

Disability Access Fund (DAF)

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The Disability Access Fund (DAF) aids access to early years places by, for example, supporting providers in making reasonable adjustments to their settings and/or helping with building capacity (be that for the child in question or for the benefit of children as a whole attending the setting)

Entitlement

All funded children who are in receipt of child Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and are receiving the free entitlement are eligible for the Disability Access Fund (DAF). DAF is paid to the child's early year's provider as a fixed annual rate of £938 per eligible child. The DAF is not based on an hourly rate and is an additional entitlement.

Children do not have to take up the full 570 hours of early education they are entitled to in order to receive the DAF. Children in receipt of the DAF will be eligible where they take-up any period of free entitlement.

Eligibility Checking

If a parent indicates on the *Parental Agreement and Funding Claim Form* that their child is in receipt of Disability Living allowance (DLA), the provider should ask the parent for a copy of their DLA award notice and upload this to the child's record via the Provider Portal. A copy of the DLA award will be kept on file by the LA. **Please Note** - Claims for DAF must not be submitted without the required evidence.

If the parent is splitting their funding across two or more providers, the parent should nominate the provider where the LA should pay the DAF.

If a child receiving DAF moves from one provider to another within a financial year, the new provider is not eligible to receive DAF funding for this child within the same financial year. DAF funding received by the original setting will not be recouped.

In cases where a child who lives in one authority area attends a provider in a different local authority, the **provider's** local authority is responsible for funding the DAF for the child and eligibility checking.

Payment of DAF

Payment of DAF will be included as part of the final payment during the term requested and will show as an adjustment payment in your provider portal.