Bedford Borough Council Blue Badge Scheme



PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING THE BLUE BADGE APPLICATION FORM

Please complete all relevant sections of the application form fully and supply the
appropriate documents to confirm your address, identity and evidence of eligibility. We
cannot issue you with a badge if you do not provide all required supporting documentation
stated within the application form or, if you do not fully complete the parts of the form which
apply to you. Incomplete application forms may be returned.

We will process your application as quickly as we can, but please note the process, from start to finish, can take up to 6 to 8 weeks. Blue Badges can only be automatically approved if you provide sufficient evidence which entitles you to a badge without further assessment. If a further assessment is required, you will be contacted by the Council to ask you to attend an independent mobility assessment. Where an independent mobility assessment is required, your application may take longer to process.

- Please complete the Blue Badge application form using black ink and either return it to us via the post, addressing the envelope to Blue Badges, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP (please ensure the right amount of postage is used) or, hand deliver the form to Customer Service Centre, 2 Horne Lane, Bedford, MK40 1RA. PLEASE NOTE BOROUGH HALL WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CHECK OR COPY ANY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS. THIS SERVICE IS ONLY AVAILABLE AT THE CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRE ON HORNE LANE.
- Please make sure you provide two passport quality photographs with your application.
 The photographs must have been taken within the last 12 months and meet the passport standards. If an inappropriate photograph is submitted your application form may be returned to you, resulting in a delay.
- Please do not send any money until we ask you to. If your application for a Blue Badge is approved, we will write to you requesting the fee. The fee for each new, renewed or replacement Blue Badge is £10.
- Original proof of residency, identity or cash should never be sent in the post. The Council cannot accept responsibility for documents or cash that go astray in the post. When sending proof of residency or identity, please ensure they are photocopies only.
- Please note that Blue Badges are no longer produced at the Council, but on our behalf by an external company which posts badges direct to an applicant's home address.
- Still have questions? Please refer to our Blue Badge Guidance Notes document for more in depth instructions. Alternatively please call us on 01234 718009 or email us at blue.badges@bedford.gov.uk.

Bedford Borough Council Blue Badge Scheme Application Form



This form must be completed for <u>new</u> and <u>reapplications</u>.

Please tick box as appropriate.

You must complete all relevant sections of the application form and send us the appropriate documents to confirm your address, identity and evidence of eligibility. These are needed to prevent fraud.

Bedford Borough Council cannot issue a badge if you do not complete this form fully and provide adequate evidence that you meet the eligibility criteria.

SECTION 1

INFORMATION ABOUT YOU If you are completing the form on the behalf of an applicant who is under 16 years of age or who is unable to complete the form for themselves, please provide their details in appropriate sections and sign the form on their behalf. Further guidance on completing this section can be found in Section 1 of the				
accompanying guidance notes.				
Title (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms):	First names (in full):			
Surname:	Surname at birth:			
Gender Male	Female			
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY):	Place of Birth:			
	Town:			
	Country			
	Country:			
National Insurance Number (see section 1 of the accompanying guidance notes)				
Driving Licence Number: (if you hold a driving licence	ce)			

Current address and contact details:	
	Postcode:
Home Tel:	Mobile Tel:
Email:	
Previous address, if different in the last three year	'S:
	Postcode
Do you currently hold a Blue Badge?	
Yes	No
If you already have a Blue Badge:	
Which local authority issued you with the badge?	
What is the serial number on the current badge?	
What is the expiry date of the current badge?	
CONFIRMATION OF ADDRESS	
CONTINUATION OF ADDICEOU	
Proof of your address, dated within the last 12 r To prevent fraud, we need to check that you are a process your application. Please select one of the f	resident in this local authority area before we can
Either:	
I give consent to the local authority to check my per Council Tax/Electoral Roll/School Register databas proof of my address.	
Or:	
I have enclosed a photocopy of one of the follow cannot accept originals):	ving proofs of residency (Bedford Borough Council
Benefit Award Letter	Council Tax Bill
Confirmation Letter from Social Services	Pension Letter
Confirmation Letter from School	

