

Updated 7 April 2020

UNIVERSAL CREDIT (UC) FACT SHEET FOR CLIENTS

The following information can be found at: <http://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/new-to-universal-credit/how-much-youll-get/>

We have summarised this into several sections and we hope you find the information useful.

How your UC payment is calculated:

There are 3 steps to work out your Universal Credit payment. More details about each stage are below:

1. Your household's maximum Universal Credit amount is calculated. This will be made up of one standard amount and any additional amounts that apply to you and your household (for example, for housing costs or children).
2. Money may then be taken off because of your earnings or other income (such as money from savings), to pay back any advances or loans you have taken out, or because arrangements have been made for money to go straight to your utility provider. If you have received a sanction, this will also reduce your Universal Credit payment.
3. If it applies to you, the benefit cap may reduce how much you receive.

What makes up your payment

Standard allowance

Part of the Universal Credit payment is a standard amount for your household. This is known as your standard allowance. Your monthly amount will depend on whether you are single or in a couple, and your age.

| Your circumstances | Monthly standard allowance |
|--|----------------------------|
| Single and under 25 | £342.72 |
| Single and 25 or over | £409.89 |
| In a couple and you're both under 25 | £488.59 |
| In a couple and either of you are 25 or over | £594.04 |

Children and childcare

Universal Credit can provide support to help with the costs of bringing up children. The amount you may be able to get is shown here, and there's more detail in the section on:

<https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/new-to-universal-credit/children-and-childcare/>

Child amount:

If you are responsible for a child (or children) who normally lives with you, you may qualify for the child amount:

| Number of children | Extra monthly amount |
|-----------------------|---|
| For your first child | £281.25 (born before 6 April 2017) £235.83 (born on or after 6 April 2017) |
| For your second child | £235.83 per child |

Disabled child amount

You may get extra money if your dependent child is disabled. This Disabled Child Addition is paid at either a higher rate or a lower rate.

To qualify for the lower rate your child must be:

- entitled to Disability Living Allowance, or
- entitled to Personal Independence Payment (for a child over 16)

To qualify for the higher rate your child must be:

- entitled to Disability Living Allowance (higher rate care component)
- entitled to Personal Independence Payment (enhanced rate) (for a child over 16), or
- registered blind

You can still receive a disabled child addition for a third or subsequent child, even if you do not get the basic child amount.