

A quick guide to... The 3-stage appeals process



1. MANDATORY RECONSIDERATION

This is where you request that your application is looked at again by the same organisation that reviewed it in the first place. In essence, you're asking them 'are you sure you made the right decision?'

2. APPEALS APPLICATION

This is a more formal process that requires you to send either a letter or an application (dependant on the benefit) to the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), expressing your dissatisfaction with the initial outcome of your application. Tell them that you're not happy and would like to push this matter further.

3. REVIEW PANEL

Unfortunately, in some cases, your application may need to be pushed this far. If the outcome to your appeal is not to your liking then you can ask that your application be reviewed by a panel of trained medical professionals (in many cases this is the first time your application will be looked at by a medical professional). People often tell us that it's at this stage they finally feel like they are being listened to and understood.

Don't be afraid to appeal!

It is believed that around 80% of people who appeal get what they are entitled to. Find out how PHA UK member Myra Morrison won her fight for Personal Independence Payments (PIP) in our Emphasis magazine, Spring 2016 issue, on page 38 [CLICK HERE](#)

Shaun Clayton,
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Want to know more about applying for benefits?

Our special publication, **Financial support: What could my family and I be entitled to?** is available to order for FREE [CLICK HERE](#)

Bringing benefits to life with real scenarios, this guide offers insight into what your family may be entitled to, and helps you navigate the minefield of benefit entitlement to get what you deserve.