

WORK WITH MARK

ACCESS TO WORK APPLICATION FOR NEURODIVERGENT BUSINESS OWNERS

FREE TO MEMBERS & THOSE WHO
INCLUDE JOYFULLY DIFFERENT
MEMBERSHIP IN THEIR APPLICATION



Our Access to Work Application Support is structured in a series of informative and empowering consultations with our co-founder Mark Blake.

Mark will guide you through **each step of applying for your Access to Work funding*** – including funding for your Joyfully Different membership as well as any other support you might need for your business journey such as virtual assistant support, office equipment, assistive technologies and more.

Each of your **three consultations** will be one hour long and conducted via Google Meet or Zoom, or in-person if you live locally to Brighton & Hove. After your final consultation, Mark will support you to submit your application.

PART 1 | 60 MINUTE CALL UNDERSTANDING YOUR UNIQUE NEEDS

Your Access to Work support begins with an introductory session with Mark. This conversation is a chance to discuss your specific needs and the additional support you might require for yourself and your business.

**Please note that Mark is not a legal professional, and the free Access to Work advice Mark provides through Joyfully Different draws on his lived experience and training from his political lobbying career which has given him an in-depth understanding of government policy and disability legislation.*

Enquire by emailing hello@joyfullydifferent.co

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PART 2 | 60 MINUTE CALL TAILORING SUPPORT TO YOUR BUSINESS NEEDS

In your second consultation, we'll look at all of your business responsibilities and the unique challenges you encounter day-to-day as a result of your neurodivergence. We will ensure we draw a line between your professional and personal life and concentrate specifically on how neurodivergence affects your business operations, as Access to Work funding is designated solely for work-related support.

During this call, we'll explore how a Joyfully Different membership can support you in establishing and growing your business, as well as how specialised coaching and support, mentoring, and assistive technology might address your specific professional challenges.

This exploration is not just about identifying the difficulties you face, but the specific types of support and tools that will most effectively assist you in your business. We will explore potential providers for this support, and where to find more information about good providers who understand your lived experience.

Mark will support you in understanding how access to these resources can be covered by Access to Work funding and how to include them in your Access to Work application. You and Mark will work together to ensure that every aspect of the support you apply for is directly aligned with enhancing your business productivity and success, staying within the remit of the funding's intent.

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PART 3 | 60 MINUTE CALL LEVERAGING YOUR RIGHTS FOR SUPPORT

In your third and final call, Mark will guide you through your legislative rights and protections. This session is crucial for preparing you to effectively communicate your needs during assessments and conversations with caseworkers.

The goal is not to misrepresent your situation and to ensure you articulate your challenges clearly to access the funds designed to assist neurodivergent business professionals.

PART 4 | FEEDBACK COLLABORATIVE APPLICATION PROCESS

After your three consultations, you'll be equipped to complete your Access to Work application.

You will then be invited to share your application draft as a Google or Word Document with Mark, who will provide constructive feedback and notes.

While Mark cannot offer advocacy during meetings with caseworkers, his guidance will include advice on common pitfalls and areas to be cautious about in the application process.

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