

## Domiciliary Care Allowance

Domiciliary Care Allowance (DCA) is a non-means-tested monthly payment for a child aged under 16 with a severe disability from the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection. Non-means-tested means your income will not affect whether or not you qualify for the payment.

If you have a child under the age of 16 with cancer, you may be entitled to **Domiciliary Care Allowance** or **Carers Allowance**. A medical social worker at your child's treating hospital may be able to provide more information about this. You may also be eligible for Domiciliary Care Allowance if you have a child aged under 16 with a severe disability, who requires ongoing care and attention, substantially over and above the care and attention usually required by a child of the same age.

### What is the rate of payment?

The Domiciliary Care Allowance (DCA) rate is €309.50 per month.

If you are caring for more than one child who qualifies for DCA, you can claim a DCA payment for each child.

Payment is made on the third Tuesday of every month for the current month.

If your child is receiving Domiciliary Care Allowance, you may also be entitled to:

- A non-means-tested medical card for your child
- Carer's Benefit or Carer's Allowance
- Carer's Support Grant

### Who can apply?

To qualify for Domiciliary Care Allowance, your child must have a severe disability that is likely to last for at least 1 year and:

- Be aged under 16 (at 16, the child can apply for a [Disability Allowance](#))
- Live at home with the person claiming the allowance for 5 or more days a week
- Meet the medical criteria
- Be ordinarily resident in the State

We won't give up until cancer does



### How do I apply?

To apply, visit the Department of Social Protection [website](#) to download and complete a Domiciliary Care Allowance form (DOM CARE 1).

You can also get an application form by texting "FORM DCA" followed by your name and address to 51909 (standard text rates apply).

Return the application form, and relevant supporting documentation, to:

Domiciliary Care Allowance  
Social Welfare Services Office  
Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection  
College Road  
Sligo

### OR

You can visit your local [Social Welfare Office or Intreo Centre](#) to complete and submit an application.

The information above is an overview of Domiciliary Care Allowance

For detailed information, applicants are advised to:

- Visit [Citizens Information](#) online
- Call Citizens Information on 0761 07 4000 – Monday to Friday from 9am to 8pm
- Visit your local [Citizens Information](#) office
- Call our Cancer Support Line on Freephone 1800 200 700 – Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm
- Contact your Medical Social Worker