CONFIRMATION OF IDE	NTITY			
Proof of your identity				
You must attach a photocopy of Council cannot accept originals) processing your application:				
Birth Certificate/Adoption Certif	icate			
Valid Driving Licence (must be	current)			
Valid Passport (must be current)			
Marriage/Divorce certificate/Civi	il Partnership/Dis	solution certificate	e	
HM Forces Identity Card				
Certificate of British Nationality				
Identity Card for Foreign Nation	als			
We need to check your identity to	reduce the potentia	al for fraudulent app	olications for a Blue Badge.	
PHOTOGRAPHS				
Please attach two recent passport-quality photographs of yourself (if you are the applicant), or of the person applying for a Blue Badge (if you are applying on their behalf) in the boxes provided below. The photograph needs to be in colour with a white/cream background and show your, or their, full face so that the holder can easily be identified and no one else should be in the photograph (please see page 2 of the Blue Badge guidance notes for further details).				
	Your photo must be affixed here	Your photo must be affixed here		
I confirm that the photograph provi	ided has been take	en within the last 12	months	
Please ensure that your or their name is on the back of the photograph and you complete Section 6(c) of the application form to confirm that the photograph is a true likeness.				
PHOTOS ARE NOW DIGITALLY SCANNED. THEREFORE, ANY PHOTOS RECEIVED WHICH ARE NOT OF PASSPORT QUALITY CANNOT BE USED AND WILL BE RETURNED.				

VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER

Please nominate the vehicle registration number for the main cars in which you intend to use the Blue Badge:

(Up to three registration numbers should be nominated, but please remember that other vehicles can be used)

1	
2	
3	

BLUE BADGE ISSUE FEE

Bedford Borough Council charges a fee of £10 for each Blue Badge issued (this includes new applications, reapplications and replacement badges).

A letter will be sent from the Council to request payment for the badge when we are at the appropriate stage of the application process. The letter will provide instruction on how to make payment; this usually requires the applicant paying over the telephone using a debit or credit card.

PLEASE BE AWARE UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED A BLUE BADGE CANNOT BE ISSUED

PLEASE DO NOT SEND ANY PAYMENT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM

SECTION 2

QUESTIONS FOR 'WITHOUT FURTHER ASSESSMENT' APPLICANTS

These questions are intended for people who may qualify for a Blue Badge automatically because they:

- are severely sight impaired (blind);
- receive the Higher Rate of the Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance;
- receive the appropriate component of Personal Independence Payment (8 points or more for the 'Moving Around' category);
- receive the War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement; or
- receive a qualifying award under the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation)
 Scheme.

If you are unsure whether these questions apply to you, then please read Section 2 of the guidance note enclosed with this application form.

2a) People who are severely sigh impaired (blind)				
Are you registered as blind (severely sight impaired)?				
Yes No				
If YES, please state which local authority you are registered with:				
If YES, do you give consent to us to check the local authority's register of blind people to see whether your disability is already known to the council?				
Yes No				
If NO, then please indicate whether you have enclosed a copy of your Certificate of Vision Impairment (CVI) or a BD8 form, signed by a Consultant Ophthalmologist.				
Yes No				
2b) People who receive the Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance				
Do you receive the Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance?				
Yes No				
If YES, have you been awarded this benefit indefinitely?				
Yes No				
If NO, when is your award of this benefit due to end? Day / Month / Year				
If you are in receipt of the Higher Rate of the Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance you must enclose an original letter of entitlement to this benefit within the last twelve months or your original annual uprating letter (all original documents will be returned).				
If your application is successful, your Blue Badge can only be issued to match the expiration date stated on your benefit award letter. If your benefit has been awarded indefinitely, the badge will be issued for the maximum time of 3 years.				
Please note that we may also check that you are in receipt of this award with the Department for Work and Pensions.				

