

Personal Independence Payment descriptors

(changes from 17.03.2017 shown underlined. **PTO for:** PIP definitions, reliability and variability)

Daily Living Component

1. Preparing food

- b. needs to use aid or appliance to prepare or cook a simple meal 2
- c. cannot cook a simple meal using a cooker but can using a microwave ... 2
- d. needs prompting to either prepare or cook a simple meal..... 2
- e. needs supervision or assistance to prepare or cook a simple meal 4
- f. cannot prepare and cook food 8

2. Taking nutrition

- b. needs:
 - i. to use an aid or appliance to... ; **or**
 - ii. supervision to take nutrition; **or**
 - iii. assistance to cut up food 2
- c. needs a therapeutic source to 2
- d. needs prompting to take nutrition ... 4
- e. needs assistance to manage a therapeutic source to take nutrition . 6
- f. cannot convey food and drink to mouth & needs another to do so..... 10

3. Managing therapy / monitoring a health condition

- a. either
 - i. does not need medication/therapy or to monitor medical condition,
 - ii. or can manage unaided 0
- b. needs either / any one or more of:
 - i. to use an aid or appliance to manage medication, or
 - ii. supervision, prompting or assistance to manage medication (or monitor a health condition*) * deleted from 17.03.2017)
 - iii. sup. prompt or assist to be able to manage a health condition..... 1

Needs supervision, prompting or assistance to manage therapy that takes:

- c. up to 3.5 hours a week 2
- d. between 3.5 and 7 hours a week 4
- e. between 7 and 14 hours a week 6
- f. at least 14 hours a week 8

4. Washing and bathing

- b. needs to use an aid or appliance to wash or bathe 2
- c. needs supervision or prompting to be able to wash or bathe..... 2
- d. needs assistance to be able to wash either hair or body below waist..... 2
- e. needs assistance to get in or out of bath or shower..... 3
- f. needs assistance to be able to wash body between shoulders and waist... 4
- g. cannot wash or bathe at all 8

5. Managing toilet needs or incontinence

- b. needs an aid or appliance to manage toilet needs or incontinence 2
- c. needs supervision or prompting to be able to manage toilet needs 2
- d. needs assistance to manage toilet needs 4
- e. needs assistance to be able to manage incontinence of bladder **or** bowel 6
- f. needs assistance to manage incontinence of bladder **and** bowel.. 8

6. Dressing and undressing

- b. need aid/appliance to dress/undress .. 2
- c. needs either :
 - i. prompting to dress, undress or determine appropriate circumstances to remain clothed; **or**
 - ii. prompting or assistance to be able to select appropriate clothing..... 2
- needs assistance to dress or undress:
- d. lower body 2
- e. upper body 4
- f. cannot dress or undress at all 8

7. Communicating verbally

- b. needs to use an aid or appliance to speak or hear 2
- c. needs communication support to be able to express or understand **complex** verbal information 4
- d. as c. but for **basic** verbal info 8
- e. cannot express or understand verbal info at all, even with support 12

8. Reading and understanding signs, symbols and words

- b. needs to use an aid / appliance (other than contacts/specs) to read or understand written information 2
- c. needs prompting to read or understand **complex** written info 2
- d. as c. for **basic** written info. 4
- e. cannot read or understand signs, symbols or words at all 8

9. Engaging with others

- b. needs prompting to engage with other people..... 2
- c. needs social support to engage..... 4
- d. cannot engage with others as causes:
 - i. overwhelming psychological distress to the claimant; **or**
 - ii. to exhibit behaviour which would result in a substantial risk of harm to themselves or another person 8

10. Making budgeting decisions

- b. needs prompting or assistance to make **complex** budgeting decisions 2
- c. needs prompting or assistance to make **simple** budgeting decisions 4
- d. cannot make any budgeting decisions at all..... 6

Mobility Component

11. Planning & following journeys

- b. **needs prompting** to undertake any journey to avoid overwhelming psychological distress to self 4
- c. cannot* plan the route of a journey .. 8
- d. cannot* follow route of an **unfamiliar** journey without another person, assistance dog or orientation aid..... 10
- e. **cannot undertake** any journey because it would cause overwhelming distress to self 10

- f. cannot* follow the route of a **familiar** journey without another person, assistance dog or orientation aid..... 12

* from 17.03.17 = Cannot for reasons other than psychological distress...

12. Moving Around

Can stand and then move :

- a. more than 200m. aided or unaided ... 0
- b. more than 50m. but no more than 200m. either aided or unaided 4
- c. **unaided** more than 20m. but less than 50m..... 8
- d. **using an aid or appliance** more than 20m but no more than 50m 10
- e. more than 1m. but no more than 20m, either aided or unaided 12
- f. cannot either –
 - i. stand; *or*
 - ii. move more than 1 metre 12

Notes:

Other than where indicated, descriptor a. in each activity reads:

- a. can manage ... unaided 0

Always consider descriptors in context of **reliability**, variability and without pain and discomfort . See the definitions - with more on variability and reliability - overleaf. For more detail, comment, sample PIP2, case law, supporting evidence, submissions see the Big Book of Benefits and Mental Health.

