

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. It is not for claimants whose earnings are over the individual or household Conditionality Earnings Threshold or where self-employed and Minimum Income Floor (MIF) applies. Those claimants will move into the working enough regime, not the no work-related requirements regime.

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 and are not able to carry out work-related activities (LCWRA)
- 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
- 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 Limited Capability for Work and Work Related Activity (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 receiving 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. 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.

Flexible Support Fund

The Flexible Support Fund (FSF) is a locally managed budget to supplement existing services and tailor support to the needs of individuals in the local area. FSF awards are discretionary and aimed at improving a claimant's job prospects, subject to eligibility.

UCFS claimants are eligible for FSF from and including the first assessment period if they have:

- proved ID verification, including Habitual Residency Test where relevant
- attended their First Commitments Meeting
- accepted their claimant commitment.

Claimants can be considered for a FSF payment if allocated to any of the following Labour Market regimes:

- Intensive work search
- Work preparation
- Work-focused interview
- No work related requirements

The most commonly used awards are:

- training and education
- barriers to work
- travel expenses