

What is a Financial Shock?

An Unforeseen Event with Massive Impact on Income.

No Blame, No Shame

Circumstances Outside of Your Control

Impacting Income

Understanding **Furlough** Scheme

Determining Your **Entitlements**

Applying for **Sick Pay** &/or **Universal Credit**

Considering **Additional Employment**

Addressing Issues of **Self Employment**

**This Information Is Changing Rapidly.
Regularly Check to Stay Updated on Your Entitlements.**

The following organisations work to ensure you know everything that you're entitled to:

This Information is changing rapidly so regularly check the following websites to stay updated on your entitlements.

www.moneyadviceservice.org.uk -

Coronavirus What it means for you – overall a great allrounder, website is really simple to use, covers areas as key questions and covers all aspects on financial entitlement.

www.moneysavingexpert.com -

Great for the latest news on the coronavirus and how this impacts what you are entitled to. Even covers small things like cancelling train tickets and subscriptions.

www.citizensadvice.org.uk -

Coronavirus What it means to you – brilliant for the latest official guidelines by the government. They can also be contacted for impartial advice and can guide you on what you may or may not be entitled to.

Who is Entitled to Sick Pay?

You Are Entitled If You:

- Class as an employee & have begun work
- Earn £118+ per week on average
- Inform employer of COVID-19 self-isolation within 7 days
- Aren't ill but are following gov't guidance & can't work from home.

You MAY be Entitled If You:

- Are an agency or casual worker
- Are on a zero hours contract
- Started work recently & haven't received 8 weeks pay

You're NOT Entitled If You:

- Have Had Max SSP (28 Weeks)
- Are Self-Employed
- Had ESA in the past 12 weeks
- Are on Statutory Maternity Pay
- Earn less than £118 a week
- Are an Agricultural Worker

Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) Entitlements

- Those Entitled to SSP Receive **£95.85** per Week.
- **Contractual Sick Pay** May Result in More than £95.85
- Applies from **First Day of Symptoms** if Covid Related
- Doctor's **Note Not Required**
[NHS Isolation Note](#) available by visiting NHS 111 online

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (Furlough)



[Click here for the GOV webpage on the scheme](#)

- Furloughed Means “Put on Standby”
- Part-time Return to Work Programme (From August)
- Pays 80% Monthly Wage (£2,500 max) until October
- Recently Redundant/Notice Period Staff Can Request
- Must Have Been on PAYE Payroll Before 19 March 2020
- All PAYE Employers Eligible

Working Tax Credits :

Do You Need to Notify if Your Hours Have Changed?

Temporary Hour Reduction	Self Employed: Hours Reduced/Temp Stopped	Furloughed
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No Notification to HMRC for 8 weeks (may be extended)• WTC Paid at Normal Rate		
Permanent Hour Reduction	Redundancy	Childcare
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform HMRC As Soon As Change Is Made Permanent• Credits May Reduce/Stop	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform HMRC ASAP!• If Not WTC Eligible, Possible 4 Week Run On Payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Linked to Working Hours• If Working Hours Normal, Will Receive as Usual

