

How to write a PIP supporting statement

We have focused on the descriptors most relevant to deaf claimants but you don't have to stick to these.

This is my statement as to why I believe my needs satisfy the PIP descriptors when correctly considered in light of regulation 4 of the Social Security (Personal Independence Payment) Regulations 2013 which provide:

“(2A) Where my ability to carry out an activity is assessed as satisfying a descriptor only if I can do so –

- A. safely
- B. to an acceptable standard
- C. repeatedly and
- D. within a reasonable time period.

In this regulation –

- A. “safely” means in a manner unlikely to cause harm to me or to another person, either during or after completion of the activity;
- B. “repeatedly” means as often as the activity being assessed is reasonably required to be completed; and
- C. “reasonable time period” means no more than twice as long as the maximum period that a person without a physical or mental condition which limits that person's ability to carry out the activity in question would normally take to complete that activity.”

I [your name] therefore state as follows:

Activity one – preparing food [if this doesn't apply to you, just delete this section]

[Do you have difficulties with cooking? For example can you follow instructions on a food packet? Do you struggle to follow the sequence of tasks needed to cook a simple meal? Write about all the issues you have with cooking here.]

Activity seven – communicating verbally

[Do you need help to understand verbal communication when there's background noise and you're communicating with people who aren't deaf aware? Write about all the issues you have with communicating verbally here. *Sometimes the DWP and tribunals judge deaf claimants' communication abilities by how the claimant can communicate face-to-face with a deaf aware*

person in good listening conditions, but this is not the right test. What matters is how you manage in the real world most of the time.]

Activity eight – reading and understanding signs, symbols and words

[Do you have problems reading? Can you understand simple and/or more complicated written information without support? If you need help, what help do you need and why? Write about all the issues you have with reading and understanding signs, symbols and words here.]

Activity nine – engaging with other people face-to-face

[How do you cope going out to meet new people who may not be deaf aware? Do you find the thought of this overwhelming and need somebody to go with you to support you? What social support do you need and why? Write about all the issues you have with engaging with other people face-to-face here.]

Activity ten – making budgeting decisions

[Do you struggle to manage financial transactions in shops? Can you make sure you get the correct change? If a shop assistant gave you information about different offers would you understand? Do you need support to be able to budget? Write about all the issues you have with budgeting here.]

Activity eleven – planning and following journeys

Can you engage with public transport such as buying the right tickets, knowing which platform to go to and organising changes between trains and/or from trains to buses? Can you manage in busy streets safely? Can you cross roads safely? Write about all the issues you have planning and following journeys here.]

Signed: