

Statutory Sick Pay (SSP)

Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) is paid by your employer for up to 28 weeks if you're too ill to work. The statutory amount is currently £92.05 a week, and you are not allowed to get less than this (you might get more).

You get SSP for the days you would normally have worked. It's not paid for the first 3 days you're off, unless you're time off is as part of an ongoing illness.

Remember - If you have more than one job you may get SSP from each employer.

How do I get my SSP paid?

SSP is paid by your employer in the same way as your normal wages, at the same time, and with the usual tax and National Insurance deductions.

Am I eligible?

To qualify for Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) you must:

- be classed as an employee and have done some work for your employer
- have been ill for at least 4 days in a row (this includes non-working days)
- earn at least £116 (before tax) a week
- tell your employer you're sick before their deadline - or within 7 days if they don't have one

Remember - Agency workers are still entitled to Statutory Sick Pay.

However, you won't qualify if you:

- have received the maximum amount of SSP (28 weeks) in a given tax year
- are getting Statutory Maternity Pay

You can still qualify if you've only just started your job and haven't received 8 weeks' pay yet.

Short term ill-health

Good things to know:

- You only have to give your employer a doctor's fit note if you miss more than 7 days of work.
- Your statutory holiday entitlement still builds up whilst you're off work sick (no matter how long you're off for).
- If you're ill just before or during their holiday, you can take it as sick leave instead.
- Employers can't force you to take annual leave if you're eligible for sick leave.

Returning to work

Employers should make changes to an employee's working conditions if they become disabled because of their sickness. These changes are known as 'reasonable adjustments' and guidance on what these can be is found here at <https://www.gov.uk/reasonable-adjustments-for-disabled-workers>.