No Work-Related Requirements regime

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Aim

This is to support claimants whose personal circumstances mean they cannot work or undertake any work-related requirements for a temporary period or longer term.

Characteristics

Claimants who are not expected to work at present. This includes:

- claimants determined at the Work Capability Assessment (WCA) as having limited capability for work (LCW) and are not able to carry out work-related activities
- have regular and substantial caring responsibilities for a severely disabled person for at least 35 hours per week
- a carer for at least 35 hours per week of a severely disabled person who is awaiting an assessment for a severe disability benefit, i.e. Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment, Attendance Allowance or Constant Attendance Allowance
- a responsible (lead) carer for a child aged under one
- a responsible foster parent for a foster child aged under one
- an adoptive parent who is the nominated responsible carer (lead carer) for a child will be allocated to the No Work-Related Requirements regime (NWRR)

for a period of 12 months from the date that the child moves in to the household, or from up to 14 days earlier if the claimant requests it

- claimants above the qualifying age of State Pension Credit
- mixed age couples where one partner is above the State Pension Credit (SPC) qualifying age and the other partner is below, the SPC age partner will have no work related requirements. The partner under SPC age will have conditionality based on his or her personal circumstances
- pregnant women during the period spanning 11 weeks before and 15 weeks after the expected week of childbirth
- claimants in full-time education but eligible for Universal Credit whilst undertaking a course during term time
- a young person without parental support and in full-time non-advanced education or training.
- claimants at risk to self or others
 - following a WCA and the claimant has been determined not to have LCWRA, but is suffering from specific illness, diseases or disablement, meaning there would be substantial risk to physical or mental health of any person

See guidance for Carers

Requirements

The claimant is required to report any changes in circumstance.

Framework

The claimant is supported in this regime by use of their Commitment. The claimant agrees their Commitment and is required to alert Universal Credit to any upcoming unemployment and changes of circumstance. The claimant can be sign posted to relevant support depending on their circumstances.

Claimants in this regime may still need or require some support in helping them to move closer to the labour market. If this applies, flexibility exists to sign post claimants to non-funded voluntary support. Consider existing voluntary options in the local area.

Claimants in full-time education

It is a condition of entitlement for Universal Credit that a person is not receiving education. However, some claimants receiving education can be entitled to Universal Credit.

Claimants who receive funding for education, for example, receiving a student loan or bursary, and this is taken into account in their Universal Credit award, are placed in the No Work Related Requirements regime during term time. The exception is during the summer vacation, when they will be placed in the regime appropriate to their circumstances. In the event that the claimant is not receiving funding for their education, then they would be placed in the labour market regime appropriate to their circumstances.

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