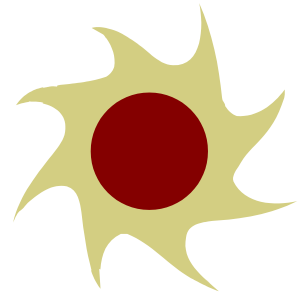


Skills and Qualities Required



Personal Qualities

My personal assistants must be:

trustworthy, reliable and responsible, discreet and respect the importance of confidentiality, committed to disabled people having control over our own lives;

conscientious, able to work to instruction, capable of assisting quietly and efficiently, sensitive to different needs in different environments, observant, able to know when their direct assistance is needed, and able to work flexibly.

Skills

My personal assistants need to be:

able to work in their own initiative, able to work in a non-homophobic manner, able to support me during localised or generalised seizures;

able to push me in my manual wheelchair (including up ramps), able to use a hoist (training will be given), able to drive my car (must have a clean driving license), able to carry out domestic duties efficiently (e.g. cooking and cleaning), and able to carry out assistance with the minimum of fuss and supervision.

and have good spoken English, given the need to sometimes assist me with communication.

Learning the Job

Disabled people ourselves are the best people to know what our needs are, and how we can be best assisted. You must be able to learn the different tasks involved, listen well when I explain what I need, and ask for guidance when you are unsure.