2c) People who meet a 'Moving Around' descriptor for the Mobility Component of Personal Independence Payment (PIP)				
Does your 'Moving Around' descriptor for the Mobility Component meet/match any of the following statements (please tick in <u>one</u> of the below boxes)?				
You can stand and then move unaided more than 20 metres but no more than 50 metres. (8 points)				
You can stand and then move using an aid or appliance more than 20 metres but no more than 50 metres. (10 points)				
You can stand and then move more than 1 metre but no more than 20 metres. (12 points)				
You cannot stand or move more than 1 metre. (12 points)				
If you did not tick any statement above, please tick the 'No' box. No:				
If you have ticked a statement above (8,10 or 12 points); have you been awarded this benefit for an ongoing period? Yes No				
If NO, when is your award of this benefit due to end? Day / Month / Year				
If you have ticked one of the above statements (8,10 or 12 points) for the 'Moving Around' descriptor of the Mobility Component of PIP, you must enclose an original letter of entitlement to this benefit (all original documents will be returned).				
If your application is successful, your Blue Badge can only be issued to match the expiration date stated on your benefit award letter. If your benefit has been awarded indefinitely, the badge will be issued for the maximum time of 3 years.				
Please note that we may also check that you are in receipt of this award with the Department for Work and Pensions.				
2d) People who receive the War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement				
Do you receive War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement?				
Yes No				
If NO, when is your award of this benefit due to end? Day / Month / Year				
If you are in receipt of the War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement you must enclose an original letter of entitlement to this benefit (all original documents will be returned). You should have an award letter from the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA). If you have lost this letter, then the agency can be contacted via the free-phone enquiry number 0800 169 22 77.				

2e) People who receive a benefit under the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation) Scheme
Have you received a lump sum benefit under the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation) Scheme within tariff levels 1-8 (inclusive) and have been certified by the SPVA as having a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty walking?
Yes No
If you are in receipt of the above mentioned award under the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation) Scheme, the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency (SPVA) will have issued you with a letter confirming the level of your award and also confirming that you have been assessed as having a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking. You must enclose the original of this letter as proof of entitlement (all original documents will be returned). If you have lost this letter, then the agency can be contacted via the free-phone enquiry number 0800 169 22 77.
SECTION 3
QUESTIONS FOR 'SUBJECT TO FURTHER ASSESSMENT' APPLICANTS WITH WALKING DIFFICULTIES
These questions are intended for people who have answered NO to all of the questions in Section 2. Please note that you will only qualify for a Blue Badge under this criterion if you, or the person on whose behalf you are applying, are over two years of age and:
 Have a permanent and substantial disability which means you are <u>unable</u> to walk; or you have <u>very considerable difficulty in walking</u>;
If you are unsure whether these questions apply to you, then please consult the guidance notes enclosed with this application form.
Under this criterion Blue Badges are only issued to people who are unable to walk at all, or who demonstrate very considerable difficulty in walking due to a permanent and substantial disability.
Please describe:
 Any medical conditions/disabilities which affect your walking. If you know them please state the medical terms for the condition you have been diagnosed with.
Medical conditions/disabilities

