

Accessible Transport Unit Eligibility Criteria

London Taxicard (for Blue Badge eligibility criteria see pages 3-5)

Automatic – Eligible Without Further Assessment

Listed below (a) - (c) are the automatic criteria of eligibility for a Taxicard. For each criteria the evidence required is also stated.

(a) In receipt of Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance*.

Evidence required: Award letter from Department for Work and Pensions stating that you receive the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance. This must be dated within last 12 months. If you do not have an award letter dated within the last 12 months you can get one from the Department for Works and Pensions on 08457 123456.

Note: People applying under this criterion whose award is for a limited period of time (i.e. not indefinite) will only be eligible for the scheme for that period. The number of trips issued will therefore be allocated according to length of your award.

(b) In receipt of the War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement*.

Evidence required: Award letter from Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) stating that you receive the War Pensioners Mobility Supplement. A replacement can be ordered from the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) on 0800 169 2277.

(c) A person who is Blind (not partially sighted)

Evidence required: Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) signed by a Consultant Ophthalmologist, BD8 form or registration with Local Authority.

* If you are not eligible under any of the automatic criteria above, but you have a severe mobility impairment and difficulty in using public transport, or you have severely disruptive behaviour, you may still be eligible. You should apply under the assessed criteria below.

Assessed– Eligible Subject to Further Assessment

Severe Mobility Impairment

If you have a disability, or have suffered an injury, which has a substantial and long term adverse affect on your ability to walk, but you do not have the necessary evidence stated above in criteria (a) - (c), we can assess your mobility using the guidance below. People with temporary disabilities e.g. a broken leg, will not qualify.

To meet this criteria you would have to have a permanent and substantial disability that means you cannot walk or which makes walking very difficult, **and** experience difficulty in using public transport. This means that you have great difficulty walking and that walking would be at a very slow pace or with a great deal of pain. The carrying of bags or parcels is not considered.

Your degree of disability should be similar to that required to claim the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance. The following descriptions (1-3) help explain what this means.

1) You cannot walk

- Because of your disability you cannot put one foot in front of the other.
- If you can only get around by swinging through crutches then you will be considered unable to walk.
- Walking involves always having one foot on the ground.

2) Virtually unable to walk

- You are unable to walk very far without experiencing severe discomfort.
- Your disability must be of a physical, rather than a psychological nature.
- Discomfort is either pain or breathlessness. Extreme fatigue and stress may also be taken into account. It is accepted that discomfort is subjective and that some people have higher pain thresholds than others.
- Unless both of your legs are missing, you will need to show that you experience severe discomfort even when using your artificial aid.
- In assessing whether you are virtually unable to walk the following factors will be taken into account:
 - Distance you can walk without experiencing severe discomfort
 - Speed at which you walk
 - Length of time for which you can walk
 - Manner in which you walk

3) Exertion required to walk

- If the exertion required to walk would constitute a danger to your life or would be likely to lead to a serious deterioration in your health, you would qualify for a pass.
- You need to show that you should not walk very far because of the danger to your health.
- This criterion is intended for people with serious chest, lung or heart conditions, some people with haemophilia may also qualify.
- Serious deterioration does not need to be permanent but it should require medical intervention for you to recover.
- If you have epilepsy, you will need to show that any fits were brought about by the effort required to walk.

Severely Disruptive Behaviour

Some people with severely disruptive behavior may also qualify for a Taxicard. If applying under this criteria you will need to show that:

- You are entitled to the higher rate care component of DLA **and**;
- You have a state of arrested or incomplete development of the brain **and**;
- Your brain impairment means that you exhibit disruptive behaviour **and**;
- The nature of your behaviour means that another person has to be present and watching over you in order to prevent injury to yourself and others and/or damage to property.

Evidence required: Award letter from Department for Work and Pensions stating that you receive the higher rate care component of Disability Living Allowance. This must be dated within the last 12 months. If you do not have an entitlement letter dated within the last 12 months you can order one from the Department for Works and Pensions on 08457 123456.



Accessible Transport Unit Eligibility Criteria

Blue Badge

This information is about your eligibility for a Blue Badge. It is provided by the Department for Transport guidance and legislation.

Automatic – Eligible Without Further Assessment

The Blue Badge scheme is available to eligible disabled people irrespective of whether travelling as a driver or passenger. Listed below (a) – (d) are the automatic criteria of eligibility for a Blue Badge. For each criteria the evidence required is also stated.

- (a) **In receipt of Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance*.**
Evidence required: Award letter from Department for Work and Pensions stating that you receive the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance. This must be dated within last 12 months. If you do not have an entitlement letter dated within the last 12 months you can order one from the Department for Works and Pensions on 08457 123456.
- Note:** A Blue Badge can be issued for a maximum period of three years. People applying under this criterion whose award finishes within three years of the application date will only be issued with a Blue Badge for the length of their entitlement.
- (b) **In receipt of the War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement*.**
Evidence required: Award letter from Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) that you receive the War Pensioners Mobility Supplement. A replacement can be ordered from the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) on 0800 169 2277.
- (c) **A person who has been awarded a lump sum benefit at tariffs 1-8 of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces Compensation Scheme and certified by the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) as having a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty walking*.**
Evidence required: Original letter from the SPVA confirming the level of your award and which also states that you have been certified as having a "permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking". A replacement can be ordered from the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) on 0800 169 2277.
- (d) **A person who is blind (not partially sighted)**
Evidence required: Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) signed by a Consultant Ophthalmologist, BD8 form or registration with Local Authority.

