

Job Start Payment

What is it?

A payment for young people in Scotland who have been out of work and receiving certain benefits. The Job Start Payment aims to help them with the cost of starting a new job.

Am I eligible?

You may be eligible if:

- You have a job offer for paid employment
- You live in Scotland on the day of the job offer
- The job is for an average of 12 hours per week over a 4 week period (it doesn't have to be a permanent job)
- You are aged 16-24. This means you can apply until your 25th birthday. However, if you are a care leaver, you can apply until your 26th birthday.
- You were out of paid work and getting certain benefits for 6 months or more when you were offered the job (the 6-month period does not apply to care leavers who need only to be receiving the benefit on the day of the job offer)
- The qualifying benefits are:
 - Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
 - Income Support (IS)
 - Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Universal Credit (UC)

When can I apply?

You can apply up to 3 months after getting your job offer.

How much will I be paid?

The Job Start Payment is £250, or a higher rate of £400 if you are the main carer of any children. You do not need to pay it back.

You can be paid Job Start Payment more than once if you find yourself out of work again in the future. You can apply again as long as more than 2 years have passed since you got the payment and you again meet all of the eligibility criteria.

How do I apply?

You can apply:

- By phone on 0800 182 2222
- British Sign Language users can apply via video relay using the [contactSCOTLAND](#) app
- Online via the [Job Start Payment section](#) of the mygov.scot website
- By post – you can request a paper form by calling the above number or download and print a form from the [mygov.scot website](#)

Where can I find further information?

Further information about Job Start Payment can be found on the [mygov.scot website](#)

Many organisations provide welfare rights advice and support to apply for benefits. For details of support available in your local area please contact Visibility Scotland:

- By phone on **0141 332 4632**
- [Email us](#)
- [Visit our website](#)

We value your feedback

You can help us improve this factsheet by letting us know what you think about it. Contact us by phone on **0141 332 4632** or [email us](#).

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