

Disability Access Fund (DAF)

What is the Disability Access Fund?

Some children in receipt of the Disability Living Allowance (DLA) could be eligible for some funding through the Disability Access Fund (DAF).

The Disability Access Fund (DAF) supports providers to make reasonable adjustments to their setting and/or help with building capacity (be that for the child in question or for the benefit of the children attending the setting).

Childcare providers could receive a one-off payment of £910 per calendar year for each eligible child that could aid in making reasonable adjustments at the setting and improve accessibility to funded places.

Eligibility

A child will be eligible for the DAF if they are in receipt of [disability living allowance \(DLA\)](#) and receive one of the following:

- the universal 15 hours entitlement for 3 and 4-year-olds
- from April 2024, the 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged 2-year-olds
- from April 2024, the 15 hours entitlement for children aged 2 years of working parents
- from September 2024, the 15 hours entitlement for children aged 9 months to 2 years of working parents

Four-year-olds in **primary school reception classes** are **not** eligible for DAF funding.

Entitlement

Childcare providers could receive a one-off payment of £910 per calendar year for each eligible child.

The lump sum payment can only be made to one setting. The parents of children who are splitting their entitlement across two or more providers are responsible for nominating the provider who should receive the DAF payment.

If a child receiving DAF moves from one setting to another within a year of receiving the money, it will remain in the original setting. The new setting is not eligible to receive DAF funding for this child within the same year.

Children do not have to take up the full 570 hours of early education to be entitled to receive the DAF.

Identifying eligible children

Early years providers are responsible for identifying eligible children. Providers should speak to parents to find out if their child is eligible for the DAF.