

CityAdvice

Travel concessions in the City of London

**Various travel concessions are available for
people living in the City of London**

February 2023



The Blue Badge Scheme

Blue Badge is a scheme for parking for people with disabilities.

If you're disabled or have a health condition that affects your mobility, you can apply for a Blue Badge.

You can also apply for a badge if you care for a child with a health condition that affects their mobility.

Councils can charge for a blue badge. The most you can be charged is £10.

If you get certain benefits you'll automatically be able to get a Blue Badge. The application will be straightforward.

You don't need to be able to drive to apply for a Blue Badge, unless you're applying because of problems with your arms.

Who can get a Blue Badge?

You're automatically eligible for a Blue Badge if you:

- are registered as blind
- get the higher rate of the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) - check your decision letter if you're not sure
- get War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement
- received a lump sum payment as part of the Armed Forces Compensation scheme (tariffs 1 to 8), and have been certified as having a permanent and substantial disability

If you get Personal Independence Payments (PIP)

You're automatically eligible for a Blue Badge if you either:

- scored 8 points or more in the 'moving around' area of your PIP assessment
- scored 10 points in the 'planning and following journeys' area of your PIP assessment and were put in category 'E' - this means your stress, anxiety or other mental health issue stops you leaving the house

Check your PIP decision letter if you're not sure.

If you're not automatically eligible

You can still get a badge if:

- you have long term problems walking or going to places - including problems caused by stress, anxiety or other mental health issues
- you have severe problems using both your arms
- you're applying on behalf of a child aged over 2 who has problems walking or going to places, or a child under 3 who needs to be close to a vehicle because of a health condition

Applying for a Blue Badge

You can [apply for or renew your Blue Badge online](#) on GOV.UK. Some councils also let you apply on a paper form - [contact your local council](#) to check.

You have to apply through your local council - your doctor can't help you get a Blue Badge. Your local council might also arrange an appointment to visit you - they'll let you know if you need this.

City of London

The Blue Badge scheme does not fully apply in the City of London but they do provide allocated parking in the Square Mile for people with disabilities. The City of London Corporation have their own Red Badge Scheme for the parking concession.

When you are parking your vehicle you must display the clock and the Blue Badge so that the serial number, expiry date and the issuing authority are clearly displayed.

Disabled bays: over 200 disabled bays are available free of charge provided the blue badge and clock are displayed.

These can be useful for four hours on weekdays. Around St Bartholomew's hospital and bays can be used for six hours on weekdays please check the bay time plate for information, there is no time limit at the weekend.

Payment for parking bay: Blue Badge holders can park for an extra hour, for free at payment parking bays after the expiry of purchased time.

Blue Badge holder cannot park:

- in a suspended bay
- on single or double yellow lines
- where there is a loading restriction indicated by yellow chevrons on the kerb stone
- on the pavement or footway
- in a bus lane
- in a bay reserved for specific users (e.g. a doctor's bay)
- where there is a dropped kerb or raised carriageway

Congestion Charge Exemption

If you are a Blue Badge holder, you are eligible for a full exemption on the central London Congestion Charge.



The Red Badge Scheme

The City of London also runs its own Red Badge scheme. This allows residents and workers in the City with [registered disabilities](#) to receive parking dispensations within the City or Square Mile.

As general guide, for the Red Badge Scheme, you may qualify if you receive the higher rate Disability Living Allowance/PIP mobility component, are registered blind or have a permanent disability which makes walking very difficult.

Red Badge holders can park:

- at payment yellow parking bays and disabled bays without paying
- on a single line for a period of 30 minutes

Red Badge holders cannot park:

- in a suspended bay
- on double yellow lines
- where there is a loading restriction indicated by yellow chevrons on the kerb stone
- on the pavement or footway
- in a bus lane
- in a bay reserved for specific users (e.g. a doctor's bay)
- where there is a dropped kerb or raised carriageway

Taxicard

Taxicard is a scheme that provides subsidised travel for people who have a serious mobility impairment that makes using public transport difficult.

Taxicard holders make journeys in licensed London taxis and private hire vehicles, and the subsidy applies directly to each trip.

To apply for a Taxicard, you can call **020 7332 1224** and request an application or email the City of London [Contact Centre](#).

You will need to request for an application form from your local borough, which you live in. An application process normally takes up to 6 to 8 weeks after it has been submitted.

How much will my Taxi Card journey cost? You can request a quote for a particular journey by calling the booking line (020) 7763 5001 or online, via the Taxi card app or hail a taxi in the street or at the taxi rank.



Freedom pass

The Freedom Pass offers free travel for older and disabled people on almost all public transport in London

How to apply

Older persons:

For an older persons' Freedom Pass, you can [apply online](#).

Disabled persons

To apply for a disabled persons' Freedom Pass, please contact the City of London Corporation on **020 7332 1224**.

Benefits

You can travel for free or get discounts on a range of transport services across London.

Buses, trams and trains

Travel free on bus, tram, Tube, DLR, London Overground and Elizabeth line

You can travel free on TfL services with your Older Person's Freedom Pass from 09:00 weekdays and anytime at weekends and on bank holidays.

If you have a Disabled Person's Freedom Pass, you can still travel at any time on our services.

If you've previously had a Disabled Person's Freedom Pass and now have an Older Person's Freedom Pass, you may be eligible for a new Disabled Person's Freedom Pass if you can't avoid travelling before 09:00. Contact your borough to find out more.

On National Rail services in London, travel free after 9:30 weekdays, and any time on weekends and public holidays.

Can I get it?

You can get an Older Person's Freedom Pass if you meet the age requirement and live in a London borough.

You can get a Disabled Person's Freedom Pass, if you have an eligible disability and live in London.

Dial-a-ride

If you are disabled and can't use public transport, Dial-a-Ride is a free, door-to-door service that is great for getting out and about.

This is a free service. However, to use this service you will need to become a member.

Once registered you will be able to book a Dial a Ride minibus. The Dial a Ride minibus should arrive within 15 minutes either side of the time you have given.

To find out more, including how to apply, visit the [TFL website](#).

City Advice

If you live, work or study in the City of London Square Mile or are a tenant of a City of London Corporation Estate, the City Advice service can provide:

- Assistance with financial assessments
- Information on independent financial advice
- Care options
- Income maximisation
- Carers

How to contact us:

Call us on 020 7392 2919, visit www.toynbeehall.org.uk/cityadvice or email us at city.advice@toynbeehall.org.uk

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