

Organisational Blue Badge Application Form FAQs and Guidance

Please note you can also apply on line at;
www.gov.uk/apply-blue-badge

Is my organisation eligible?

An organisational badge may be issued to organisations which both;

- Cares for and transports disabled people who would meet one or more of the eligibility criteria for an individual Blue Badge (below); and
- Has a clear need for an organisational badge rather than using the personal Blue Badges of people it is transporting.

Taxi & Private Hire Operators

It is unlikely that taxi or private hire operators and community transport operators would be eligible for an organisational Blue Badge as they are not usually concerned with the care of disabled people who would meet one or more of the eligibility criteria for a badge. Such operators are, of course, able to use an individual's Blue Badge when carrying that person as a passenger.

Criteria for an Individual Blue Badge

Eligible disabled persons are defined as a person who;

Is over two years old and meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Receives the Higher Rate of the Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance
- Receives 8 points or more under the "moving around" activity of the mobility component of Personal Independence Payment (PIP);
- Is registered blind (severely sight impaired);
- Receives a War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement (WPMS);
- Has been awarded a lump sum under the Armed Forces and Reserve Compensation scheme and certified as having a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking.
- Drives a vehicle regularly, has a severe disability in both arms and is unable to operate, or has considerable difficulty in operating, all or some types of parking meter

- Has a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking.

Or is under the age of three and meets one or more of the following criteria:

- A child who, on account of a condition, must always be accompanied by bulky medical equipment which cannot be carried around with the child without great difficulty;
- A child who, on account of a condition, must always be kept near a motor vehicle so that, if necessary, treatment for that condition can be given in the vehicle or the child can be taken quickly in the vehicle to a place where such treatment can be given.

Badge Usage

In all circumstances, badges will be supplied to organisations or departments rather than to individual staff members.

All employees of the organisation who will be using the badge should be reminded that they must only use the badge for the purposes of transporting disabled people in their care who meet one or more of the eligibility criteria for a badge. These employees should be reminded that if they use the badge to take advantage of the concessions when there are no passengers in the vehicle who are eligible for a badge they will face a fine of up to £1,000.

How long is the application process?

Please allow 4-6 weeks for your application to be processed.

How do I renew my current Blue Badge?

If you are renewing your badge you can apply up to six weeks in advance of the expiry date shown on your badge. Applicants should apply online or complete a new application form.

Further Support...

If you require further support please contact the Blue Badge Team on 01228 606060 or via email blue.badge@cumbria.gov.uk