

Expected hours

First published: 13 April 2016 (version 1)

Last updated: 05 August 2016 (version 2)

Expected hours means the number of hours a claimant is expected to be looking for work and preparing for work

The number of expected hours a claimant has is used to calculate the Conditionality Earnings Threshold.

A claimant's expected hours will depend on their Labour Market regime and what can generally be expected of them but can also be adjusted to take into account their individual circumstances. For example, a health condition or caring responsibilities and the restrictions placed on the hours they are expected to be engaged in work-related activity.

If it has been agreed to restrict the number of hours a claimant is expected to undertake work-related activities each week, this figure will be used to calculate their individual Conditionality Earnings Threshold.

If no restriction applies, the default number of expected hours is guided by the Labour Market regime the claimant is allocated to, as follows:

- for claimants in the All Work-Related Requirements group the default is 35 hours
- for claimants in the Work Focused Interview only group or Work Preparation regimes, the default is 16 hours

Claimants in the No Work Related Requirements regime are not expected to look for or prepare for work. Claimants in the Working Enough regime are not expected to look for or prepare for work whilst their earnings remain at or above their Conditionality Earnings Threshold.

[Back to Claimant Commitment Hub](#)