

Tax Credits

What are Tax Credits?

Tax Credits are made up of Child Tax Credits and Working Tax Credits.

- Child Tax Credits are to help pay for the costs of children
- Working Tax Credits are to help top up wages

Tax Credits are means tested so take into account your income. They are administered by HM Revenue and Customs.

Universal Credit has replaced most new claims for working age means-tested benefits, including Tax Credits, but some people still receive them

Am I eligible for Tax Credits?

Child Tax Credits

To be eligible for Child Tax Credits you must:

- be responsible for a child or a qualifying young person
- satisfy the income means test

Working Tax Credits

To be eligible for Child Tax Credits you must:

- be in paid work
 - work enough hours, which vary depending on your circumstances
 - satisfy the income means test
-

How much Tax Credit might I receive?

The current Tax Credit rates can be found at [Income support on Gov.UK](#). The amount you get depends on many things including how much income you have and your age.

You can also [Check your entitlement to benefits online](#) on the Gov.UK.

Benefit cap

Your benefit(s) may be limited by the [Benefit cap](#).

How to claim Tax Credits

It is not normally possible to make a new claim for Tax Credits. Instead you would have to make a claim for [Universal Credit](#). However if you are already on Working Tax Credits and you have a child, you can then ask for Child Tax Credits for your new child. It is not a new claim, just a change to your existing Tax Credits. The same is true if you are already on Child Tax Credits and you start working the required hours, you can then ask for Working Tax Credits to be included in your Tax Credits. More details about this are on the City Council's [more detailed Universal Credit](#) webpage.

Tax Credits are administered and paid by the [Tax Credits office](#) of HM Revenue and Customs. See [manage your Tax Credits](#) on gov.uk

Where can I get benefits advice?

You can get benefits advice from a local independent service. They can help guide you through the application process and explain how some benefits may impact upon another:

- [Citizens Advice Newcastle](#) give advice to anyone in Newcastle
 - [Newcastle Welfare Rights Service](#) give advice to people in priority groups including those over 65. They have [self help material](#) on their website.
 - Find more about [benefit advice services](#) available across Newcastle.
 - [Turn2us](#) helps people in financial need gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and other financial help – online, by phone and face to face through partner organisations.
-

Other Useful Information

- [Payment Exception Service](#) was introduced as cheques are no longer used to pay state benefits and Pension credit. InformationNOW has more details on the service available to those unable to use bank accounts.

Last updated: September 9, 2021

Useful Organisations

Newcastle Welfare Rights Service

Email: welfare.rights@newcastle.gov.uk

Website: www.newcastle.gov.uk/welfarerights

Telephone: 0191 277 2627

Citizens Advice Newcastle (CAN)

Website: <http://citizensadvice-newcastle.org.uk>

Telephone: 0191 229 2750

Address: 4th Floor, City Library, NE1 8AX

GOV.UK

Website: www.gov.uk

Telephone: 0191 229 2750

Turn2us

Email: info@turn2us.org.uk

Website: www.turn2us.org.uk

Telephone: 0808 802 2000

Address: Unit 9, CF15 7QQ

Related Articles

[Welfare benefits](#)

[Universal Credit](#)

[Income Support](#)

[Support for people with low incomes](#)

[Child Benefit](#)