



HANDY

GUIDES

BENEFITS

AND HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE



Understanding and accessing the benefits system can be complex and daunting. There are many benefits which are **means-tested** (the award made depending on how much money/what income you have), others are based on **National Insurance contributions**, and some are based on **health conditions or disability**. Benefit entitlement can also depend on, and be impacted by, who lives with you and/or cares for you and that person's circumstances.

Main Benefits for Huntington's Disease Families

Universal Credit

Universal Credit is a payment available to those who are in or out of work and on a low income. It can help with housing costs, seeking employment, to support children and pay childcare costs, and if you are unable to work due to ill-health.



It may be available if you are **over 18**, have **limited savings** and **live in the UK**. You may have to agree to look for work/better paid work, as well as meeting a claimant commitment.

People with Huntington's disease may be entitled to this benefit if they are **out of work** or have to **reduce their hours** due to their illness. Carers may also be entitled to further support through Universal Credit.

New Style ESA

New Style Employment and Support Allowance (nsESA) is payable if you are unable to return to work and any statutory pay from your employer has stopped. You must have paid enough National Insurance contributions in the latest two tax years to be entitled.



It is paid fortnightly and involves a work capability assessment, following which, you can be placed in the **Work-Related Activity Group**, or the **Support Group**.

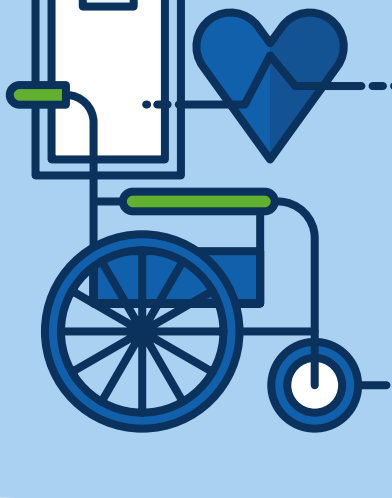
nsESA is normally only payable for up to 365 days, unless you are placed in the **Support Group**, meaning it is unlikely that you will be able to return to work.

Adult Disability Payment

Adult Disability Payment (ADP) is a social security payment that helps with the costs of living with a long-term health condition or disability. It is available for those aged 16 and over and under State Pension age. This payment has replaced Personal Independence Payment (PIP).

ADP is a **non-means tested benefit**, so it doesn't matter how much you earn or have in savings.

There are two components to ADP – Daily Living and Mobility. Depending on how your condition impacts you it is possible to get one or both components at standard or enhanced rates.



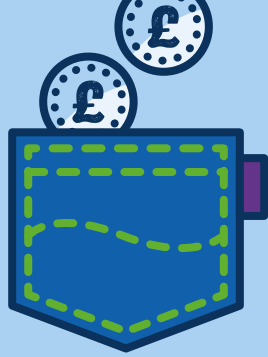
Carers Support Payment

Carer's Support Payment is Scotland's main social security payment for carers aged 16 or over.

This benefit has replaced Carer's Allowance. It pays a **set amount** each week, however, the criteria to be eligible for this includes caring for someone who receives a qualifying disability benefit; spending 35 hours per week looking after this disabled person; and not being in full-time education.



Young Carer's Grant



In Scotland, Young Carers aged 16-18 years old who do not qualify for Carer's Allowance might be eligible for the Young Carer's Grant (YCG) – a one-off lump sum payment which can be applied for once per year.

These grants are payable to those who care for a disabled person that is on a qualifying disability benefit for more than **16 hours** per week and has been doing so for at least three months.

It's important to remember that these figures and payment amounts can **change** each year, and may be **withdrawn** or **changed by the Government**.

For further advice and support with any Benefit or Social Security payment please contact our **Financial Wellbeing Service** who will be able to support you with a benefits check, a financial health check and also provide advice & support with your benefit claim.