Sı	urgeries/ courses of treatme	ent/	Dates you received thi
	specialist clinics		treatment
medication do e?	you currently take in re	lation to the cond	itions/disabilities you descr
	Medication		Dosage
	king any pain relief in Yes	relation to the me	dical conditions/disabilities
oned above?		No	
oned above?	Yes	No	
oned above?	Yes	No	
oned above? S, please explain w	Yes what you are taking and how	No	
oned above? S, please explain words courrently(Pleace below)	Yes what you are taking and how	No	ed it:
oned above? S, please explain wou currently(Pleace below) Awaiting surgery in	Yes what you are taking and how ease tick whichever stater	No frequently you need nents apply to you lescribed above?	and provide further detail
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Name	Job Title	Hospital/ Health Centre	Telephone	Numbe
you anticipate that you	ır condition will impro	ove in the next 3 years?	Tick as appro	priate)
Yes	No [Don't Kno	w 🗌	
u ticked YES. Please d	lescribe how much yo	ou expect your condition	to improve	
	•	, ,	•	
do the conditions/dis	- - : ::::			
	abilities you describe	d above affect your abili	ty to walk?	
	abilities you describe	d above affect your abili	ty to walk?	
	abilities you describe	d above affect your abili	ty to walk?	
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	<u> </u>	nts to describe your ger		ability:
	<u> </u>			ability:
	the following stateme	nts to describe your ger	neral walking	-
se tick 'yes' or 'no' to	the following stateme	nts to describe your ger	neral walking	-
se tick 'yes' or 'no' to a lam able to walk well, i	the following statement including recreational with the supermarket to de	nts to describe your ger	neral walking	-
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se tick 'yes' or 'no' to an able to walk well, in a able to walk around a an able to walk and can able to walk, but so an able to walk, but so	the following statement including recreational was defined an use public transported truggle with longer distant to breathless if I walk found it too painful to walk see a wheelchair for longed my home, but am unated	nts to describe your ger alks o my own shopping for some of my local trips ances or hills or more than a few minute more than a few minutes er trips outside the home	neral walking Yes	·

Are you abl	le to walk outside without help? (Please tick the option which applies to y	/ou)
Please desc	cribe the help you need:	
•	rour local area, can you comfortably walk to from your home? (Please andmark which could be found on a map e.g. a shop, Street address or par	•
Please tick	the box that best describes the way you walk:	
No spe	cific problems with walking	
You wa	alk with a slight limp or other slight impairment	
You wa	alk with a heavy limp, a stiff leg or shuffle, or have problems with balance	
You dra	ag your leg, stagger, swing through two crutches or need physical support	
	e is not a box that describes the way you walk, please tell us in your ords about the way you walk in the space provided below:	
When answ examples:	vering the next few questions about distance and time, please refer t	o the following
•	The average adult step is just less than one metre, which is 1.1 yards or 3 4 inches.	3 feet
•	If you walk alongside someone and they take 100 steps you would have very roughly 90 metres, or 100 yards.	valked
•	The average double-decker bus is about 11 metres, or 12 yards, long.	
•	A tennis court is about 24 metres, or 26 yards long. A full size football pitch is about 100 metres, or 110 yards, long.	
	aids, how far would you estimate you are able to walk before yo? (Please state the distance in metres or yards using whichever measure is	
	: Metres	
	: Yards	

Roughly how much time would you estimate it takes you to walk this distance?					
: Minutes					
Are you able to continue walking after a short rest?					
Yes	No				
If you can continue, roughly how long (in minutes) are you able to walk for in total?					
: Minutes					
Do you use any of the following when you are you)	walking? (Please tick whichever options apply to				
1 elbow crutch	2 elbow crutches				
1 walking stick	2 walking sticks				
Walking frame (Zimmer frame)	Rollator				
Wheelchair	Powered wheelchair				
Other (please describe in the space below)					
Were your walking aids(Please tick whichever	options apply to you)				
Purchased privately by me					
Prescribed by a healthcare professional					
Provided by Social Services					
Other (please describe below):					

