

Universal Credit and you

What is Universal Credit?

Universal Credit is a new benefit for people living on a low income, or who are out of work.

It will make it easier to start a new job or work more hours, so you will be better off in a job than you will be on benefits.

Universal Credit replaces 6 other benefits with a simpler, single monthly payment.

It includes help with the cost of housing, children, childcare and other living expenses. It will also give financial support to disabled people and carers, and people who are too sick to work.

What does it mean for me?

Universal Credit is being introduced in stages. Whether you can claim it will depend on where you live and your personal circumstances. You can check if you can get Universal Credit by going to www.gov.uk/universalcredit, or talk to someone at your Jobcentre.

If you aren't eligible for Universal Credit, you may still be able to claim other benefits such as Jobseeker's Allowance.

If you are already claiming benefits you will not be able to claim Universal Credit yet. You will carry on claiming your benefits as usual.

How do I make a claim?

You will be expected to make your Universal Credit claim online at www.gov.uk/universalcredit

If you don't have a computer at home, you can use the computers at your local Jobcentre.

If you need more help, you can get face-to-face and telephone advice to help you make a claim.

You will be invited to an interview with your work coach to sign a Claimant Commitment. This sets out the responsibilities you have accepted in return for getting Universal Credit.

Where can I get support?

Your work coach at the Jobcentre will make sure you have the right help to get online, manage your money and find work.

You can get advice online about getting ready for Universal Credit. Visit www.gov.uk/universalcredit to find out more.

You can get help with budgeting from the Money Advice Service. Visit www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk to find out how.

Your local council will be able to help you with internet access and face-to-face support. Call 01724 296131 or visit www.northlincs.gov.uk

These local organisations can also help you get online:

Barton Jobcentre

Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 9am to 5pm and Wednesday 10am to 5pm.

Support available: Assisted Service and Self Service

King Street, Barton upon Humber, DN18 5ER. Phone 0345 604 3719

Barton Library and Local Link

Open Monday 9.30am to 6pm, Tuesday 9.30am to 5pm, Wednesday 9.30am to 2pm, Thursday and Friday 9.30am to 5pm, Saturday 9am to 1pm.

Support available: Assisted Service and Self Service. (All libraries in the local area offer internet access and support)

Providence House, Holydyke, Barton upon Humber, DN18 5PR. Phone 01724 296808

Carlton Education

Open Tuesday and Wednesday 9am to 12.30pm, Thursday 9am to 4pm.

Support available: Self-service Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday pm. Assisted service available Thursday 9am to 12.30pm

31 Fleetgate, Barton upon Humber, DN18 5QA. Phone 01652 637489