

# The Gibraltar Blue Badge Scheme

Explanatory Information



Issued by the Supported Needs and Disability Office

Ministry of Equality

HM Government of Gibraltar

[www.disability.gov.gi](http://www.disability.gov.gi)

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## Introduction

The Blue Badge Scheme is intended to assist persons with substantial disabilities with the inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking.

As a guide to what is meant by “very considerable difficult in walking”, the Medical Panel who decide whether to approve applications will consider how far that person can walk without having to stop due to pain, tiredness, balance or other issues affecting their ability to walk, and what kind of mobility aids they may need.

## Do I Have to be a Driver?

No, a badge may be issued to any person with a disability who qualifies, and the badge may be used in any vehicle while transporting the badge holder.

**Warning – it is a criminal offence to use or display the badge when the badge holder is not travelling in the vehicle. It is your responsibility to ensure that the badge is properly used.**

## How to Use the Badge

You must display the badge on top of the dashboard of the vehicle with the front of the badge (the side showing the wheelchair symbol) facing forward so that the relevant details are clearly visible from the outside.



**Warning – Failure to display the badge correctly will result in a fine.**

When requested by an officer of the Royal Gibraltar Police, a Traffic Warden, a Parking Management Office or a member of the Supported Needs and Disability Office (SNDO), badge holders are required to show the back of the badge to allow confirmation of identity and expiry date.

## Where can I Park?

Apart from any typical car parking space, a Blue Badge holder is entitled to park in an Accessible Parking Bay.



It is important to note that some bays are only available for 3 hours. This is stipulated on street signs.



You must display your badge and your clock. Please remember to set the time of arrival on the clock. The clock is provided by the SNDO alongside the badge.



## What Must not be Done

- You must not allow your badge to be used by any person other than the person with the disability. This may mean the withdrawal of your badge and, where the law has been breached, both parties will be prosecuted.
- You must not use your badge after its expiry date.
- You must ensure that the details on the front of the badge (i.e. date of expiry, issued by, and serial number) remain legible. If they become unreadable, the badge should be returned to the SNDO for re-issue.
- You must never copy or duplicate a badge yourself.
- You must never attempt to alter the details of the badge yourself.

## Misuse of Badge

Misuse of the Blue Badge is a serious offence. Your badge can be withdrawn if you misuse it or allow others to misuse it. It is a criminal offence for persons without a disability to use a badge. If they do so, they are liable for summary conviction to a fine.

## If you are a Driver with a Disability

Remember that if you are a driver with a disability and your disability is such that it is likely to affect your ability to drive (even if your car has been adapted) you should inform:

The Licensing Authority  
Department of Transport  
Motor Vehicle Test  
Centre  
Eastern Beach Road  
Gibraltar



&

The Supported Needs and  
Disability Office  
Suite 955 Europort  
Building 9, Floor 5  
Europort Road  
Gibraltar



It is important that you have this conversation with your medical professional. Please note that, as per the Traffic (Licensing and Registration) Regulations, it is illegal to drive if you have been diagnosed with certain conditions.

## How Long Does my Badge Last?

This varies depending on the nature of the disability.

## How do I Obtain a Badge?

- Download a form from [www.disability.gov.gi/forms](http://www.disability.gov.gi/forms)
- Fill it in
- Get a medical professional to sign
- Attach a recent medical letter which confirms diagnosis
- Attach 2 Passport/ID photos
- Bring everything to the SNDO at Suite 955 Europort, Building 9, Floor 5



## What Happens Once I Drop it Off?

Your application will be reviewed by the SNDO. Applications where the need for a Blue Badge is clear will be approved within a few days. Applications where the need is not clear will be sent to Panel.

## What is Panel?

A panel is held every month to review applications. The panel is comprised of medical professionals within the GHA, and they access the applicant's GHA file/medical records to determine the need for as Blue Badge.



## What Happens after Panel?

The outcome of the GHA Panel is sent to the SNDO and they will either develop your Blue Badge and post it to you OR send you a letter informing you that your application has been unsuccessful.

## How can I Appeal?

You can appeal the Panel's decision once. Fill in another form and bring it to the SNDO with any additional medical evidence you feel may strengthen your application.

**Please note that if you are unsuccessful again, you cannot reapply for at least 6 months, unless there has been a significant change in your condition. Evidence of deterioration of your condition must also be provided**

## Returning a Badge

You must return the badge to the SNDO (as the Issuing Authority) if:

- The Blue Badge has expired;
- Your medical condition or mobility improves;
- A replacement badge has been issued for one that has been lost or stolen, and the original is found or recovered (then the original must be returned to the Issuing Authority)
- The Blue Badge becomes damaged or faded to the extent that it is illegible;
- The badge is no longer required, for example in circumstances where you are confined to the house and no longer able to travel.
- The badge holder falls under Residential Care (the Residential Care provider should have access to an Institution Blue Badge)

Please note that the Blue Badge should be returned to the Issuing Authority on the death of the badge holder.

**It is illegal to use someone else's Blue Badge and offenders will be prosecuted.**

## **Use of the Badge in Spain and the EU**

As Brexit negotiations are still ongoing, countries within the EU (e.g. Spain) are not required to recognize Gibraltar's Blue Badge. Therefore, it is up to the user to contact local authorities and use their own discretion.



## **Can other EU Issued Badges be Used in Gibraltar?**

Yes, Gibraltar currently recognises and accepts the right for visitors to use a Blue Badge regardless of the country of origin, provided that they are used properly and on a temporary basis. If a person with a Blue Badge permanently moves to Gibraltar, they will have to apply for a Blue Badge as described earlier in the document.