Please answer 'Yes' or 'No' to each of the following questions by ticking the relevant box:				
	Yes	No		
Are you troubled by shortness of breath when hurrying on level ground or walking up a slight hill?				
Do you get short of breath walking with other people of your own age on level ground?				
Do you have to stop for breath when walking at your own pace on level ground?				
Do you get too breathless to leave your home, or after dressing?				
Are you in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independ	dence Payment (l	PIP)?		
Yes No				
If YES, please state which component (i.e. Mobility, Care) and at what rate OR Personal Independence Payment (PIP) point level and category:	e (Lower, Middle	or Higher)		
SECTION 4				
QUESTIONS FOR 'SUBJECT TO FURTHER ASSESSI APPLICANTS WITH A DISABILITY IN BOTH ARMS	MENT'			
These questions are intended for people who have answered NO section 2 and 3. Please note that you will only qualify for a Blue Baif you, or the person on whose behalf you are applying, are over two	adge under this	criterion		
Drive a vehicle regularly, have a severe disability in both arms and are unable to operate, or have considerable difficulty in operating, parking meters.				
If you are unsure whether these questions apply to you, then plea notes enclosed with this application form.	se consult the	guidance		
Under this criterion Blue Badges are only issued to a person who meets <u>all</u> of the following: (a) drives a vehicle regularly; (b) has severely disability in both arms; and (c) is unable to operate, or has considerable difficulty in operating, all or some types of parking meters.				
Do you drive regularly?				
Yes No				

Do you have a severe disability in both arms?								
Υe	es 🗌	No						
Please describe your medical condition								
Are you unable to operate, or have considerable difficulty operating a parking meter or pay and display machine due to your upper limb disability?								
Υe	es 🗌	No						
If YES, please describe the difficulties you have with operating parking meters and pay and display machines.								
Do you drive a specially adapted veh	nicle?							
Υe	es 🗌	No						
If YES, please describe how the vehicle has been adapted for you, and enclose a copy of your insurance details verifying this adaptation.								

SECTION 5

QUESTIONS FOR 'SUBJECT TO FURTHER ASSESSMENT' APPLICANTS UNDER THE AGE OF THREE

These questions are intended for children under the age of three who may be eligible for a Blue Badge because:

- They have a condition requiring the transportation of bulky medical equipment at all times
- They must always be kept near a motor vehicle on account of a condition so that they can, if necessary, be treated for that condition in the vehicle or taken quickly in the vehicle to a place where they can be so treated

If you are unsure whether these questions apply to your child, then please consult the guidance notes enclosed with this application form.

Are you applying on behalf of a child under the age of three who has a condition requiring transportation of bulky medical equipment at all times?									
Yes No									
If YES, please state what type of equipment is required									
Are you applying on behalf of a child under the age of three that suffers from a condition that requires that they must be always kept near a motor vehicle so that they can, if necessary, be treated for that condition on the vehicle or be taken quickly in the vehicle to a place where they can be treated? Yes No									
If YES, please describe the child's medical condition									
Please enclose a letter from a healthcare professional that has been involved in your child's treatment (for example your GP or paediatrician) giving details of the child's medical condition and the type of medical equipment they need, or provide the healthcare professional's contact details below:									
SECTION 6									
FURTHER INFORMATION, DECLARATION AND SIGNATURES These questions are intended to be answered by <u>all</u> applicants for a Blue Badge.									
6a) Further information									
Is there anything else you can add that you think is relevant in support of your application for a Blue Badge?									

6b) Optional declarations about the information you have provided and the application process								
Please read and tick the following optional declarations that you consent to. Ticking these boxes will help to improve the service we can offer you.								
I consent to the local authority checking any information already held by the Council's Social Care department on the basis that:								
 It can help determine my eligibility for a Blue Badge It may speed up the processing of my application It may enable a decision to be made without the need for a mobility assessment 								
I agree to the disclosure of the information included in this form to other council departments/services providers so that I can be informed about other council services that may be of benefit to me								

6c) Mandatory declarations about the information you have provided and the application process

Please read the following declarations and sign/date in allocated boxes on the next page to indicate that you have read, understand and agree with each declaration. Failure to sign will mean that we are unable to issue you with a Blue Badge.

