

At a glance – Housing costs – Private Rented Sector

First published: 13 July 2016 (version 1)

Last updated: 03 August 2016 (version 2)

At a glance

Claimants can get help with housing costs when they are renting from a landlord in the [Private Rented Sector \(PRS\)](#).

To be eligible for support with Private Rented Sector (PRS) housing costs claimants must:

- be legally responsible for paying rent
- make payments to a landlord
- live in the rented property

There are different rules for PRS claimants who live in Scotland.

A claimant's Universal Credit calculation will include either the total amount of rent they pay, or the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rate whichever is lowest.

Claimants need to provide evidence at a face to face interview to support their claim for help with housing costs.

Claimants who do not have a formal tenancy agreement need to provide alternative evidence.

A claimant may not be able to get help with PRS housing costs if the:

- [claimant is related to the landlord](#)
- [tenancy is contrived](#)

- [claimant has a non-commercial agreement with their landlord](#)

In certain cases Universal Credit will not pay PRS housing costs as they will be met by the local authorities.

For more information please see [Housing costs – Private Rented Sector](#)

[Back to top](#)