

Help to Claim Project

Universal Credit
Support Service



2. Are you eligible to claim UC?

citizens
advice

Westminster



You might get **Universal Credit (UC)** if you're unemployed or on a low income. There is no set level of income where you stop being eligible for UC - it depends on your situation.

You can also get UC if you cannot work because of disability, illness or caring responsibilities.

Who can claim UC?

To get UC, you must:

- be 18 years old or over (in some cases 16 or 17 years old);
- be under the Pension Credit qualifying age (check here if you are not sure: www.gov.uk/state-pension-age)
- live in the UK - there are extra rules you'll need to meet if you're not a British citizen
- have less than £16,000 in savings

You should not claim UC if you are getting a benefit with a **severe disability premium (SDP)**. Check your benefit letter if you're not sure.

If you have stopped getting a benefit with an SDP in the last month, check if you're still eligible for the SDP

www.gov.uk/disability-premiums-income-support/eligibility.

If you are still eligible, you should not claim UC until full migration of legacy benefits is rolled out.

If you are in full-time education or training, you usually cannot get UC (though there are some exceptions).

If you are already claiming benefits

As UC replaces six "legacy benefits", you will not get these benefits if you apply for UC. You can find out more about moving to UC from other benefits by visiting:

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/universal-credit/before-you-apply/moving-to-universal-credit-from-other-benefits/

If you are appealing a legacy benefit decision, it may be worthwhile waiting for a decision on your appeal or mandatory reconsideration before claiming UC. You might not be able to go back to your other benefit even if your appeal succeeds.

You can contact us for advice if you are not sure whether to claim for UC. Call and speak to our advisers on **0800 144 8 444 (free phone)**. Lines are open 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday

Or visit:

www.westminstercab.org.uk/advice/universal-credit/