

Start a rewarding career as a **personal assistant**

Register with the Walsall Personal Assistant Network for opportunities to work in personal care and support.

- PA job vacancies
- Training and qualifications
- Start your career in care



If you're looking for work as a personal assistant (PA), we can help you find your next job. We can offer information and advice on becoming a PA and provide access to training and qualifications to improve your skills and knowledge.

About Walsall Personal Assistant Network

Walsall Personal Assistant Network is an online directory bringing together individuals who are available to work as Personal Assistants and those who wish to employ them to lead more independent lives in their home, workplace or in the community.

Ideal for All, a user-led disability organisation, is working with Walsall Council to develop the Walsall Personal Assistant Network.

www.wcld.co.uk

What is a PA?

PAs typically provide a range of personal and practical support for people who have personal care and support needs because of their age, disability or long-term health issue.

PAs help people live their lives with greater independence, freedom and choice.

They can help with everyday care and daily tasks such as washing and dressing, household jobs, shopping, paying bills, meeting friends, attending college, work or medical appointments.

This type of work suits people who enjoy the company of others, like variety, perhaps already work in the care sector, want part time hours or are looking for a second income.

If you enjoy helping people and want to make a difference to their lives, working as a PA could be for you.

Who can register on Walsall PA Network?

Registration is open to anyone interested in PA work, including:

- PAs able to take on additional work
- Care workers looking for a new position or a second job
- Anyone with an interest in one-to-one personal care and support work.

Once registered, you can view current PA vacancies and access training and advice to support you in your role.

“ Having the support of my PA has completely changed my life. Kath is like my second right arm. She drives me about and I've got my independence now. ”

Doreen, PA employer | Doreen and her PA Kath are pictured on the front of this leaflet

“ Before becoming a PA, I had been made redundant and wanted to do something useful and keep busy. It's rewarding supporting Doreen to have the quality of life she deserves. ”

Kath, PA to Doreen | Kath and Doreen are pictured on the front of this leaflet

Join today...

Walsall Personal Assistant Network has dozens of vacancies for PA positions working for people in Walsall borough.

Register to find your perfect match. You can register on the Walsall PA Network via the Walsall Community Living Directory website:

www.wcld.co.uk



Frequently asked questions

Who employs a PA?

A PA is usually employed directly by the person needing support. They write the job description, set the rate of pay, and pay the wages. As an employee, a PA has employment rights.

What do PAs get paid?

Wage rates vary depending on the individual needs of the employer, available hours or job description. All workers aged 25 and over are legally entitled to at least £7.20 per hour. Go to www.minimum-wage.co.uk for other rates of pay by age bracket.

What are the working hours?

PA work tends to be very flexible and most roles are part-time across different days and times. Many Personal Assistants work for more than one employer.

What skills, qualifications and experience are needed?

If you are thinking of becoming a PA it is useful, but not essential, to have related experience (e.g. looking after a family member), studied or be studying for a social care qualification, or worked as a care assistant in the past. Due to the close working nature of personal care, sometimes other things may be more important than actual skills and experience. For instance a PA needs to be reliable, punctual, efficient and flexible. If you are interested but have no experience, you can access free training and support.

Will my benefits be affected?

If you would like to become a PA and are receiving benefits, your local council or benefit enquiry line would be able to advise you on how many hours you could work before your benefits would be affected.

Do I need a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check?

It is good practice (and mandatory in some cases) for employers to undertake a DBS check. They may also check your qualifications, work history, training, take up references and check your eligibility to work in the UK.

More information

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