

Benefits and Young People...

Fact Sheet 3: For Residents and Advisers

7th October 2024

www.wolverhampton.gov.uk

1. Introduction

This Information Guide is designed to provide information on the benefits that may be available to young people whilst they are:

- without parental support
- unemployed
- working but perhaps only part-time or in low paid employment
- unable to work due to a physical or mental condition
- caring for a disabled person
- pregnant
- lone parent
- in education

and living in Wolverhampton.

Normally, parents will claim Child Benefit and possibly additional amounts of Universal Credit (the/ Child Tax Credit as a means of financial support for their children. This support can then continue when a child (aged under 16) becomes a young person (aged 16 plus) and remains at school or college or undertakes approved training.

However, there are circumstances in which young people may be able to claim benefits in their own right in place of any potential benefits payable to their parents.

The aim is to enable young people and those working with young people to identify, using the information provided herein, the circumstances in which benefits may be claimed, thereby reducing the situations in which young people go without any financial support for day-to-day living and rent should they be living in rented accommodation.

2. The Starting Point

The starting point is to recognise that there are a number of different benefits that may be available to a young person dependent upon their age and circumstances. These include:

A. Child Benefit:

Where the young person (irrespective of their age) may be considered to be 'responsible' for a child. For example, where they have a child of their own. A young person could get £25.60 per week for their eldest child plus an extra £16.95 per week for each subsequent child.

B. Personal Independence Payment (PIP):

Where the young person is aged 16 or over and by reason of ill-health or disability needs help with their 'daily living' and/or 'mobility'. PIP can be worth from £28.70 per week to £184.30 per week depending on the nature of ill-health and disability.

C. Disability Living Allowance (DLA):

Where the young person is aged under 16 and by reason of ill-health or disability needs help with their personal care and/or mobility. DLA can be worth from £28.70 per week to £184.30 per week depending on the nature of ill-health and disability.

D. Carer's Allowance:

Where the young person is aged 16 or over (not treated as being in full-time education or studying for 21 or more hours per week) and looks after / cares for someone who is getting a relevant award of Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment or Attendance Allowance. Carer's Allowance is worth £81.90 per week.

Do seek further information or advice before making a claim for Carer's Allowance. This is because in some cases a claim for Carer's Allowance can adversely affect the amount of benefit being received by the disabled person.

E. New Style JSA:

Where the young person is aged 16 or over and unemployed. To qualify the young person must have worked and paid sufficient National Insurance contributions. The young person must also have a 'Claimant Commitment' which shows that they are looking for work and available for work. New Style JSA is paid at a flat rate of £71.70 per week (aged under 25) or £90.50 per week (aged 25 or over). New Style JSA may only be paid for 26 weeks.

F. Statutory Sick Pay (SSP):

Where the young person is employed but off work due to sickness or ill-health. To qualify the young person's normal wages must have been £123.00 per week or more. SSP is worth £116.75 per week. It may be paid for a maximum period of 28 weeks. SSP is paid by the employer.

G. New Style ESA:

Where the young person is aged 16 or over and may by reason of ill-health or disability be considered to be too sick to work (i.e. they have 'limited capability for work'). To qualify the young person must not be getting Statutory Sick Pay (see E. above) but have worked and paid sufficient National Insurance contributions. New Style ESA is worth from £71.70 per week to £138.20 per week depending on the age of the young person and the nature of ill-health and level of their disability. New Style ESA is normally only paid for the first 365 days of sickness but can be paid beyond this in cases of severe disability.

H. Industrial Disablement Benefit:

Where a young person has an injury or disability following an accident at work or because they have contracted a prescribed disease in the course of their work.

Young Mums: In the case of a young woman who is aged 16 or over and working, and they are in the latter stages of pregnancy (or they have recently given birth) then [Maternity Allowance](#) or [Statutory Maternity Pay](#) may be available to them.

Also, providing the young woman is receiving a 'qualifying benefit' (e.g. Universal Credit) at the time of claim (irrespective of whether they are working at the time or not) then they may have entitlement to a [Sure Start Maternity Grant](#) (SSMG) which is worth £500. In the case of a young woman who is pregnant / had a child when aged under 16 then the SSMG may be available to her parents. Do seek further information and advice as necessary.

Rent and Council Tax: If the young person is living in rented accommodation and they qualify for Universal Credit then their Universal Credit can include an amount to help them with their rent. If they are liable for the council tax, then they may be able to get help with this through the [Council Tax Support](#) scheme from their local authority. Do seek further information and advice as necessary.

When looking to establish the benefit rights of a young person, the above benefits should be considered. The young person's rights to Universal Credit must also then be explored. See 3. Universal Credit below for more details.

3. Universal Credit

Universal Credit is designed to provide people with a minimum income for day-to-day living and rent payments should they be living in rented accommodation.

