

## Invalidity Pension

The Invalidity Pension is a long-term weekly payment for those who are unable to work for 12 months or who cannot work permanently due to illness or disability and who have paid the required number of PRSI contributions.

It is usually given to people who have already claimed Illness Benefit or Disability Allowance for at least 12 months. You will also be entitled to a free travel pass, and you may get extra social welfare benefits like the Household Benefits Package.

### Who can apply?

To qualify for an Invalidity Pension payment, you must:

Be medically unfit for work for at least 12 months and be likely to be incapable of work for at least another 12 months.

**OR**

Be permanently incapable of work due to illness or disability.

**AND**

Have at least 260 weeks' (5 years') PRSI contributions since you first started work.

**AND**

Have 48 weeks' paid or credited PRSI contributions in the tax year immediately before, or 2 years before, the year in which the claim is being made.

Peter (48) was diagnosed with bone cancer in 2019. He has been unable to work and has received Illness Benefit for 12 months. His treatment has led to reduced mobility and he is not able to return to work as a delivery driver. He had been working full-time since he was 18 and has more than 260 weeks' PRSI contributions. He had also been working up to his diagnosis in 2019, and paid 48 weeks' PRSI contributions in 2018. He should apply for the Invalidity Pension.

### What is the rate of payment?

#### Invalidity Pension rates

Weekly maximum payment	Increase for an adult dependant	Increase for a child dependant from January 2021
€208.50	€148.90	Child under 12 years of age €38 (full-rate)    €19 (half-rate)
		Child aged 12 and over €45 (full-rate)    €22.50 (half-rate)

## How do I apply?

Visit the [Department of Social Protection website](#) to download and fill in an Invalidity Pension (INV 1) application form.

You can also get a form at your local [Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office](#).

You may claim for Supplementary Welfare Allowance while you are waiting for your claim to be processed.

If you have been getting Illness Benefit for a period of 468 days, you will be medically assessed to see if you are still entitled to Illness Benefit and if you might qualify for the Invalidity Pension. If you might qualify for the Invalidity Pension, a form (INV2) will be sent to you. When they get the completed form, a Deciding Officer will examine the claim and determine whether you qualify for Invalidity Pension.

Send your application form to:

**Invalidity Pension Section**  
Social Welfare Services Office  
Government Buildings  
Ballinalee Road  
Longford

Tel: (043) 334 0000 (If calling from outside Ireland please call +353 43 334 0000)  
Locall: 1890 92 77 70 (Note: the rates charged for using 1890 (Lo-call) numbers may vary)

The information above is an overview of the Invalidity Pension  
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