*If you are not eligible under any of the automatic criteria listed above, but you have a severe mobility impairment; a severe disability in both arms; or are applying on behalf of a child under 3 years of age, you may still be eligible under the assessed criteria overleaf.

Assessed– Eligible Subject to Further Assessment

Severe Mobility Impairment

If you have a disability, or have suffered an injury, which has a substantial and long term adverse affect on your ability to walk, but you do not have the necessary evidence stated in the automatic criteria (a) - (d), we can assess your mobility using the following guidance. People with temporary disabilities e.g. a broken leg, will not qualify.

To meet this criteria you would have to have a permanent and substantial disability that means you cannot walk or which makes walking very difficult. This means that you have great difficulty walking and that walking would be at a very slow pace or with a great deal of pain.

The carrying of bags or parcels is not taken into consideration. Your degree of disability should be comparable to that required to claim the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance. The following descriptions (1-3) help explain what this means.

1) You cannot walk

- Because of your disability you cannot put one foot in front of the other.
- If you can only get around by swinging through crutches then you will be considered unable to walk.
- Walking involves always having one foot on the ground.

2) Virtually unable to walk

- You are unable to walk very far without experiencing severe discomfort.
- Your disability must be of a physical, rather than a psychological nature.
- Discomfort is either pain or breathlessness. Extreme fatigue and stress may also be taken into account. It is accepted that discomfort is subjective and that some people have higher pain thresholds than others.
- Unless both of your legs are missing, you will need to show that you experience severe discomfort even when using your artificial aid.
- In assessing whether you are virtually unable to walk the following factors will be taken into account:
 - Distance you can walk without experiencing severe discomfort
 - Speed at which you walk
 - Length of time for which you can walk
 - Manner in which you walk

3) Exertion required to walk

- If the exertion required to walk would constitute a danger to your life or would be likely to lead to a serious deterioration in your health, you would qualify for a pass.
- You need to show that you should not walk very far because of the danger to your health.
- This criterion is intended for people with serious chest, lung or heart conditions, some people with haemophilia may also qualify.
- Serious deterioration does not need to be permanent but it should require medical intervention for you to recover.
- If you have epilepsy, you will need to show that any fits were brought about by the effort required to walk.

Severe Disability in Both Arms

If you drive regularly, and you have a severe disability in both arms, and you are unable to operate, or have considerable difficulty operating all or some types of parking meter, we can assess your application using the following guidance. People with temporary disabilities e.g. broken arms, will not qualify.

If applying under this criterion you will need to meet and provide evidence of all of the following:

- Regularly drives an adapted or non-adapted motor vehicle, **and**;
- Has a severe disability in both arms, **and**;
- Is unable to operate, or has considerable difficulty in operating, all or some types of parking meter.

This criteria may cover disabled people with, for example: a limb reduction deficiency or both arms, bilateral upper limb amputation, muscular dystrophy, spinal cord injury, motor neuron disease or a condition of comparable severity. A badge will not be issued to a person who has difficulty carrying bags, parcels or other heavy objects and will not be issued to a person who does not satisfy all three of the above conditions, including those who travel solely as a passenger. Evidence required: Medical evidence, such as medical report, or letter from GP or consultant **AND** Evidence required: Copy of your driving licence containing the codes verifying that you drive an adapted vehicle (where relevant).

Children Under 3 Years of Age

Children under 3 years of age are likely to qualify if they meet either or both of the following:

- 1) On account of their condition, the child must always be accompanied by bulky medical equipment which cannot be carried around with the child without great difficulty; **and/or**
- 2) On account of their condition, the child must always be kept near a motor vehicle so that, if necessary, treatment for that condition can be given in the vehicle or the child can be taken to a place where such treatment can be given.

Examples of children under 3 years of age likely to qualify under point (1) are those who need to be accompanied by any of the following types of equipment:

- Ventilators
- Suction machines
- Feed pumps
- Parental equipment
- Syringe drivers
- Oxygen administration equipment
- Continuous oxygen saturation monitoring equipment
- Casts and associated medical equipment for the correction of hip dysplasia

Examples of children under 3 years of age likely to qualify under point (2) are set out below (this list is not designed to be exhaustive):

- Children with tracheotomies;
- Children with severe epilepsy/fitting;
- Children with highly unstable diabetes;
- Terminally ill children who can only access brief moments of outside life and need a quick route home.

Badges issued to children under 3 years of age will expire on the day after the child's third birthday. Badges **MUST** be returned to the local authority if the recipient no longer needs it because the condition under which it was issued no longer applies.