Universal Credit was introduced some years ago in an attempt to simplify the benefit by replacing a number of existing benefits (see 8. The Legacy Benefits for more details) and in doing so aim to 'make work pay' - make sure people are 'better off' in work than out of work.

Universal Credit is a '**means-tested benefit**' - that is to say an entitlement is subject to the claimant's (and their partner's) level of income and savings / capital. Anyone with savings / capital of £16,000 or more is not able to apply for Universal Credit. Further, a young person's entitlement to Universal Credit will normally be dependent upon them having a 'Claimant Commitment' outlining the steps they need to undertake find work as a condition of their entitlement.

See 4. Universal Credit and Young People to see which young people may be able to apply for Universal Credit. See also 5. The Amount of Universal Credit and 6. The Claimant Commitment for more information on these subjects.

4. Universal Credit and Young People

Universal Credit is designed to provide some people with a minimum amount of money to live off. Whether or not a young person is able to apply for Universal Credit will depend upon their age and personal circumstance. See below.

Aged 18 or over - NOT in Education

A young person can apply for Universal Credit if they are **Aged 18 or over** and **NOT** in **EDUCATION** in a number of different circumstances. This includes where the young person is:

- A. unemployed
- B. too sick to work
- C. a carer
- D. pregnant
- E. a lone parent
- F. in part-time work
- G. in low paid employment.

How much Universal Credit is actually payable is dependent upon the young person's personal and financial circumstances. See 5 The Amount of Universal Credit on page 8 for more information.

Aged 16/17 - NOT in Education

If the young person is **Aged 16 or 17** and **NOT** in **EDUCATION** then they may apply for Universal Credit if:

A. They may be considered to be 'without parental support' because they are unable to live at home with their parents because:

- they are estranged from them; or
- there would otherwise be a serious risk to their physical or mental health were they to live with their parents; or

- they would otherwise suffer significant harm were they to live with their parents.

Note 1: If the young person is actually living with someone who may be considered to be acting in place of their parents / someone who may be considered to have assumed the mantle of parental responsibility for them, then this particular provision may not apply. See page 7 for more information on this topic.

Note 2: A young person will be treated as having 'parental support' if they are in care being 'looked after' by a local authority.

B. They have submitted a doctor's Med3 'fit note' stating that they are too sick to work or they have been assessed as having 'limited capability for work' (with or without an assessment of 'limited capability for work-related activity') under the 'work capability assessment'

C. They are pregnant and within 11 weeks of their due date

D. They gave birth within the last 15 weeks

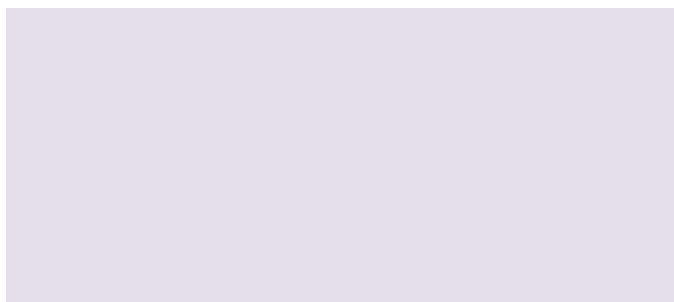
E. They have a child of their own

F. They are a member of a couple and their partner meets the basic qualifying conditions of entitlement and is responsible for a child

G. They receive Carer's Allowance for looking after someone or they have 'regular and substantial' caring responsibilities for a disabled child or adult and would be entitled to Carer's Allowance but for the fact they work, and the level of their earnings are too high

H. They are an orphan and there is no one who may be considered to be acting in place of their parents / someone who may be considered to have assumed the mantle of parental responsibility for them - see page 7 for more information on this topic.

I. They live away from their parents and their parents are unable to support them financially because they have a physical or mental impairment, or they are in custody or they are prohibited from entering Great Britain due to immigration rules. This provision will not apply if there is someone who may be considered to be acting in place of the young person's parents / someone who may be considered to have assumed the mantle of parental responsibility. See page 7 for more information on this topic.



How much Universal Credit is actually payable is dependent upon the young person's personal and financial circumstances. See 5. The Amount of Universal Credit on page 8 for more information.

If the young person is aged 16 or 17 and they are in education, then see below.

Aged 16 or Over - RECEIVING Education

The general rule is that a young person may not apply for Universal Credit if it is considered that they are 'receiving education'. A young person will be considered to be 'receiving education' if they are (a) undertaking a full-time course of 'advanced education' (see Note 3 below) or (b) undertaking a full-time course of 'non-advanced' education (see Note 4 below) or (c) undertaking a full-time course of study for which a student loan or student grant is provided for their maintenance.

Moreover, a young person will be considered to be 'receiving education' if they are undertaking any course of study (part-time or full-time) which is not of the type mentioned in (a), (b) or (c) above but which it is considered is not compatible with the 'work-related requirements' that may be expected of them as part of their 'Claimant Commitment' conditionality.