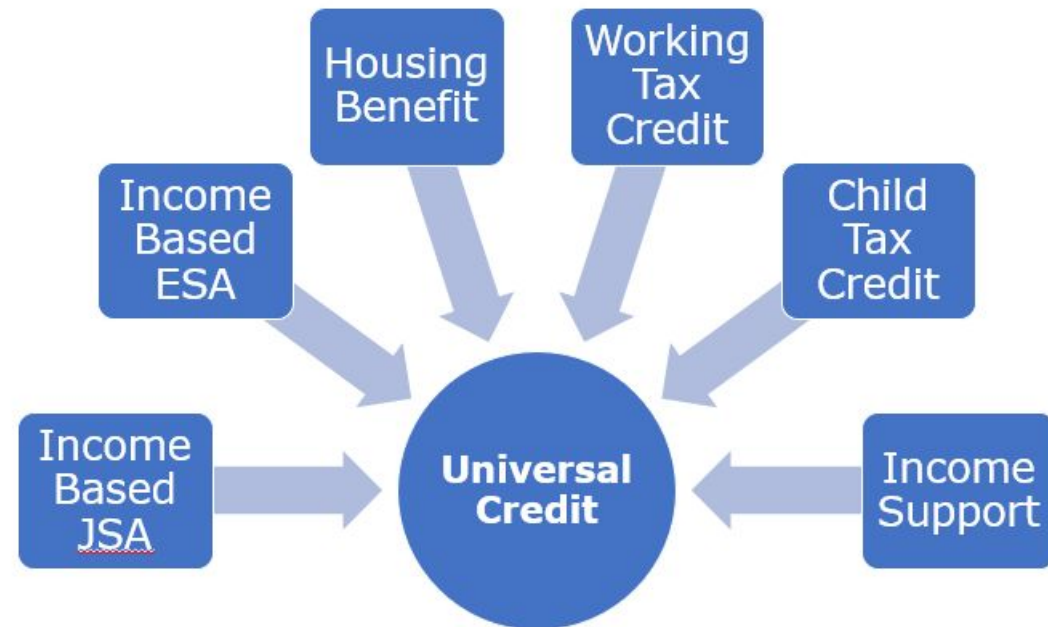
Benefits Overview

Universal Credit

Universal Credit replaces **SIX** in work and out of work benefits:

NOTE

- Universal Credit replaces **income-based** JSA & ESA (not contribution-based JSA & ESA)

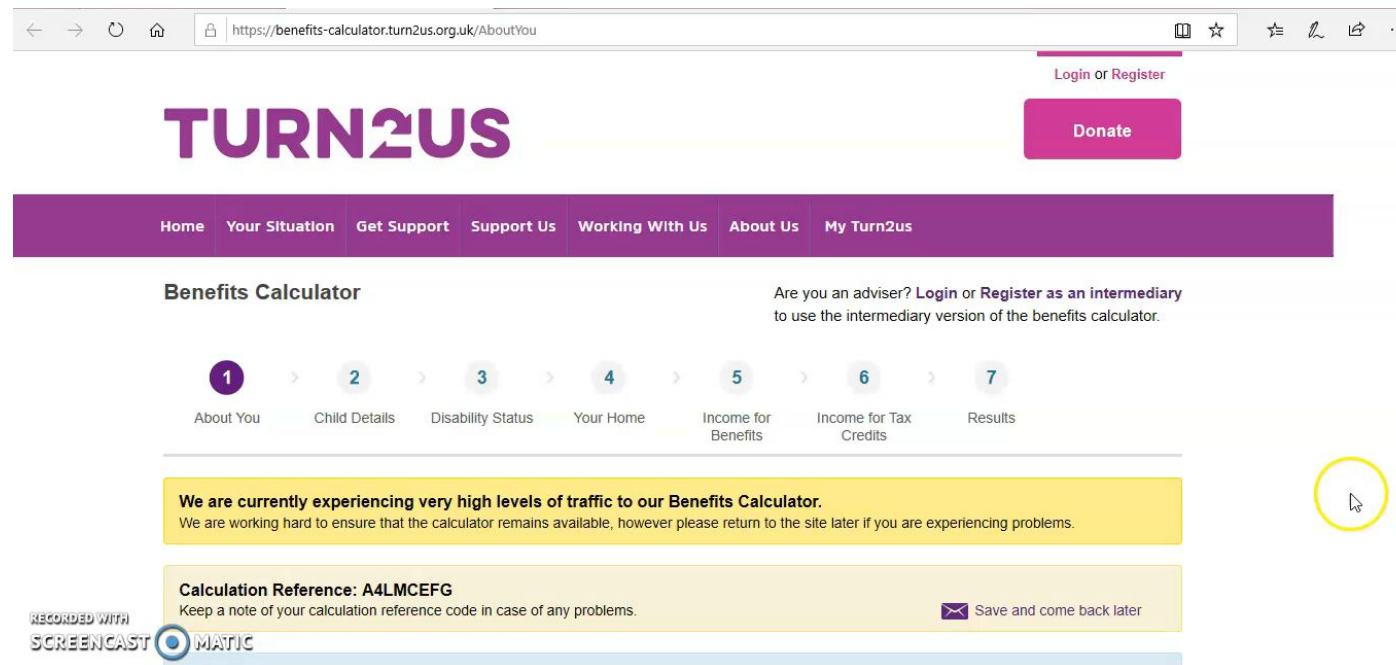


Changes to Universal Credit

- Standard Allowance **increased £20/week** (£1000/year)
- Working Tax Credit Scheme Gets Same Rise
- Required, In Person **Jobcentre Attendance Suspended**
- **Housing Benefit Unfrozen**
- Universal Credit '**Minimum Income Floor**' **Scrapped**
- Applications Online Only
 - *No Internet Access: UC Helpline 0800 328 5644*

