

The following is a brief and general guide only. The Social Security system is complex and it is not possible to give a comprehensive analysis here. You need to check each individuals circumstances and each case on its merits. You are advised to call our advice line on 020 7387 1466 Monday to Friday (except Wednesday) 10am to 4pm or a C.A.B. for specific advice.

Incapacity Benefit

- Based on National Insurance contributions
- Not means-tested, although can be reduced if have a private or occupational pension
- Must pass a test to show that they are incapable of work – but see below
- Paid at £74.15 per week basic long-term rate
- Additions payable for age and partner

Permitted work

- Work for less than 16 hours a week, on average
- Earn no more than £67.50 (£72.00 from 1.10.03) a week
- For up to 26 weeks.

OR

- Work and earn no more than £20 a week, at any time.
- No time limit

Voluntary work can be undertaken, with the permission of the local benefits office, irrespective of the number of hours a week the client works. Voluntary work is work for someone other than a close relative, done for reasonable expenses only.

Income Support, HB/CTB may be affected - £20 earnings disregard

DWP Benefit Enquiry Line for disabled people: 0800 88 22 00