A 'work-related requirement' is a requirement that can be imposed as part of a young person's Universal Credit claim. It can involve the requirement to engage in Work-focused Interviews, job search and so-called work-related activity. It can also involve the young person agreeing to the requirement that they would be available for work should a job opportunity arise. It is quite clear here that if the young person is disabled (physically or mentally) then there may be no or very light touch 'work-related requirements' that can reasonably be expected of them. In such circumstances it may well be argued that the course they are undertaking is not incompatible with the 'work-related requirements' expected of them. Indeed, in the case of a disabled young person (e.g. perhaps where they are autistic or have a learning disability) it could be argued that their very attendance on the course in question should be their only 'work-related requirement' because it will help to get them closer to the labour market, job ready, etc. See 6. The Claimant Commitment on page 11 for more information.

Note 3: A young person will be considered to be undertaking a full-time course of 'advanced education' if the course they are doing may be described as 'full-time' and it is a degree or postgraduate-level course or course which is above A level or advanced NVQ level.

Note 4: A young person will be considered to be on a full-time course of 'non-advanced education' if they are aged under 19 (or aged 19 but they have not yet reached the 31st August following their 19th birthday) and on a full-time course (12 hours per week of more) of equal standing to a GCSE or A-level or a course at least below degree standard.

In any event a young person will be exempt from the 'receiving education' rule and so able to apply for Universal Credit where:

A. They have a child of their own irrespective of the level of the course (i.e. 'advanced education' or 'non-advanced education') or whether they are studying part-time or full-time.

B. They are aged under 22 and on a course of 'non-advanced education' (see Note 4 above) which they started at least before their 21st birthday and they may be considered to be 'without parental support'.

A young person may be considered to be 'without parental support' where they are unable to live with their parents because:

- they are estranged from them; or
- there would otherwise be a serious risk to their physical or mental health were they to live with their parents; or
- they would otherwise suffer significant harm were they to live with their parents.

If the young person is actually living with someone who may be considered to be acting in place of their parents / someone who may be considered to have assumed the mantle of parental responsibility for them, then this particular provision may not apply. See page 7 for more information on the topic of acting in place of parents.

C. They get either Personal Independence Payment or Disability Living Allowance and they may be assessed as having / treated as having 'limited capability for work' (with or without an assessment of 'limited capability for work-related activity') under the Work Capability Assessment.

New rules surrounding this particular provision were introduced from **5th August 2020** and then on **15th December 2021** which now mean that to qualify under this particular heading the assessment of 'limited capability for work' needs to have been made **BEFORE** the young person claims Universal Credit (e.g. for the purposes of a claim for New Style ESA) or if the person was already getting Universal Credit **BEFORE** the date, they started the course of education. Please see [Benefits Bulletin: Benefits Update](#) (dated 31st January 2022) for more information on the rule changes. Do seek further advice and information as necessary.

D. They are about to return to a course having taken time out from it (with the consent of their school / college / university) due to illness or a caring responsibility and they have now recovered from the illness or ceased their caring undertakings but not yet resumed their course and they are not eligible for a student loan.

If a young person leaves the course, they are doing altogether then the 'receiving education' rule should not apply to them. However, if they are taking a short break / time out from their studies then they will be treated as though they are still 'receiving education' and only eligible to apply for Universal Credit in the circumstances explained herein.

Note 5: If the young person is undertaking a degree course, then they would be expected to access any student loan available to them and then particular aspects of any such loan would be treated as part of their income when assessing how much Universal Credit should be paid.

Note 6: A young person will normally be deemed to be 'receiving education' even if they have left school / college up until the 31st August after their 16th birthday. Similar rules apply where the young person is aged 16/17 and they are in the Child Benefit Extension Period a 20-week period following the young person having left education when their parents can continue to claim Child Benefit for them providing they have registered for work, training and education with Connexions. Moreover, a young person will continue to be treated as 'receiving education' whilst under the age of 20 upon leaving school / college / training up to whichever date comes first - the 28th (29th) February, 31st May, 31st August or 30th November after they have left school or college or on the Sunday in the week in which they turn 20 if that is sooner.

Estrangement: a young person may be 'estranged' from their parents when they have:

- no intention or wish to live with them; or
- no wish for any prolonged physical or emotional contact with them.

A young person may also be estranged in circumstances when their parents feel this way about them.

A young person may be estranged even though their parents are providing some financial support.

The actual test here is that by reason of the estrangement the young person cannot live with their parent or persons acting in place of their parents.

Case Law - Estrangement:

- R(SB)2/87 and R(IS)5/05 held that 'estrangement' has 'connotations of emotional disharmony'
- CIS/4096/2005 held that there was no requirement of mutuality of feelings for estrangement to exist
- CIS/4096/2005 held that estrangement has to be judged from the point of view of the claimant, not the point of view of the parent (or person deemed to be acting in place of parents).