Useful Universal Credit Resources

[Turn2Us Benefit Calculator](#) includes all changes and can help you understand if changing your benefits will make you worse off.



The screenshot shows the Turn2Us website's Benefits Calculator interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Turn2Us logo, a 'Login or Register' link, and a 'Donate' button. Below this is a purple navigation menu with links for Home, Your Situation, Get Support, Support Us, Working With Us, About Us, and My Turn2us. The main content area features a 'Benefits Calculator' heading and a progress indicator with seven steps: 1. About You, 2. Child Details, 3. Disability Status, 4. Your Home, 5. Income for Benefits, 6. Income for Tax Credits, and 7. Results. A yellow banner below the progress indicator states: 'We are currently experiencing very high levels of traffic to our Benefits Calculator. We are working hard to ensure that the calculator remains available, however please return to the site later if you are experiencing problems.' Below this, another yellow banner displays a 'Calculation Reference: A4LMCEFG' and a 'Save and come back later' button. A 'RECORDED WITH SCREENCAST MATIC' watermark is visible in the bottom left corner of the screenshot.

Useful Universal Credit Resources

Money Advice Service have two useful resources:

1) Simple UC Guide

The Money Advice Service | Free and impartial money advice | Cymraeg | Sign in | Register | Search

Debt & Borrowing | Homes & Mortgages | Budgeting & Saving | Work & Benefits | Pensions & Retirement | Family & Care | Cars & Travel | Insurance | BLOG

This article appears in: Benefits | Universal Credit

Benefits

- Help with your benefits
- Child Benefit
- Universal Credit

Universal Credit explained

Universal Credit is a new benefit to support you if you're working and on a low income or you're out of work. This page explains how Universal Credit is different from existing benefits, how much you'll be paid and how to apply for it.

- What is Universal Credit?
- Who can claim Universal Credit?
- Universal Credit key facts
- How long does it take to get Universal Credit?

Related guides

- Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit for sick and disabled people
- How will moving to Universal Credit affect me?

Most read

2) Money Manager

The Money Advice Service | Free and impartial money advice | Cymraeg | Sign in | Register | Search

Debt & Borrowing | Homes & Mortgages | Budgeting & Saving | Work & Benefits | Pensions & Retirement | Family & Care | Cars & Travel | Insurance | BLOG

