

State benefit

	Tax Year 2008/09 £	Tax Year 2009/10 £
Attendance Allowance - per week		
Higher Rate	67.00	70.35
Lower Rate	44.85	47.10
Disability Living Allowance (under pension age) - per week		
Care Component		
Higher Rate	67.00	70.35
Medium Rate	44.85	47.10
Lower Rate	17.75	18.65
Mobility Component		
Higher Rate	46.75	49.10
Lower Rate	17.75	18.65
Retirement Pension - per week		
Single	90.70	95.25
Additional (over 80 yrs)	0.25	0.25
Income Support (means tested, over 25 years) - per week		
Personal Allowance	60.50	64.30
Severe Disability Premium	50.35	52.85
Pension Credit - per week		
<small>(Capital Disregard: £10,000 deemed income. £1 for each complete £500 or part thereof in excess.)</small>		
Single	124.05	130.00
Couple	189.35	198.45
Severe Disability Addition	50.35	52.85
Savings Credit Maximum - per week		
Single	19.71	20.40
Couple	26.13	27.03

State benefit

	Tax Year 2008/09 £	Tax Year 2009/10 £
Local Authority Capital Limits		
England		
Lower	13,500	14,000
Upper	22,250	23,000
Personal Expense Allowance - per week	21.15	21.90
Scotland		
Lower	13,000	13,750
Upper	21,500	22,500
Personal Expense Allowance - per week	21.15	21.90
Wales		
Lower	19,000	20,750
Upper	22,000	22,000
Personal Expense Allowance - per week	21.38	22.00
Northern Ireland		
Lower	13,500	14,000
Upper	22,250	23,000
Personal Expense Allowance - per week	21.15	21.90
Registered Nursing Care Contribution - per week		
England		
Nursing Care (flat allowance)	103.80	106.30
Scotland (No Attendance Allowance)		
Nursing Care	67.00	69.00
Personal Care	149.00	153.00
Wales		
Nursing Care (flat allowance)	117.66	119.66
Northern Ireland		
Nursing Care (flat allowance)	100.00	100.00

The Cost of Care

The cost of care depends not only on the type and quality of care, but also where you live. The following table gives an idea of the average weekly cost of private care homes in the UK – with and without nursing. An elderly person does not have to be in a residential or nursing home to incur fees. Health care assistance can be provided in the family home and the costs can vary.

Area	Care Homes		Care Homes with Nursing		Area	Care Homes		Care Homes with Nursing	
	2008	2009	2008	2009		2008	2009	2008	2009
South East	£415	£427	£583	£600	North East	£340	£350	£430	£439
East Anglia	£365	£382	£470	£480	North	£351	£366	£383	£396
South West	£377	£389	£516	£531	Wales	£333	£348	£406	£420
West Midlands	£355	£362	£454	£470	Scotland	£414	£431	£482	£499
East Midlands	£334	£345	£396	£400	Northern Ireland	£307	£316	£416	£429
North West	£334	£343	£415	£441	Average total increase		3.11%		2.84%