

How the Independent Living Funds has helped other people

Here are some of the things our users have said about us:

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the help you have given me over the past five years... During this time I have graduated with a first class honours degree and am now on my way to completing a PhD. I am certain that without the ILF this wouldn't have been possible.”

“Thank you for the wonderful service and freedom the ILF has given me. It is amazing how much my life has changed. When I first became disabled I thought my life was over. But now I have more to do than I could ever have dreamed about. I never believed I could be so happy again.”

“With ILF it has been possible to give my daughter flexibility, freedom and one to one support. She has 3 excellent carers who have worked with her through all the ups and downs. The ILF has been a great help.”

Other formats

We can provide this leaflet in different formats, please contact our User Liaison Managers for more details.

How to get in touch with us:

Telephone 0845 601 8815
or
0115 9450700



Textphone 0845 601 8816

Fax 0115 945 0944
0115 945 0945
0115 945 0946

Address PO Box 7525
Nottingham
NG2 4ZT



E-Mail funds@ilf.org.uk

Website www.ilf.org.uk



This leaflet is not legal advice, and although it does not deal with your specific situation, it does set out your general obligations to the ILF. Any figures or references to documents are correct at the time of issuing. The ILF reserves the right to update this leaflet from time to time.

BD1—Issue 2—October 2007

Leaflet 1

Need Personal Care and Domestic Assistance?



This leaflet is about who we are and how we may be able to help you.



Independent Living Funds

Creating Choice for Disabled People

About the Independent Living Funds (ILF)

The ILF may make payments to disabled people to be used towards the cost of them employing Personal Assistants (PAs) or using a care agency to give them personal care and domestic assistance. The money comes from the Government and it enables people to live at home with choice and control over the assistance they receive. The ILF is a discretionary organisation, which means we can decide not to pay someone even if they meet all the conditions to get ILF payments. The ILF is managed by a board of 9 Trustees and has recently become an Executive Non Departmental Public Body.

To get help from the ILF you must meet **all** the following conditions:

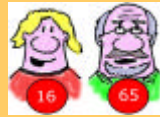


You must get at least **£200 worth of support a week from Social Services**. This

support could be something like going to a day-centre or getting money from a direct payment scheme.



You must get the **higher rate care component** of Disability Living Allowance (DLA).



You must be at least **16** and under **65**. If you apply before you are 65, the funding can continue after your 65th birthday as long as you still meet all the other conditions.



You must be living in the UK and expect to live in your home for **6 months** after you have applied.



You must have **less than £18,500** in savings/capital (this includes any money your partner has).

How can I apply?

You can fill in an application form which you can get from the ILF or from your local authority social services department. You can also download an application form from our website. Details about how you can contact us are on the back page of this leaflet.

There are 2 parts to the application form - one part for you to fill in and the other part is for your social worker to fill in.

The ILF will check you meet all the conditions before we accept your application.

What happens next?

One of our assessors will come out and visit you with a social worker from your local authority. The meeting is to find out more about your needs and we will use the information to work out how much money we may be able to offer you.

Your contribution

When we work out how much money the ILF may be able to offer you, we take into account the following benefits if you get them.

- **Disability Living Allowance (DLA)**

To apply to us for payments you must already be receiving the higher rate care component of DLA. We take half of this benefit into account when working out how much we may be able to offer you.

- **Severe Disability Premium (SDP)**

If you get Income Support or Pension Credit, we take the SDP part into account. You must tell us if you get SDP because it will affect your payments. If you do get SDP, this will be shown on your Income Support or Pension Credit statement under "*How your benefit is worked out*", where it will say— "*Because you are severely disabled*".

We may also take into account other income such as a company pension and tax credits.