Proving Parental Estrangement: As part of a young person's claim to Universal Credit the DWP may ask them to, in essence, prove that they are estranged from their parents. If this should happen then bear in mind that in such cases the burden of proof does lie with the young person. It is not up to the DWP to prove that a young person is not estranged.

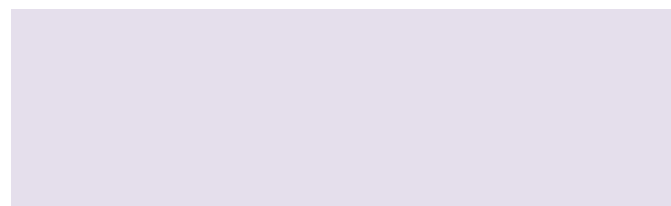
However, the standards of evidence in Social Security law is the 'balance of probabilities' (i.e. more likely than not) not beyond reasonable doubt as it is in criminal law. Moreover, be aware that in the case law decision in R(SB)33/85 it was held that a person claiming benefit does not need to corroborate their own evidence. That is to say that a person's own written or oral testimony should be sufficient unless it is questionable because it is seen to be implausible, contradictory or unreliable for some other reason. In any event, the DWP should not be seeking to talk to a young person's parents to 'get their side of things' or asking the young person to provide something in writing from their parents to verify their own statement - not least because estrangement can be one sided.

In respect of '**serious risk to physical or mental health**' examples of serious risk might include where the young person:

- suffers from chronic bronchitis which is made worse by the damp conditions at the parent's home; or
- has a history of mental illness which is made worse by the parent's attitude; and there is a serious risk that their health will be adversely affected by staying in the parent's home.

Acting in Place of Parents: A parent means natural parent or adoptive parent. A 'person acting in place of parents' could include an informal relationship where a young person has been brought up by another family member.

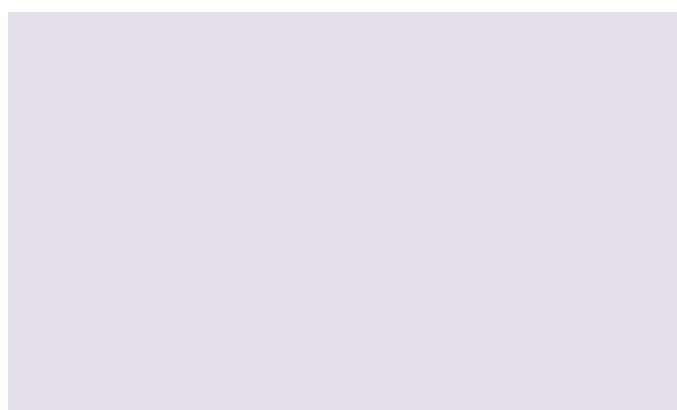
When considering whether a person is 'acting in place of parents', factors to consider are whether the person provides supervision and financial, moral, social or other care and guidance and shelter, food and clothing and is responsible for any disciplinary action. Where someone other than the young person's parents is claiming Child Benefit then that should be treated as a 'strong indication' that the person is acting in place of the young person's parents.



Where a young person is in care / foster care the local authority / foster carers will be assumed to be acting in place of parents. However, in cases when a Care Order expires (usually at 18th birthday) and the young person continues to live with their former foster carers then the former foster carers should not at this point be treated as a person acting in place of parents.

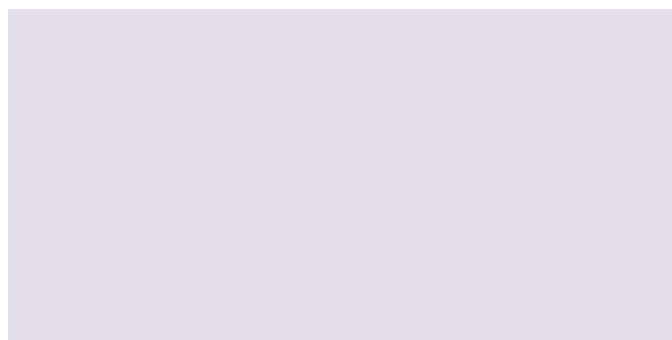
This position was confirmed in case law decisions CSB/325/1985 and CIS/11766/1996.

Living with Boyfriend's/Girlfriend's Family: NP v SSWP - [2009] UKUT 243 (AAC) concerned a case of a young girl who had left her mother and went to live with her boyfriend and his father. The father was said to provide 'social and moral guidance' to the girl and she had agreed to 'follow house rules'. The father provided the girl with shelter and some food but provided no financial support to her and had not claimed Child Benefit or Child Tax Credits for her.



