

## Eligibility for the National Concessionary Bus Pass

Eligibility for a bus pass may be on grounds of age or disability. Below is an explanation of the categories eligible for a national bus pass.

### Eligible Age Pass

Since 6 April 2010, men and women become eligible for a bus pass on the day that a woman born on the same day reaches pensionable age. You can check the exact date you will be eligible for a bus pass using the GOV.UK website: [https://www.gov.uk/state-pension-age/y/bus\\_pass](https://www.gov.uk/state-pension-age/y/bus_pass) and entering in your birth date.

#### Types of Evidence Required

1. Birth certificate
2. Department for Work and Pensions letter confirming state retirement pension
3. Driving Licence
4. Optical / Medical prescription that shows your date of birth
5. NHS Medical Card
6. Pink retirement card
7. Passport

### Disabled Bus Pass

The interpretation for the eligibility categories is based on statutory guidance issued by the Department for Transport (DfT) under Section 146 of the Transport Act 2000.

The types of disability eligible are those that are:

- permanent
- have lasted or are expected to last for at least 12 months
- have a substantial effect on a person's ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

**Any letter of support from a professional medical officer (e.g. Doctor) must be provided on official headed paper and must not be more than 12 months old.**

### Category A - Blind or Partially Sighted People

Persons whose sight is so impaired they could voluntarily register blind or partially sighted.

#### Types of Evidence Required

1. **If you have registered** - a letter from Social Services or your Eye Specialist or Medical Professional **confirming** that you are registered.
2. **If you haven't registered** - a letter from your Eye Specialist or Medical Professional that says that you **would be** eligible to register as blind or partially sighted.

**Please Note: Instead of seeking a letter from your Medical Professional or Social Worker you can now ask them to complete Side 2 of the Application Form for certain categories.**

## Category B - People who are Profoundly or Severely Deaf

This is measured in decibels (dBHL). Profoundly deaf have a loss of 70-95 dBHL. Severely deaf have a loss at over 95 dBHL. Passes are issued to those people who have or could voluntarily register as profoundly or severely deaf.

### Types of Evidence Required

1. **If you haven't registered**, a letter from your Aural Specialist or Medical Professional that you **would be** eligible to register as profoundly or severely deaf.

## Category C - People without Speech

Individuals who are unable to communicate orally in any language or making clear and basic oral requests like asking specific questions to clarify instructions. This category does not include people who can communicate orally but may speak slower, or are more difficult to understand such as due to a severe stammer.

### Types of Evidence Required

1. A letter from your Medical Professional **confirming** that you are without speech.
2. Your **registration** with Social Services as a Disabled Person with this condition.

## Category D - People with severe mobility problems

Persons with a disability or those who have suffered an injury which has a substantial and long-term effect on their ability to walk and that this is likely to last at least 12 months. Those who qualify will find walking an excessive labour and will walk at an extremely slow pace or with excessive pain. The level of mobility disability should not fall far short of that required for the higher rate mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance (DLA).

Persons who qualify under this category will need to show that they cannot, even with a mobility aid walk up to 100m without stopping or have severe discomfort whilst walking or need assistance from another person.

### Types of Evidence Required

1. Evidence from your Medical Professional **confirming** you cannot walk up to 100m without stopping **or** have severe discomfort whilst walking **or** need assistance from another person regardless of whether you use a mobility aid or not.
2. Your official DLA award letter (no more than 12 months old) showing that you have been awarded the **higher rate mobility** component.
3. Your official letter of your Personal Independence Payments (PIP) showing that you have been given 8 points in either **or** both of the **moving around activity** or **communicating verbally activity** sections. This must no more than 12 months old.
4. Your official statement of War Pension showing you are given the **mobility supplement**.
5. A photocopy of **both sides** of your current Blue Badge parking permit.
6. Your current Vehicle Excise Duty (formerly car tax disc) exemption certificate.

**Please Note: Instead of seeking a letter from your Medical Professional or Social Worker you can now ask them to complete Side 2 of the Application Form for certain categories.**

## Category E - People without the use of both arms

Those persons without arms or who have long term loss of the use of both arms.

- people who are upper limb double amputees
- those without both upper limbs from birth
- people with deformity in both of their arms which hinders day to day tasks like putting coins into a fare machine
- people with restricted use of both arms but are unable to carry out day to day tasks like putting coins into a fare machine

### Types of Evidence Required

1. Letter from a Medical Professional **confirming** long term loss of the use of both arms.
2. Your official DLA award letter (no more than 12 months old) showing that you have been awarded the **higher rate mobility** component.

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## Category F - People who have a Learning Disability

This category is for those whose learning disability has a substantial effect on their day to day activities. Letters of support must meet one of the two listed descriptions below. Letters merely stating that the applicant has a 'learning disability' will not be accepted.

### Types of Evidence Required

A letter from either your Medical Professional or from Social Services confirming that you have a learning disability. This letter will need to explain that:

- a. You have a permanent disability (or one that has lasted over 12 months or one that will last at least 12 months) and that you have a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind including significant impairment of intelligence and social function. This condition must have a substantial effect on your ability to carry out normal day to day activities.
- b. Or, you have a permanent disability (or one that has lasted over 12 months or one that will last at least 12 months) and that you have a reduced ability to understanding new or complex information. This includes having a difficulty in learning new skills and being able to cope independently. This condition must have started before you became an adult, have a lasting effect on your development and have a substantial effect on your ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

**Please Note: Instead of seeking a letter from your Medical Professional or Social Worker you can now ask them to complete Side 2 of the Application Form for certain categories.**

## **Category G - People who will be refused a driving licence on medical grounds**

This category is for those who would be refused a driving licence on medical grounds under Section 92 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 (except on the grounds of persistent misuse of drugs and alcohol). The medical grounds include:

- Uncontrolled epilepsy (seizure in the past 12 months)
- A severe mental disorder
- Liability to sudden attacks of giddiness or fainting (whether as a result of cardiac disorder or otherwise)
- The inability to read a registration plate in good light at 20.5 metres
- Other disabilities or medical condition which would cause the refusal or withdrawal of a driving licence at present.

### **Types of Evidence Required**

- A letter from your Medical Professional that states:
  - a. What your medical condition is
  - b. If you have not got a licence, that you would not have a licence issued because of it.
  - c. If you have a licence that they have advised it is revoked.
- A letter from the DVLA on official headed paper (no more than 12 months old) giving notice that your licence is being refused or withdrawn.

**Please Note: Instead of seeking a letter from your Medical Professional or Social Worker you can now ask them to complete Side 2 of the Application Form for certain categories.**