

Volunteering

and Work Capability Assessments (WCAs)

If you have a health condition or disability, you can still volunteer.

You will not need to have a (WCA) just because you start volunteering, and you don't need to provide evidence from your doctor about your volunteering.

You will still need to let Jobcentre Plus know about any volunteering that you are planning to do before you start.

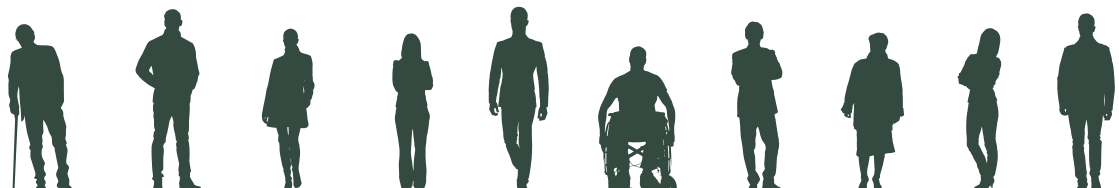
There is strong evidence that work is good for physical and mental well-being and that being out of work can contribute to poorer health.

The DWP is committed to providing people with the correct support they need to get back to work and avoid ending up on long-term sickness benefits.

The purpose of the WCA is to determine whether or not somebody has limited capability for work and, if so, whether or not they also have limited capability for work-related activity.

In providing their advice to the DWP decision maker (DM), the healthcare professional (HCP) considers all of the information and evidence provided by the claimant. Part of the assessment includes recording the claimant's "typical day", and this should include any type of regular activity undertaken by the individual, including any voluntary or paid work.

The fact that a claimant performs some kind of paid or voluntary work does not automatically result in a particular WCA outcome, but of course it will help the HCP and the DM determine what the individual can and cannot reliably do.



For more information about volunteering and claiming benefits, visit www.gov.uk/guidance/volunteering-and-claiming-benefits