The decision held that whilst an informal arrangement could amount to someone 'acting in the place of parents', there was a need for a greater degree of commitment and permanence than was found in this case. The decision held that to be 'acting in place of parents', an adult must in practice be acting broadly in a way that a parent would. So, even if they do not formally hold parental responsibility, they must be acting as what is sometimes described as a social parent.

In this case, the father was held to have simply done what any person who lacks parental responsibility might do, namely that which was reasonable in all the circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding the child's welfare. It was held that this did not give him parental responsibility over the young girl - he was not 'acting in the place of [her] parents' because his conduct lacked the greater degree of permanence and commitment required to meet that test. It was held that the young girl was only a 'temporary guest in his household' and crucially he was not providing her with financial support - Miss P had to rely upon assistance from her friends - in short, the father was helping her out to a limited extent as any responsible adult would do.



5. The Amount of Universal Credit

Universal Credit is paid monthly in arrears. How much is actually paid depends upon a person's age and personal circumstances.

In each case a 'Maximum Universal Credit' amount is calculated. Deducted from this will be the young person's income. The balance, if any, will be the amount of Universal Credit paid.

Maximum Universal Credit

LESS

Assessed Income

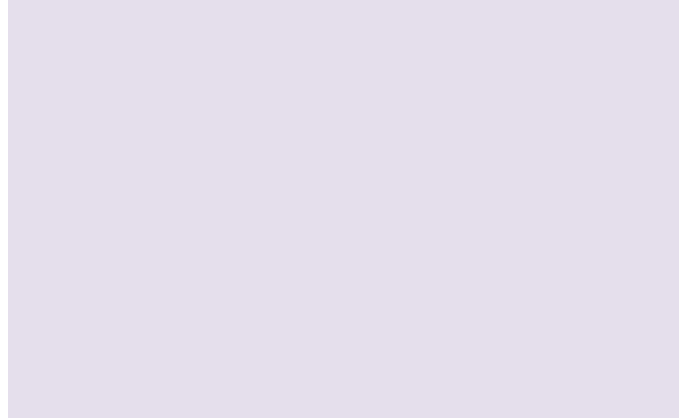
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Amount of Universal Credit Paid

The basic amount awarded to people aged under 25 is less than the amount awarded to people aged 25 or over. Further, as you would expect, the amount paid to couples is greater than the amount paid to single claimants.

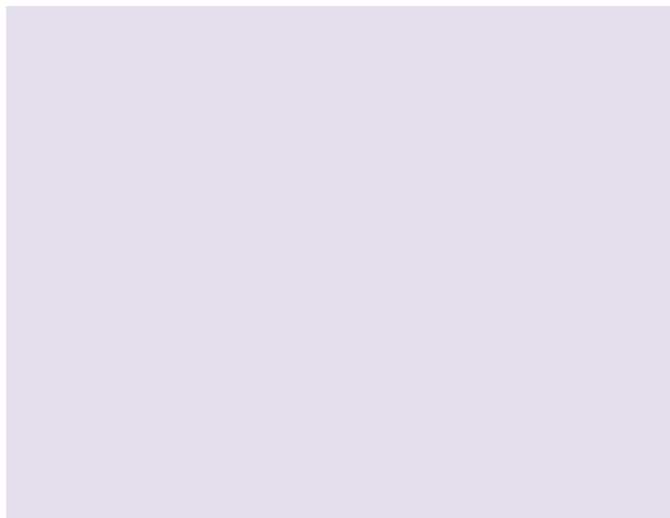
If someone lives in rented accommodation, then an amount is allowed to help them with their rent. However, if the young person is living in certain types of **supported accommodation** (including a refuge) or accommodation designed to support **homeless people** then it may well be that they will need to apply for Universal Credit to help them with their day-to-day living but **Housing Benefit** to help with their rent / housing costs. Do seek further information and advice as necessary.

Example One: Lisa (aged 18) is single. She is unemployed and lives at home with her parents. Lisa will get £311.68 per month (£71.92 per week) Universal Credit.

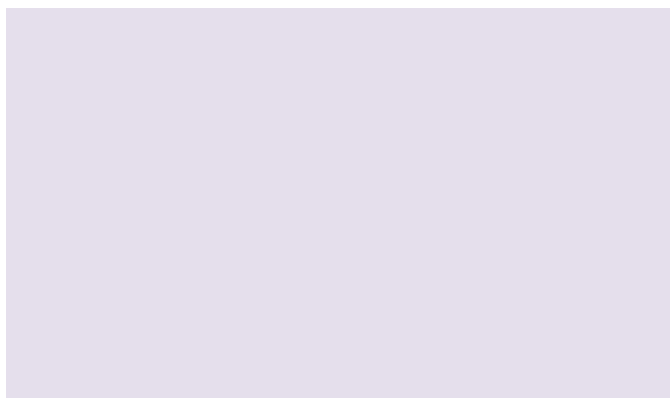


Example Two: Ardy (aged 24) is single. He is unemployed and lives in a privately rented flat with friends. His rent is £258.00 per month.

