

Disability and Sickness Benefits Course

A training course by Mary Nash

Aims

This course aims to refresh and consolidate knowledge of welfare benefits for people who have disabilities or can't work due to sickness, particular Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Attendance Allowance (AA), and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

Who for?

Trained generalist advisers, caseworkers, advice session supervisors etc. with experience of advising on benefits. Trainees should have completed the benefits e-learning before attending this course and have at least 6 months experience of working with clients.

This course can be delivered to groups of up to 15 people, but there is plenty of practical work and a range of exercises to help the learning process. Attendees will need paper and pens and there needs to be space for posters to be attached to the wall.

Timing

4 ½ hours (normally 10-2.30) including a coffee and short lunch break

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, attendees should be able to:

1. Name all the benefits payable to claimants with disabilities or who are too ill to work
2. Justify what information needs to be gathered from a client to identify which benefit they may be entitled to
3. Identify the qualifying criteria for DLA, AA, SSP and ESA
4. Explain how the tests or assessments work for DLA, AA and ESA
5. Explain the difference between care needs, mobility needs, and limited capability for work
6. Identify the qualifying benefits of those being cared for by claimants of Carer's Allowance
7. Identify which benefits may be payable in a range of sample cases

Topics

- Course introduction and welcome
- What benefits are available to those with disabilities and those who are too ill to work?
- What and how to explore
- Qualifying criteria for DLA, AA, SSP and ESA
- Understanding DLA and AA care and/or mobility needs
- Understanding the ESA tests and phases
- Who can claim Carer's allowance?
- Case studies to practise identifying who might get which benefits
- Summary and evaluation