



Blue Badges

This factsheet relates to adults. For details of how to apply for a Blue Badge for a child please contact the Customer Services Team on 01202 633605 (Poole residents) or 01202 458744 (Bournemouth and Christchurch residents).

What is the Blue Badge scheme?

A Blue Badge can enable disabled people with severe mobility and/or hidden mental health problems to access goods and services, by allowing them to park close to their destination. Badges are normally valid for 3 years although in some cases the badge may be issued for a shorter period.

Eligibility for a Blue Badge

You will **qualify automatically** if you meet at least one of the following criteria:

- you receive the Higher Rate of the Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance (DLA);
- you are registered blind (severely sight impaired);
- you receive a War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement;
- you receive a lump sum within tariff levels 1-8 (inclusive) of the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and have been assessed as having a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking;
- you receive Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and scored 8 points or more for the 'Moving Around' activity only in the Mobility section of your award;
- you receive the mobility component of PIP and have obtained 10 points specifically for Descriptor E under the 'planning and following journeys' activity, on the grounds that you are unable to undertake any journey because it would cause you overwhelming psychological distress.

You **may qualify** if any of the following endures for at least 3 years:

- you drive a motor vehicle regularly, have severe disabilities in both arms and are unable to operate, or have considerable difficulty operating, all or some types of parking meter;
- you have been assessed as having an enduring and substantial disability which causes you, during the course of a journey, to:

- be unable to walk
- experience very considerable difficulty whilst walking, which may include very considerable psychological distress; or
- be at risk of serious harm when walking or pose - when walking - a risk of serious harm to any other person.

If you are registered as partially sighted (visually impaired) you will be required to complete a Further Assessment Application Form.

Badges **are not issued** for conditions that are temporary or intermittent; for example, if you are waiting for medical treatment or an operation.

Some organisations may be eligible for a Blue Badge if they care for and transport disabled people who themselves meet the eligibility criteria for a badge and may be issued when a vehicle(s) belonging to the organisation is/are used to carry multiple persons who would meet the criteria for an individual badge.

How to apply for a Blue Badge

You can apply free of charge. An application form is available to complete online at www.gov.uk/apply-blue-badge. If you are a permanent resident in Bournemouth, Christchurch or Poole you can:

- apply online with assistance from reception staff at the Civic Centre, Poole;
- collect an application form from the Customer Contact Centre, St Stephen's Road; Bournemouth or
- collect an application form from the Christchurch Office, Bridge Street, Christchurch.

An administration fee is payable if your application is successful.

You will need to:

- submit copies of relevant documents to support your application; and
- provide proof of address dated within the last 12 months and/or proof of identity; and
- provide a passport-sized photograph.

Fast track applications for people with a terminal illness

Forms are available from your GP, specialist community nurse or palliative care nurse who will complete an application on your behalf and forward to the Blue Badge Team.

For more information

- www.poole.gov.uk/parking/blue-badge-for-disabled-parking/
- www.gov.uk/apply-blue-badge

For more information about services please go to www.mylifemycare.com.

To download a copy of this factsheet:

www.poole.gov.uk/adultsocialcarefactsheets



We can give you help to read or understand this information:

Bournemouth and Christchurch residents

Tel. 01202 458744 / email caredirect@bcpcouncil.gov.uk



18001 01202 458744

Poole residents

Tel. 01202 633902 / email sshelpdesk@bcpcouncil.gov.uk



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