Ardy will get a basic amount of Universal Credit of £311.68 per month (£71.92 per week). His payments will also include an amount for his rent. When Ardy is 25, his basic Universal Credit award will rise to £393.45 per month (£90.79 per week). When this happens, he will still get money towards his rent.



Example Three: Ashley (aged 21) and Salma (aged 19) are a young couple living together. They are both unemployed and live in rented accommodation. Their rent is £385.00 per month. They will get £489.23 per month (£112.89 per week) Universal Credit. In addition to this they will also get an amount to help them with their rent payments.



In addition to the basic amount of Universal Credit (and help towards housing costs for those living in rented accommodation) the following amounts can also be paid:

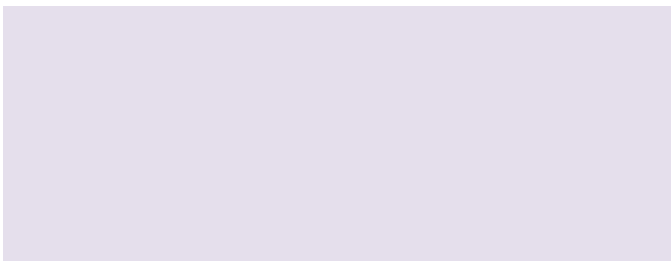
- £287.92 per month (£66.44 per week) for a child (in addition to any Child Benefit) - a higher amount of £315.00 per month (£76.92 per week) is awarded instead for the eldest child providing they were born before 6.4.2017

- £198.31 per month (£45.76 per week) where the young person is a carer of a disabled child or adult
- £416.19 per month (£96.04 per week) where the young person has a significant disability and is held to have 'limited capability for work' and 'limited capability for work-related activity'.

If a young person has a child that is disabled and an award for Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is made for that child, then the young person's Universal Credit payments can include an extra 'disabled child' addition.

This can be worth £156.11 per month (£36.02 per week) or £487.58 per month (£112.51 per week) depending on the amount of DLA awarded.

When it comes to 'income', whilst Child Benefit, Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Payment are fully disregarded, any Carer's Allowance or New Style JSA / New Style ESA would be fully taken into account.



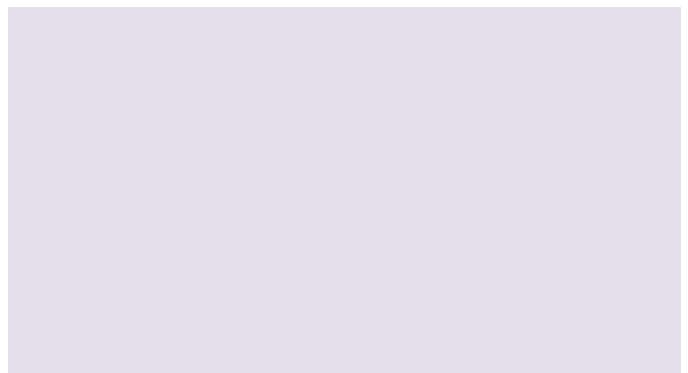
If a young person is working, then 55% of any net earnings (including any Statutory Sick Pay / occupational sick pay) would be deducted from / off-set against the maximum Universal Credit amount. If the young person has a child (or is deemed to have 'limited capability for work') then they are allowed a 'Work Allowance' (an earnings disregard) of:

- £404.00 per month (£93.23 per week) if they live in rented accommodation
- £673.00 per month (£155.30 per week) if they do not live in rented accommodation / they live with a friend or their parents or another close relative

before the 55% taper is applied.

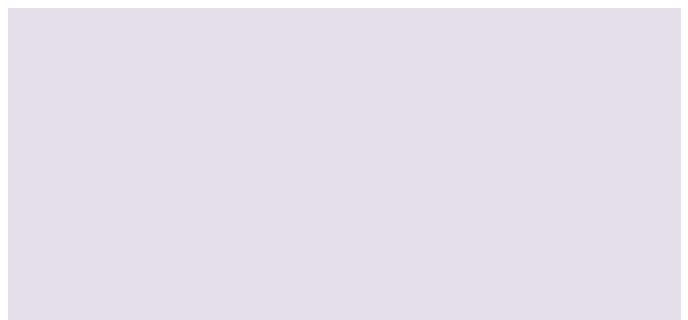
Note 9: Prior to **24th November 2021** the taper was 63% not 55%. Over time the level of the 'work allowance' has been increased in stages from £344.00 per month originally to £404.00 per month and from £573.00 per month originally to £673.00 per month.

