



San Miguel Centre

Calle Lope de Vega 45,
San Miguel de Salinas
03193, Alicante
Telephone: 966 723 733 (24 Hr Emergency Line)

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Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance is a UK benefit you may be entitled to if you are of pensionable age and you need help with your daily living tasks/personal care due to a physical or mental health condition.

To receive Attendance Allowance in Spain or any other EU/EEA country, you need to be legally resident in that country before January 2021 (under the UK /EU Withdrawal Agreement). If you were not legally living in Spain before January 2021, this benefit is only available in very limited circumstances for a temporary period of up to 13 weeks or 26 weeks if you are receiving medical treatment.

This benefit is for people who require the following kinds of assistance:

- Help with things such as washing yourself, dressing, eating, using the toilet or communicating your needs.
- Supervision to avoid putting yourself in danger (needing someone to keep an eye on your condition, diet, actions, etc.)
- Personal supervision whilst on dialysis.

It does not cover mobility needs.

You do not have to have a carer or other people living with you in order to qualify for this benefit. It depends on your needs, not how you manage your care and support, so you can apply even if you live on your own.

How much is it?

There are two weekly rates, which depend on your level of need: If you qualify, the benefit continues for as long as your condition continues. If you receive the lower rate and your needs increase, you can apply for the higher rate at any time.

Attendance Allowance rate per week from April 2022 - 2023

Higher rate £ 92.40 Lower rate £ 61.85

Can I qualify if I live in Spain?

You can qualify for Attendance Allowance if you live in Spain and used to live in the UK, so long as you were legally living in Spain before January 2021 (and can show that you fall under the UK/EU Withdrawal Agreement) and that you meet the other conditions regarding your support needs. If you live in Spain and you are entitled to a sickness benefit from Spain, or you have worked in Spain for a period of time, this might affect your entitlement. If you receive a state pension or invalidity benefit from Spain, you may be entitled to a Spanish disability benefit instead of Attendance Allowance, especially if it is paid at a higher rate than Attendance Allowance.

What are the requirements for Attendance Allowance?

You can get Attendance Allowance if you've reached [State Pension age](#) and the following apply:

- you have a physical disability (including sensory disability, for example blindness), a mental disability (including learning difficulties), or both

HELP VEGA BAJA is registered with the Valencian Authority as a Volunteer Organisation - Registration Number CV-O4-047761-A. It is a non-profit making organization funded through voluntary donations. For further information see www.helpvegabaja.com



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- your disability is severe enough for you to need help caring for yourself or someone to supervise you, for your own or someone else's safety
- you have needed that help for at least 6 months (unless you might have 6 months or less to live).

Making your application

It is important that when you complete the application form, you clearly explain your attendance needs. Do not underplay or minimise your need for help, be honest and include every detail, even though you might usually take your difficulties for granted because you live with them on a daily basis. It can be very helpful to get someone else to help you ensure that you include every detail.

Your completed application form should be sent to the following address:

*Attendance Allowance Unit, Mail Handling Site A
Wolverhampton
WV98 2AD*

Phone: 0800 587 0912 or 0800 012 1574 (deaf or hard hearing users/speech difficulties) or +44 135 535 9022 if you live abroad.

If you are sending your application by post from Europe, you will need to pay the postage.

We recommend that you keep a copy of all the documents used in the application.

The decision

The decision is made by the UK Disability and Carers service and takes three months or longer. If you are refused, you can appeal. Payments made from date of application
Once awarded, the benefit is paid into your chosen bank account You can also choose another person (such as a carer or family member) to receive the payment on your behalf.

If you are rejected, do not give up! Take advice and get professional support - because many applications are rejected simply due to insufficient explanation of the need. A resubmission of more detailed information and evidence on appeal can be successful.

How do I apply on behalf of someone else?

You can apply on behalf of someone who is too ill to do it themselves or is unable to make their own decisions. If the beneficiary cannot sign the form themselves, the representative will need to:

- Have **power of attorney**, if you need to **make decisions** on behalf of the claimant.
- **Be a deputy**, if you need to **sort out the process and manage the spending**.
- **Be an appointee**, if you want to **make decisions** on behalf of the beneficiary, **and they cannot make decisions for themselves** (and there is no power of attorney for them).
- National insurance number if they are 16
- Disability Living Allowance if they're under 16