



English National Concessionary Travel Scheme

Disability guidance

Category F – learning disability

A person is eligible for a concessionary bus pass if they have a learning disability as defined by the Transport Act 2000.

The Transport Act 2000 defines learning disability as “a state of arrested or incomplete development of mind which includes significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning”.

Guidance for concessionary travel defines ‘learning disability’ in this way:

- “A person with a learning disability has a reduced ability to understand new or complex information, a difficulty in learning new skills, and may be unable to cope independently. **These disabilities must have started before adulthood** and have a lasting effect on development. The person should be able to qualify for specialist services and he or she may have had special educational provision.
- The Department of Health adopted the term 'learning disability' in 1992. **It has the same meaning as its predecessor 'mental handicap'** but it is seen as more acceptable, particularly in reducing the confusion with mental illness.”

You will be eligible if;

- you have a learning disability which includes **significant impairment of intelligence AND social functioning**



This includes Downs Syndrome, some autistic spectrum disorders and some other learning disabilities.

You will **not** be eligible if;

- you have dyslexia, dyspraxia or attention deficit disorder – these would not qualify as ‘significant impairment of intelligence and social functioning’.
- your intelligence is not impaired, even if your disability affects your social functioning
- you are applying because of mental health problems
- your condition started after you became an adult (e.g. brain injury)

N.B. you may still qualify if your condition is so severe that you would be refused a driving licence. See the information sheet for ‘Category g’ for more details.

Proving that you are eligible

 we can accept this evidence	Information which confirms you have <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • significant impairment of your intelligence AND • significant impairment of your social functioning.
 we cannot accept this evidence	Information which only says you have <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Learning Difficulties’ • a ‘Learning Disability’ • Aspergers Syndrome • Autistic Spectrum Disorder None of the above provides evidence that your intelligence is significantly impaired.

You can provide **one** of the following to help show us that you are eligible:

- a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education & Health Care Plan.
- a letter/form from the head of a special school where they are studying, or a letter from a learning disability co-ordinator at a mainstream school or college where they are studying.
- A letter/form from social services

Any document provided as evidence should fully describe your disability so that it is possible to see whether the above criteria apply to you.

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Statement in support of your application

This form should only be used if you are not able to provide **one** of the following documents:

- a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education & Health Care Plan.
- a letter/form from the head of a special school where they are studying, or a letter from a learning disability co-ordinator at a mainstream school or college where they are studying.
- A letter/form from a social care professional

Any document provided should describe your disability in detail and show why it meets the criteria.

Instruction to the applicant:

Complete Section 1, below, and ask a special needs or social care professional to complete Section 2.

Once completed this form must be returned with either an “Application form for a Disabled Person’s Bus Pass” or a “Disabled Free Travel Pass Renewal Form” to the address on those forms.

Instruction to the special education or social care professional:

Thank you for your assistance. Please complete Section 2, below and return this form to the applicant. We may need to contact you if we have any questions about this statement.

Section 1 – Applicant Details			
Surname		Date of birth	
Forename(s)			
Address			Postcode

Section 2 – Statement from a special needs or social care professional

I can confirm that the applicant is known to me and that they have a learning disability which includes **significant impairment** of intelligence **AND** social functioning.

Companion required? Yes No

I can confirm that whilst travelling the risk to the applicant or other travellers is very high due to the following factors (cross through where not applicable):

Physical assistance on or off the bus	24/7 attendance due to your condition
Assistance in planning or managing the journey	Assistance in identifying the correct bus

You must add a full diagnosis in the box provided.

Signed		Address and stamp:
Print Name & Title		
Date		
Additional comments and diagnosis:		

Should you require any further information regarding this form please contact East Sussex Bus Pass Information Line on 0300 33 09 471. **You may be contacted by the card issuer to verify these details.** Any declaration you make, knowing it to be false, could lead to prosecution.