Example Four: Alex (aged 21) is single. He lives in a bedsit. His rent is £260.00 per month. His Universal Credit entitlement is £571.68 per month - £311.68 for his day-to-day living and £260.00 for his rent. Alex starts work part-time. He earns £385.00 per month. His Universal Credit payments are adjusted. He now gets £359.93 per month Universal Credit in addition to his wages. This is because only £211.75 (£385 @ 55% = £211.75) of his wages is counted as his income.

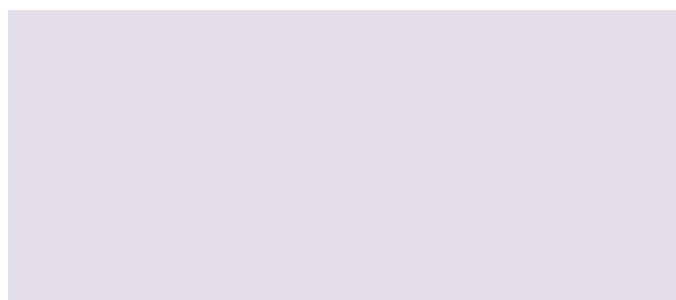


Example Five: Jodie (aged 19) is a lone parent. She has a young daughter aged six months. Jodie lives with her grandmother. Jodie gets £599.60 per month (£311.68 Standard Allowance plus £287.92 Child Element = £599.60) Universal Credit for her day-to-day living.

She also gets £25.60 per week Child Benefit. Jodie works part-time. Her net pay is £538.00 per month. This does not impact on her Universal Credit entitlement because the amount she earns is less than her (£673.00 per month) eligible 'Work Allowance'.



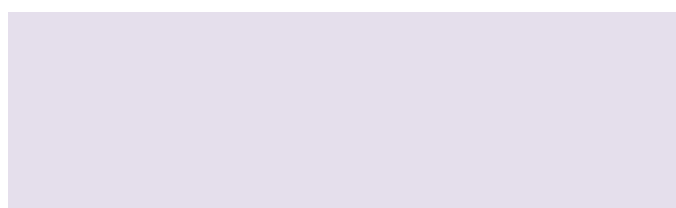
Student Finance: If a young person is at university and eligible to apply for Universal Credit then any student loan available to them would be treated as their income for Universal Credit purposes. This would be the case even if they did not apply for any student finance or had not chosen to take the full amount of student finance available to them. Any grants for tuition or examination fees, or disability-related expenses would be fully disregarded. Also, any grant for expenses for books and equipment or travel expenses for attending the course or childcare costs would be disregarded.



Housing Costs and Universal Credit:

Under Universal Credit rules it was originally set out that only certain young single claimants aged 18 to 21 would be able to get help with their rent. This included those with children, care leavers and some disabled young people.

However, the government announced on 29th March 2018 that it was going to scrap this rule. This means that all young people eligible to Universal Credit will be able to get help towards their housing costs in the normal way.



6. The Claimant Commitment

One of the conditions of Universal Credit is that a young person will 'accept' a 'Claimant Commitment' setting out the 'work-related requirements' they must meet in return for an award of Universal Credit.

The 'Claimant Commitment' will be drawn up by a Work Coach based at the young person's local Job Centre. It may be reviewed periodically.

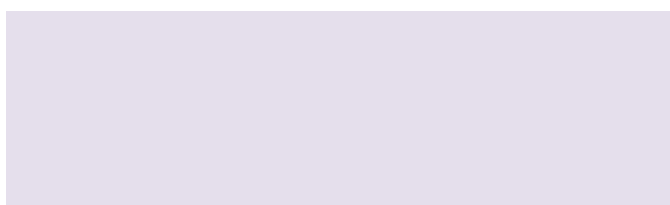
There are FOUR distinct 'work-related requirements'. They are:

1. Work-focused interview: A young person will be expected to meet or talk to their Work Coach periodically and examine barriers to work, training and work preparation opportunities.

2. Work Preparation: A young person may be expected to participate in training or work experience programmes designed to improve their prospects of obtaining work.

3. Work Search: A young person will be expected to actively seek paid employment.

4. Work Availability: A young person will be expected to be available for work - meaning able to attend a job interview immediately and willing to take paid employment immediately.



If a claimant does not accept a 'Claimant Commitment', then they risk being refused Universal Credit.

In the case of young couples, they will each be expected to have a 'Claimant Commitment' subject to their own individual circumstances.

Precisely what 'work-related requirements' are expected will depend very much on the individual circumstances of the young person. Concessions and exemptions are available to those who have young children, are too sick to work / disabled, undertake volunteer work, have a caring responsibility and those in education.

If someone fails to meet their 'work-related requirements' then they risk being sanctioned and having their Universal Credit payments stopped or reduced.

In any sanction situation a person may have to rely on Universal Credit 'hardship payments' (repayable loans) to make ends meet.

Universal Credit has not replaced Council Tax Support. Therefore, if a young person is aged 18 or over and liable for council tax then it is important that they make a separate claim for Council Tax Support in order to reduce the amount of council tax they must pay.