Home > Benefits > Universal Credit

Money Manager for Universal Credit claimants

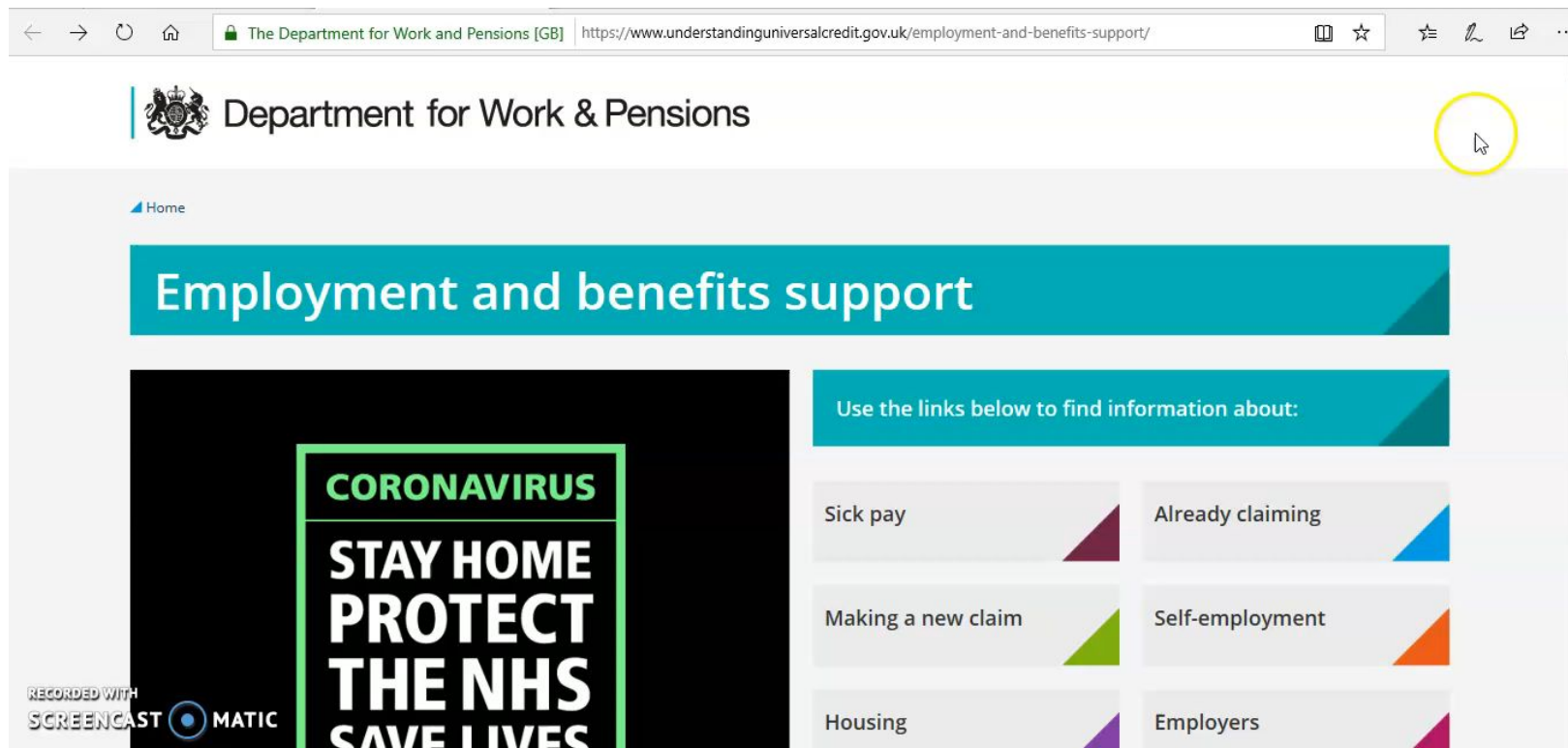
What is Money Manager?

Money Manager is designed just for people on Universal Credit. You can use it whether you're making a new claim or moving to Universal Credit from existing benefits. It will help you make the most of your money:

- When you're waiting for your first Universal Credit payment
- When you're getting regular monthly payments.

Useful Universal Credit Resources

The [GOV website](https://www.gov.uk) Have Information That is Regularly Updated:



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/employment-and-benefits-support/>. The page header includes the Department for Work & Pensions logo and a search icon circled in yellow. The main content area features a teal banner for 'Employment and benefits support'. Below this, a black box with green and white text reads 'CORONAVIRUS STAY HOME PROTECT THE NHS SAVE LIVES'. To the right, a teal box says 'Use the links below to find information about:' followed by a grid of six buttons: 'Sick pay', 'Already claiming', 'Making a new claim', 'Self-employment', 'Housing', and 'Employers'. A 'RECORDED WITH SCREENCAST MATIC' watermark is visible in the bottom left corner.

