

# The Blue Badge Service



**Help with parking for people  
with a severe walking disability**

**Crystal  
Mark  
17869**



Clarity approved by  
Plain English Campaign



adults and  
communities

**July 2011**

## The Blue Badge scheme

The Blue Badge is provided under a national scheme and offers parking discounts for people who have serious walking disabilities. The scheme can provide help to people who find it difficult to use community facilities because of the distance they might have to walk.

This leaflet tells you who can get a Blue Badge, what standards you can expect, if there is a charge and how to apply for a Blue Badge.

### Who can get a Blue Badge?

Children aged three or under and adults of any age can get a Blue Badge. To qualify you must live in Birmingham and meet one of the following conditions.

- You must receive the higher-rate mobility part of Disability Living Allowance (DLA).
- You must be registered as severely sight impaired (blind).
- You must receive a war pensioners' mobility supplement.
- You must receive an Armed Forces Compensation Scheme award.

You may also qualify for a Blue Badge based on the following.

- You must find walking very difficult.
- You must be a regular driver of a vehicle but unable to turn the steering wheel by hand because of very serious arm or hand disabilities.

To qualify for a Blue Badge your walking difficulty should normally have a specific cause. There is, however, no set list of conditions we use and it is important that we consider the circumstances of each person and look at the effect their condition has on their ability to walk.

A parent of a child who is less than three years old may apply for a badge for their child if the child has a specific medical condition that means that the child:

- must always be accompanied by medical equipment and
- needs to be kept near a vehicle at all times, so that they can, if needed, be treated in the vehicle, or quickly driven to a place where they can be treated.

Organisations that provide transport for disabled people who would meet one or more of the above conditions may also qualify for a Blue Badge. We will make the final decision on each application.

## What standards you can expect

We want to provide a high-quality service to everyone who applies and to those who already have a badge. We will do the following.

- Send out an application form as soon as possible.
- Let you know as soon as possible if you qualify for a Blue Badge.
- Send out a renewal form four weeks before the badge runs out (badges are issued for three years).

## Is there a charge?

You will need to pay £2 when you collect your Blue Badge from the post office.

## How to apply for a Blue Badge

The Blue Badge scheme is run by Birmingham City Council. Blue Badges are issued over the counter at 27 local post offices. You can't get application forms from the post office but you can get them from the following.

### Older Peoples Access Service

phone: **0121 303 1234**

email:  
**olderpeoplesaccessservice@birmingham.gov.uk**

If your application for a Blue Badge is successful you will be given a letter take to the post office. You will need to take £2, a photograph and your old badge if you are renewing it.

You can get more information and application forms from OPAS on **0121 303 1234**.

To download a PDF Blue Badge Scheme application form, visit:

**[www.birmingham.gov.uk/blue-badge-scheme](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/blue-badge-scheme)**

## Your right to be heard

If you have any comments, compliments or complaints, please contact:

**Customer Care and Citizen Involvement Team  
Adults and Communities  
Level 6**

**Louisa Ryland House  
44 Newhall Street  
Birmingham  
B3 3PL**

phone:  
**0121 303 5161**

fax:  
**0121 303 7208**

email:  
**customer-care-team@birmingham.gov.uk**

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If you would like a copy of this leaflet in another language, in large print, in Braille or on audio tape or CD, please phone the Communications and Information Team on **0121 464 3123**

**[www.birmingham.gov.uk/adults](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/adults)**