Universal Credit has also not replaced:

- New Style JSA (formerly known as Contributory Jobseeker's Allowance); or
- New Style ESA (formerly Contributory Employment and Support Allowance).

Therefore, if a young person has been working and paying National Insurance contributions and they become unemployed or too sick to work they should seek to claim one of these benefits as well as Universal Credit.

Furthermore, Universal Credit has not replaced Personal Independence Payment, Disability Living Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Child Benefit, Statutory Sick Pay and Industrial Injuries Benefit.

There will be some young people who are getting 'legacy benefits' at the present time. This is because they will have claimed the 'legacy benefit(s)' before Universal Credit was introduced. For these people, certain relevant changes of circumstance will trigger the requirement to apply for Universal Credit under a system known as '**natural migration**'. At this point they will have to forego their 'legacy benefits' and receive Universal Credit instead.

7. The Legacy Benefits

Universal Credit has replaced the following so called 'legacy benefits':

- Income-based JSA
- Income-related ESA
- Income Support
- Housing Benefit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit

This means that a young person will not ordinarily be able to claim one of these benefits for the first time now. They will need to apply for Universal Credit instead.

If the young person lives in rented accommodation, then an amount will normally be allowed to help them with their rent.

However, if the young person is living in certain types of **supported accommodation** (including a refuge) or accommodation designed to support **homeless people** then it may well be that they will need to apply for Universal Credit to help them with their day-to-day living but **Housing Benefit** to help with their rent / housing costs. Do seek further information and advice as necessary.

Those people who remain on 'legacy benefits' will eventually be invited over the coming months to apply for Universal Credit under arrangements known as '**managed migration**'. When this happens, Universal Credit will replace their 'legacy benefits'. Do seek further information and advice as necessary.

8. Fact Sheets and Information Guides

The Welfare Rights Service produces the following Fact Sheets and Information Guides on Social Security benefits and welfare reform.

Benefits Fact Sheets:

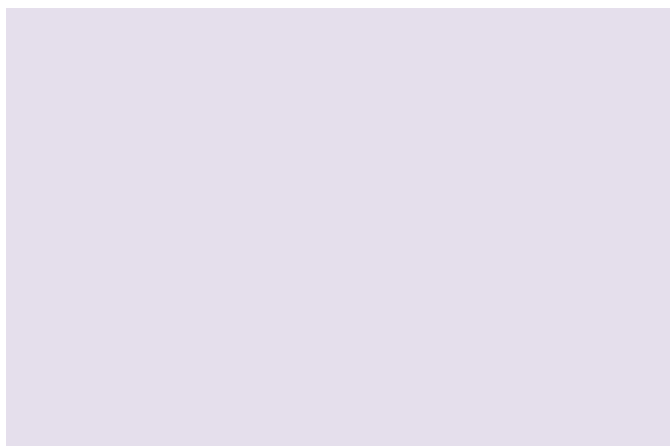
1. Benefits and Work
2. Benefits and Disabled Children
3. Benefits and Young People
4. Benefits and Older People
5. Benefits and People from Abroad
6. Private Tenants and Universal Credit
7. Volunteering and Benefits

Benefits Information Guides:

1. Universal Credit
2. Universal Credit - Claims and Payments
3. Universal Credit - The Claimant Commitment
4. Universal Credit - Sanctions and Hardship Payments
5. Universal Credit and Vulnerable People - Claims and Payments
6. Universal Credit - Managed Migration
7. Universal Credit and The Work Capability Assessment - Toolkit
8. Personal Independence Payment
9. Personal Independence Payment - Toolkit
10. Form Filling: PIP2
11. Form Filling: ESA50 / UC50
12. DWP Social Fund
13. The Spare Room Subsidy
14. The Benefit Cap
15. Disputes and Appeals
16. Going to Appeal: First-tier Tribunals

The information in our fact sheets and guides is designed to provide details of the different benefits that may be available to people in a variety of situations including when they are in work, unable to work due to ill-health, unemployed or retired. It also seeks to inform people of the steps that may be taken should they wish to dispute a decision made surrounding their benefit entitlement.

A copy of the Fact Sheets and Information Guides may, together with other topical benefit information, be obtained from our [Social Security Benefits](#) page on the City of Wolverhampton Council website.



Please also watch out for our periodical **Benefits Bulletins** which provide news on the latest developments surrounding benefits and welfare reform. These are also available on the website.

 Telephone: (01902) 555351

 Email: WRS@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Note: The details provided in this and our other Fact Sheets and Information Guides is meant to provide an overview on important and topical issues relating to Social Security benefits and welfare reform. The details should not be treated as an authoritative statement of the law. The details may be subject to change by new regulation and/or case law. Do seek further information and advice as necessary.

Welfare Rights Service
Specialist Support Team
City of Wolverhampton Council