

Community Care Grants

If you need financial help to live independently in the community or to ease exceptional pressure on you and your family you may be able to get a Community Care Grant. You don't have to pay it back.

Who is eligible?

You can apply for a Community Care Grant if you are either:

already getting Income Support, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit, or payment on account of one of these benefits

likely to start getting one of these benefits within the next six weeks because you're moving out of care

and any one of the following applies:

you're moving out of residential or institutional care to live independently

you're moving to a new home which will be more suitable for you following an unsettled period in your life and are being resettled by an organisation like a local council or voluntary organisation

you need help to stay in your home and not go into residential care or hospital

you need help because you and your family face exceptional pressure, such as family breakdown or because one of you has a long-term illness

you look after someone who is ill or disabled, or has been released from custody on temporary licence

you need help with expenses such as visiting someone who is ill, or to attend a relative's funeral

[Income Support](#)

[Jobseeker's Allowance](#)

[Employment and Support Allowance \(disabled people section\)](#)

[Pension Credit](#)

How much do you get?

The amount you might get depends on your circumstances.

Effect of savings on awards

The amount of Community Care Grant you may get is reduced if you have savings of:

over £500 where you and your partner are aged under 60

over £1,000 where you and/or your partner are aged over 60

How it's paid

Jobcentre Plus will normally pay your grant into an account.

Your grant can be paid into the following types of account:

a basic bank account

a current account

a Post Office® card account

a building society account

a credit union account

[Find out more about different types of bank accounts](#)

Effect on other benefits

A Community Care Grant doesn't count as income and won't affect other benefits you may be getting.

What it can't be awarded for

You won't get a Community Care Grant for:

any need which occurs outside the United Kingdom

educational or training expenses
a distinctive school uniform, sports clothes or equipment
travelling expenses to and from school
school meals
expenses in connection with court or legal proceedings
removal charges expenses or storage charges, where the local authority can help with these
domestic help or respite care
repairs to local authority or housing association homes
medical, surgical, optical, aural or dental items or services
debts to government departments, including tax arrears
investments
Council Tax
most other housing costs
fuel costs, except in certain circumstances
expenses of less than £30, except for travelling or daily living expenses
work related expenses
cost of buying, renting or installing telephones and call charges
daily living expenses such as food and groceries (except if for caring for a prisoner or young offender on release on temporary licence)
You can't usually get a Community Care Grant if you have already asked for the same items or services in the last 28 days.