Standard Rate = 8 to 11 points


Enhanced Rate = 12 + points

(one total for each component)



PIP Statutory Definitions *amendments from 17.03.17 underlined.*

See the Big Book for PIP caselaw, guidance, sample forms and more on reliability and variability. **PTO for descriptors**

<p>General definitions:</p> <p>Aided - with the use of an aid or appliance or with supervision, prompting or assistance</p> <p>Unaided: without the use of an aid or appliance or supervision, prompting or assistance</p> <p>Assistance: physical intervention by another person not including speech</p> <p>Prompting: reminding , encouraging or explaining to another person</p> <p>Supervision : the continuous presence of another person to ensure person's safety</p>	<p>4: Washing & Bathing</p> <p>Bathe: includes getting into or out of an unadapted bath or shower</p> <p>5: Managing toilet needs or incontinence</p> <p>Manage incontinence: manage involuntary evacuation of bowels/bladder, including a collecting / self catheterisation device and clean self afterwards</p> <p>Toilet needs: getting on and off an unadapted toilet, evacuating bladder and bowel and cleaning oneself</p>	<p>10: Budgeting</p> <p>Complex budgeting decisions : calculating personal & household budgets, managing and paying bills and planning future purchases</p> <p>Simple budgeting decision : involving calculating cost of good, and the correct change after a purchase</p>
<p>1: Preparing Food</p> <p>Cook: heat food at or above waist height</p> <p>Prepare food: make food ready for cooking or eating</p> <p>Simple meal: a cooked one-course meal for one using fresh ingredients</p>	<p>6: Dressing & undressing</p> <p>Dress and undress includes socks and shoes</p>	<p>11: Planning & following a journey</p> <p>Orientation aid: a specialist aid designed to assist dis people to follow a route safely</p> <p>Psychological distress: distress related to an enduring mental health condition</p> <p>Assistance dog: a dog trained to guide or assist for sensory impairments</p>
<p>2: Taking Nutrition</p> <p>Take nutrition means cut food into pieces, convey food to mouth, chew and swallow food and drink or by using a therapeutic source</p> <p>Therapeutic source: parenteral or enteral tube feeding using a rate limiting system e.g. delivery system, feed pump</p>	<p>7: Communicating verbally</p> <p>Basic verbal information: information in native language conveyed verbally in a simple sentence</p> <p>Complex verbal information: information in native language conveyed verbally in more than one sentence or one complex sentence</p> <p>Communication support: i.e. from a person trained or experienced in communicating with people with special communication needs including interpreting in a non-verbal way</p>	<p>12 Moving around</p> <p>Stand: stand upright with one biological foot on the floor</p> <p>Reliability</p> <p>“a snapshot view of their condition on a particular day at a particular time is not an adequate assessment”</p> <p>A claimant is only to be assessed as satisfying a descriptor if they can do so:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Safely: in a manner unlikely to cause harm to claimant or others either during or after the activity ; and ♦ Repeatedly: as often as is reasonably required; and ♦ to an acceptable standard i.e. good enough not just basic nor perfect ♦ In a reasonable time period : not more than twice as long as usual <p>Also consider ability to manage an activity without pain, breathlessness or other unease or discomfort</p>
<p>3: Managing Therapy /Monitoring a health condition</p> <p>Manage medication <u>or therapy</u>*: take medication <u>or undertake therapy</u>* where a failure to do so is likely to result in a deterioration in health (delete reference to therapy post March 2017)</p> <p>Manage therapy: <u>undertake therapy where a failure to do so is likely to result in a deterioration in health (i.e. therapy and medication separated after 17.03.2017)</u></p> <p>Medication: medication to be taken at home prescribed/recommended by a registered doctor, nurse or pharmacist</p> <p>Monitor health / monitor a health condition: detect significant changes in condition likely to lead to a deterioration in health and take action advised by a registered doctor, nurse or regulated health professional without which health is likely to deteriorate</p> <p>Therapy: to be undertaken at home and prescribed or recommended by a registered doctor, nurse, pharmacist or regulated health professional . <u>But does not include taking or applying or administering medication orally, topically or by any other means or any action which falls within the definition of “monitor a health condition”</u></p>	<p>8: Reading & understanding</p> <p>Basic written information: signs, symbols and dates written or printed in standard size text in native language</p> <p>Complex written information: more than one sentence written or printed in standard size text in native language</p> <p>Read: includes read signs, symbols and words but does not include Braille</p>	<p>Variability</p> <p>Assess at the worst point in a typical day</p> <p>During a day:</p> <p>If a descriptor applies at any point in the day, it applies for the whole day</p> <p>Between days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ If a descriptor is likely to apply on more than 50% of days it counts ◇ If more than one descriptor applies over 50% of days, then count the highest ◇ If no descriptor applies more than 50% - but different ones do so between them - then count whichever occurs on more days.
	<p> PTO for the PIP Descriptors</p> <p>See more information, DWP guidance & PIP Case Law in the latest edition of the <u>Big Book of Benefits and Mental Health</u></p>	