

Guidance for Using the Personal Independence Payment (PIP) Template Letter

Purpose

This template letter is designed to assist healthcare professionals in providing supporting evidence for Personal Independence Payment (PIP) applications. It offers a structured format to outline the individual's care and/or mobility needs, ensuring that the letter of support effectively demonstrates their eligibility under the PIP framework.

When to Use the Template Letter

The letter should be used to support individuals applying for PIP where they:

- Are aged 16 or over.
- Have a long-term health condition or disability that significantly affects their ability to carry out daily activities or move around independently.
- Meet the eligibility criteria for PIP, based on their daily living and/or mobility needs (outlined below).

PIP Eligibility Criteria

PIP is divided into two components. To strengthen the PIP letter of support, ensure it highlights the following:

Daily Living Component (*Standard or Enhanced Rate*)

The individual requires substantial additional support due to their medical condition and needs assistance with daily activities, including:

- Managing therapy and medical needs, such as ventilator care or tracheostomy management.
 - Preparing and eating food, requiring enteral feeding support or supervision to prevent choking.
- Medication management, needing prompting or assistance to take the correct dosage.
- Communicating, and decision-making, including difficulties in processing information.
- Supervision for safety, due to risk of harm or medical emergencies.
- Support with personal care, including washing, dressing, and maintaining hygiene.

2. **Mobility Component** (*Standard or Enhanced Rate*)

- The individual has significant difficulties with mobility, including:
 - Being unable to walk unaided or requiring a wheelchair/mobility aid.
 - Experiencing chronic fatigue, breathlessness, or pain when walking.
 - Needing assistance with planning and following a journey due to cognitive, sensory, or psychological difficulties.
 - Public transport is unsafe or impractical due to medical equipment or condition

For full eligibility details, refer to official PIP guidance on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

Including Medical Evidence

To strengthen the PIP letter of support, attach relevant supporting evidence, such as:

- Consultant or specialist reports confirming the individual's condition and needs.
- Community nursing assessments.
- Therapy assessments (e.g., physiotherapy, occupational therapy).
- Care plans detailing medical interventions and supervision requirements.

Additional Resources

For further guidance or assistance with the application process, visit the official PIP page on **GOV.UK**: [GOV.UK PIP Information](https://www.gov.uk).