

Transport and parking

Travelling to and from cancer appointments can be challenging, especially if you are tired or managing other side effects. It can also be expensive if you are having regular treatment or tests.

You may be able to get [help with your travel costs](#) or get assistance to travel.

Tips for managing transport and parking costs

- Check if you can claim travel costs for planned tests or treatment at hospital through the Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme. You can usually claim if you are on certain benefits or if you get help through the [NHS Low Income Scheme](#). Ask your hospital if you are eligible and how to apply. This is different in different places. If you need someone to travel with you to hospital for medical reasons, you may also be able to get a refund on their travel costs.
- Hospital parking is free in Scotland and Wales. It varies in other areas of the UK. In England, some hospitals give free or discounted parking if you have a Blue Badge or for cancer appointments. In Northern Ireland, hospital parking is free if you have a Blue Badge or you are having chemotherapy or radiotherapy. It might be free in other situations. Ask your hospital for more information.
- Ask your local council or transport providers about travel discount schemes. You might get free or reduced-cost travel on the bus, train and sometimes by taxi. You can usually claim if you are 60 years old or over, or have a disability and meet certain criteria.
- If you get certain disability benefits, you may qualify for free or reduced road (vehicle) tax. Ask the [DVLA vehicle tax service](#) or your [local Post Office](#) for more information.
- If you get certain disability benefits, the [Motability Scheme](#) allows you to exchange part of your benefit to hire a new car, scooter or powered wheelchair.

Tips for finding travel assistance

- Some public transport providers offer assistance for travellers who need extra support. For example, National Rail runs a [Passenger Assist scheme](#). You can book help at any station for any train journey.
- If you have problems using public transport, find out about voluntary or community transport services in your area. Ask your local council or library, or check the [Community Transport Association website](#).
- Ask your hospital about their Patient Transport Service. This may offer free transport to and from hospital appointments in some situations.
- If you have problems with moving around (mobility), you may be able to get a [Blue Badge](#). This allows you to park in parking spaces closer to where you need to go. You can usually park for free. You may also get discounts on the London Congestion Charge and some tunnel, bridge and road charges.

Macmillan Cancer Support resources

We have more information on our [website](#), including [audiobooks](#). Or you can order our free booklets and leaflets on orders.macmillan.org.uk such as:

- MAC4026 [Help with the cost of cancer](#)
- MAC17472 [Help with costs when you have cancer – Easy read](#)
- MAC11667 [Travel and cancer](#)

We produce information in a [range of formats](#) and [languages](#). To order these, visit our website or call our support line on **0808 808 00 00**.

Further Macmillan support

If you have more questions or would like to talk to someone, call the Macmillan Support Line free on **0808 808 00 00**, 7 days a week, 8am to 8pm. Or visit macmillan.org.uk to [chat online](#) to one of our team.

Deaf or hard of hearing? Call using Relay UK on **18001 0808 808 00 00**, or use the [Relay UK app](#). Speak another language? Telephone interpreters are available. Please tell us in English the language you would like to use.

If you want to share your experiences or ask questions, you can find others who understand on our [Online Community](#). Our free [Macmillan Buddy service](#) can arrange weekly calls with a friendly volunteer who understands what you're going through.

Other useful contact details

- Community Transport Association – visit ctauk.org or call **0161 351 1475**
- DVLA vehicle tax service – visit gov.uk/vehicle-tax or call **0300 123 4321**
- Living Made Easy – visit livingmadeeasy.org.uk or call **0300 999 0004**
- Motability Scheme – visit motability.co.uk or call **0300 456 4566**

Notes and questions