- I confirm that, as far as I know, the details I have provided are complete and accurate. I understand that should it come to the attention of the Council that I have made a fraudulent application (providing false information) which leads to a Blue Badge being awarded, there is a wide range of legislation available to local authorities which allows legal action to be taken against me which may result in a fine and/or imprisonment on conviction.
- I confirm that the photographs I have submitted with my application are a true likeness.
- I have included photocopies of my proof of residency and identity only (Bedford Borough Council cannot accept originals).
- I confirm that I do not currently hold a Blue Disabled Person's Parking Badge that has been issued by a different local authority.
- I understand that I must promptly inform my local issuing authority of any changes that may affect my entitlement to a badge.
- I understand the information I have supplied will be shared, where necessary, with Northgate Services and Payne Security who are responsible for the operation of Blue Badge Improvement Service.
- I understand that you will deal with all documents relating to this application in line with the Data Protection Act 1998, and may share them with other local authorities, the police and parking enforcement officers to detect and prevent fraud.
- I understand that the medical information I have supplied to support this application is deemed to be "sensitive personal data" and I consent to its disclosure only to a third party who is responsible for the operation and administration of the Blue Badge scheme and other Government Departments or agencies, to validate proof of entitlement.
- I agree to the local authority contacting an accredited healthcare professional if necessary, for the purpose of obtaining further information in support of my application.
- I understand that I may be required to undertake a mobility assessment with a healthcare professional who is independent of my existing care and treatment, in order to determine my eligibility for a Blue Badge.
- I agree that, if my application is successful, I will not allow any other person to use the badge for their benefit and I agree that I will use the badge in accordance with rules of the scheme as set out in the 'Blue Badge scheme: Rights and Responsibilities' leaflet which will be sent to me with the badge. I will return my badge to Bedford Borough Council on expiry.

6d) Checklist of documents you may need to enclose							
Please ensure you have enclosed all the documents for the sections of this application form that you have completed because they are relevant to you. We have provided a checklist below to help remind you of what you need to enclose.							
Section 1 – Information about you							
Proof of your address, dated within the last 3 months (if you have not given consent for us to check the Council Tax records)							
A certified copy of proof of your identity							
Two passport-style photographs of yourself with your name on the back							
Section 2a – People who are severely sight impaired							
A copy of your ophthalmologist report/CVI/BD8 form (if you have not given us consent to check the blind register)							
Section 2b – People who receive the Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) of 8 points or more for 'Moving Around'.							
An original letter of entitlement for the Higher Rate Mobility Component of Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment (PIP) stating the award of 8 points or more for 'Moving Around' issued within the last 12 months or an original copy of your annual uprating letter							
Section 2c – People who receive the War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement							
An original letter of entitlement for the War Pensioner's Mobility Supplement							
Section 2d – People who receive an award under the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation) Scheme							
An original award letter confirming receipt of tariffs 1-8 under the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation) Scheme, which also certifies that you have a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty walking							
Section 5 – Children under the age of three							
A letter from a healthcare professional that has been involved in the child's treatment; giving details of condition and type of medical equipment needed							
6e) Your signature against the declarations in sections 6b and 6c							
Your signature :							
Date of application: (DD/MM/YYYY)							
Please print your name here:							

Please return this form and all supporting documentation to:

Via Post:

Blue Badges Borough Hall Cauldwell Street Bedford **MK42 9AP**

Hand deliver:

Customer Service Centre 2 Horne Lane Bedford MK40 1RA

Tel: 01234 718009

Please note: Borough Hall is unable to accept any hand delivered application forms.

What do you consider your ethnic origin to be? (You do not have to complete this section) This									
information is required under our duties under the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000. Please									
place a tick against the appropriate ethnic description.									
	British		Indian		White and Black Caribbean		Black Caribbean		
	Irish		Pakistani		White and Black African		Other Black		
	Other White		Bangladeshi		White & Asian		Other mixed		
			Other Asian		Black African		Chinese		

Fair Processing Notice

This authority is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end may use the information you have provided on this form for the prevention and detection of fraud. It may also share this information with other bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes.

For further information, see the Fair Processing Notice on the Bedford Borough Council website www.bedford.gov.uk