

How is IIDB assessed?

Your level of disablement is assessed by a **medical examiner** who will consider the medical evidence and may require you to undergo further tests and scans.

Disablement is measured on a scale from **1% to 100%**. For example, you are assessed as 1% disabled for the loss of a part of a toe, but 100% for conditions such as the loss of both hands.

You need to have a minimum of **14% disablement** to receive a payment of IIDB.

More than One Accident

If you have more than one accident, the percentage from the previous accident can be **added to the percentage** from the new accident.

For example, loss of all toes (40%) and loss of a hand (60%) would give a total of 100%.

You should **always claim for minor accidents** at the time they happen, even though it may not lead to any payment of IIDB.

Pre-existing conditions

if you already had a **medical problem** which would have resulted in disablement even if the accident or illness had not happened, then the percentage of disablement for IIDB may be reduced.



For example, you might suffer a back injury as a result of an accident at work, but you already have osteoarthritis in the spine.

The assessment will take account of the fact that your spine was likely to deteriorate even if you had not had your accident, and your IIDB level of disablement will be lower.

Other Industrial Injury Benefits

Constant Attendance Allowance is automatically considered if your disablement is more than 95%. You can receive up to £166.80 a week. You usually get this **instead of Personal Independence Payment** or Attendance Allowance.

Another benefit, **Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance** is added automatically if you qualify for either of the two higher rates of Constant Attendance Allowance. This is an extra £83.10 a week.

For more information go to www.citizensadvice.org.uk or contact our **Citizens Advice Helpline: 0800 144 8848**



Potteries Gold is a **Citizens Advice Staffordshire North & Stoke-on-Trent** project to help people in Stoke-on-Trent cope with changes to the benefit system
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Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

Benefits and Health no. 7



Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

If you have an **accident at work** or suffer from a **disease caused by your work**, you may be able to claim **compensation from the DWP's Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) scheme**.

You can also claim IIDB if your illness or injury happened while you were on an **approved training scheme** or course.

IIDB is a **weekly benefit**. How much you get depends on how disabled you are with payments ranging from £41.52 per week to £207.60.

IIDB is paid **in addition** to any benefits or compensation you get from your employer.

Self-employed people cannot claim IIDB.

To make a claim, you can either download and complete a form from [.GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or call **0800 121 8379** to request one.

If you belonged to a **Trade Union**, your union officer may be able to help you with your claim, or arrange help and advice for you.

There is generally **no time limit** for claiming IIDB.

You can often claim even if your condition started some years ago.

However, there are **time limits for some conditions** like deafness or asthma.



Industrial Diseases

To get IIDB for an industrial disease, you need to show that you have one of **over 70 prescribed industrial diseases** and have worked in a **prescribed occupation**.

The list of diseases is divided into **four categories** and each prescribed disease has a letter and a number:

A. Conditions due to **physical agents** (physical cause) – for example A10 is occupational deafness.

B. Conditions due to **biological agents** (caused by animal, plant or other living organism). For example, B14 is Lyme Disease caused by exposure at work to animal ticks.

C. Conditions due to **chemical agents** (chemical cause). For example, C3a is “Phossy Jaw” caused by exposure to white phosphorous.

D. **Miscellaneous conditions** not included elsewhere in the list. These are mainly respiratory conditions. D1 is Pneumoconiosis, which is caused by exposure to silica in the manufacture of china or exposure to asbestos.

Some diseases have rules about the **number of years** you need to have worked in an occupation before you can qualify. For example, for **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)**, IIDB is only payable to if you have worked underground in a coal mine for **20 years or more**.



Industrial Diseases are awarded a **percentage of disability** by the medical examiner. If you are more than **95% disabled** you will also be entitled to **Constant Attendance Allowance**. There is more information about this later in this leaflet.



Industrial Accidents

If you had an accident while you are working which has resulted in a personal injury you may qualify for IIDB.

It does not matter if the effect of the injury is **immediate** (for example, if you break your leg in a fall) or is **delayed** (for example, a blow to the knee which leads to impaired mobility at a later time).

It can also be a number of **small accidents**.

Example

Tony has a delivery job. In the weeks leading up to Christmas, he has a lot of deliveries to make, carrying heavy parcels from his van.

As a result, he suffers a back injury and is no longer able to work.

Each time he carried a heavy parcel could be treated as a *separate accident*.