQUIRED
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Actual cost paid <p><u>Examples of equipment:</u> stair lift, powered bed, turning bed, wheelchair, riser chair, mobility equipment*.</p> <p>*For mobility equipment (such as a mobility scooter, adapted car/van) the cost allowed will be net of any DLA Mobility received or PIP Mobility received.</p>	
Essential equipment maintenance/repair (if not maintained by Adult Care or Health)	<p>Actual cost of maintenance.</p> <p>Examples: Equipment maintenance costs would be relevant to the items listed above - such as stair lift maintenance.</p>	Bills/receipts from provider, or entries on bank statements, or maintenance contract showing cost.
Specialist clothing and footwear and replacements due to wear and tear	<p>Allow expenditure on footwear over £38 per pair of specialist shoes (averaged over 1 year).</p> <p>For specialist clothing and frequent replacements, allow up to £6.91 per week, with good reason.</p>	Receipts or cheque stubs
Additional heating Allowance	<p>Actual gas and electricity paid, averaged over one year, minus the annual average amounts⁴⁴</p> <p><u>Annual Average fuel amounts:</u></p> <p>Flat/Terraced-single occupancy: £1,129 pa</p>	Bills from Provider

⁴⁴ Average annual amounts based on good practice guide issue by the National Association of Financial Assessment Officers.

DISABILITY-RELATED EXPENSE ITEM	AMOUNT CONSIDERED IN ASSESSMENT	EVIDENCE REQUIRED
	<p>Flat/Terraced - couple/shared occupancy: £1,489 pa</p> <p>Semi-detached single occupancy: £1,199 pa</p> <p>Semi-detached - couple/shared occupancy: £1,580 pa</p> <p>Detached - single occupancy: £1,459 pa</p> <p>Detached - couple/shared occupancy: £1,923 pa</p>	
Chiropody	Actual cost up to a maximum £133.78 averaged over one year (equivalent to max £2.57/wk), if NHS chiropodist not available (based on 6 weekly visits).	Receipts or cheque stubs
Travel and transport costs where Adult Care have confirmed need for specialist transport requirements.	<p>Actual Costs, net of any DLA Mobility received or PIP Mobility received, if they are incurred solely or mainly due to disability and the needs are identified in the Assessment.</p> <p>Allow actual commercial costs (if reasonable) up to £23.43 per week or more if evidence is provided.</p> <p>Allow payments to relatives if up to £11.71 per week.</p>	Bills/Receipts where applicable
Prescriptions, Medical and chemist items	Allow actual cost if not supplied free through the NHS or the cost of annual season ticket (divided by 52 weeks), whichever is less. Allowed when recommended by a GP or specialist.	Receipts / evidence of season ticket
Hair Washing	Actual cost paid for hair-washing &	Bills/Receipts

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	drying service where service user is unable to wash own hair, and hair wash is not part of the care package. Actual average weekly costs up to £6.72 per week.	
Water Meter Charges	Metered amounts in excess of £377 pa (average annual household bill).	Bills from Provider
Other disability related expenses	Other specific disability-related expenses may be allowed with good reason and proof of costs. Responsibility for decisions about other DRE items is outlined below.	Proof of costs required

Note that continence products are not generally considered here as products are available through the NHS Continence Service free of charge.

Guide amounts for DRE will be allowed when costs are incurred to the service user. Where the service user can demonstrate that their costs exceed the guide amounts for an item or service, due to exceptional circumstances and with good reason, the Entitlement and Assessment Team Leader and relevant Service Manager will decide if the additional expense will be allowed