3 Month Mortgage Payment Holidays

- All Banks Able to Offer This - Check with Your Bank
- Mortgage Holiday Deadline 31st October
- No Repossessions Until End of October
- Unpaid Interest Will Still Need Repaying
Tracker/Variable Rate Payments May Reduce
- No Additional Fees or Charges
- Individual Credit Ratings Shouldn't Be Affected
If Worried, Speak with Your Lender

Avoid Taking Out Credit Unless You're Certain You Can Repay It

Rent

You Will Not Be Evicted – [New Law Suspends New Evictions](#)

- Speak to Landlord & Tell Them Your Situation
- *Draft Letter for Contacting Your Landlord:* [Help Hub](#)
 - *Eviction Proceedings Paused Until 25th June*
- Check Universal Credit & Housing Benefit Eligibility
 - [Apply for Universal Credit](#)
 - [Apply for Council Tax Reduction](#)

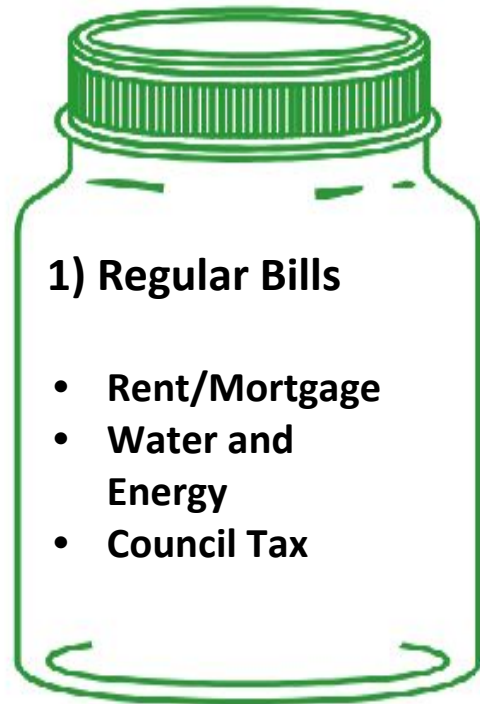
Household Bills: Gas & Electric

- Gas/Electricity Suppliers Have Emergency Package
Guarantees No Cut Offs Amid Virus Outbreak
- Now is a Good Time to Switch Energy Provider
Resources: [Uswitch](#), [Money Supermarket](#), [Confused](#)
- Guidance on Prepayment Meters
[Can't Afford to Top Up Prepayment Meter?](#)
[Can't Get to a Shop to Top Up Prepayment Meter?](#)

Household Bills: Water & Council Tax

- Council Tax
Some Local Authorities Offering [Council Tax Holidays](#)
- If You Can't Pay Your Water Bill
Speak to Your Water Company ASAP
Resource: [if you're struggling to pay your water bill.](#)

Easy and Effective Budgeting Approach: 3 Pots!



Saving Money on Food

- Always Use Fresh Ingredients First
- Know What Food Keeps Longest
- Check What Food You Have Before Buying More
- Create a Weekly Menu
- Keep Soup & Micro/Frozen Meals for Emergencies
- Vulnerable & Self-Isolating
 - Government Food Parcels Directly Delivered*
 - No Application or Registration*
 - Determined by Government & Health Services*

Free School Meal (FSM) Entitlements

- Children Previously Eligible for FSM Still Supported
- [Link to Government Guidance on FSM during Covid](#)
- Schools Track Eligible Pupils/Those Still Receiving
- Some Schools Supplying Meals Via Food Provider
- Centrally-Funded National Voucher Scheme
Check with Your Child's School
- Vouchers Made Available to Child Guardian

I'm in Debt – What Do I Do Now?

It's Okay to Find Yourself in Debt, You'll
Feel Better When You Address It

Get Free & Impartial Debt Advice
Before You Take Action



Get Expert Debt Advice

Struggling with Debt Repayments?

Contact a debt advice service. A full list can be found [here](#).

Online Services Include:

www.payplan.com

www.citizensadvice.org.uk

www.Tully.co.uk

Telephone Services Include

National Debtline: 0808 808 4000

StepChange: 0800 138 1111

Most Face-to-Face Debt Services Currently Closed Due to Coronavirus

What Support Is Available?



MIND, the UK's leading mental health charity, have compiled some useful guidance specifically on the Coronavirus: [MIND - Coronavirus Support](#)



Public Health England, with the NHS, have a [5 Question Quiz](#) to provide a private, personalised Mind Plan to support you and your circumstances.



MONEY AND
MENTAL HEALTH POLICY
INSTITUTE

The [Money and Mental Health Policy Institute](#) also have useful guidance and resources on their website.



A network of local groups and services offering mental help support. Visit the website here: [Rethink](#)