



Welfare Benefits Services

The welfare benefits system is complicated. For families of a disabled or vulnerable person, complex circumstances and time pressures collide to make the world of benefits particularly difficult.

We understand that determining the benefits you and your family are entitled to, as well as putting together what is needed to make a successful claim, is not always straightforward.

Making sure you receive the right benefits for your child (and yourself) is vitally important as it can have an enormous impact on the care they receive.

Benefits are also linked to decisions you may wish to make about the future, for example with certain benefits being a requirement of the child being a Beneficiary of a Disabled Person's Trust.

Having worked with hundreds of families where benefits have been a key issue and where advice found online and 'on the grapevine' can be confusing and conflicting, we launched our benefits service to help provide straightforward, practical advice to help maximise your household income.

Our team of benefits experts have a wealth of experience in the benefits system and have worked with hundreds of individuals and families to make sure the right benefits are in place.

Key benefits at a glance

Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

The benefit specifically for disabled children up to 16, who need substantial care and/or supervision, and/or help with mobility needs.

Personal Independence Payment (PIP)

For people aged 16 or over that need help with daily living tasks and/or who have difficulty getting around because of a long-term illness or disability.

Employment & Support Allowance (ESA)

A benefit paid to people who are too ill or disabled to work.

Universal Credit

The newest benefit (still being rolled out) which replaces six means-tested benefits, including income support.

We can help with benefits including Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Personal Independence Payment (PIP), Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Universal Credit, Carers Allowance, and others.

Here are some of the ways we have helped our clients over the past year:

- Finding out what benefits are in payment and making sure everything is being paid correctly
- Making suggestions about how benefits could be improved or maximised
- Helping with the claiming process, and providing guidance on how to deal with the various benefit-paying agencies
- Advocating for clients with tricky benefit problems, such as overpayments or underpayments
- Representing clients who need to challenge decisions through the Mandatory Reconsideration and appeals process
- Advising on how capital and Trust income will affect welfare benefits

How can Renaissance Legal help?

Most of our work can be done by phone, post and Zoom meetings, so we can deal with your benefit problems wherever you are in England.

We will usually do an assessment of your benefit situation, and then let you know how we think you should proceed and how much work is involved. Our hourly rate for advice is £200 + VAT (at current rate of 20%, making a total of £240 per hour). Our initial assessments will usually be either one or two hours.

We will create a tailored plan and approach for you that suits your needs and personal circumstances.

If you would like to discuss this further, please call us on 01273 610 611 or email our benefits team: info@renaissancelegal.co.uk

Key benefits at a glance

Carers Allowance

Designed for people who spend at least 35 hours a week providing regular care to a disabled person (who gets DLA or PIP).

Our Benefits Team

Jayne Knights
Consultant



Nicola Spruce
Benefits Advisor



This guide is intended as general information for clients and other readers. It is not a substitute for considered advice on specific issues. Any action taken depends on your individual circumstances. Consequently, we cannot accept any responsibility for action which may be taken as a result of reading this guide or for errors or omissions contained in it.