



Social Security Scotland
Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

Young Carer Grant

What is Young Carer Grant?

It's a new yearly payment of £300 for young carers aged 16 to 18 who live in Scotland. It's a cash benefit to spend as they choose and they can apply if they are at school, in further education, employed or unemployed.

Who can get it?

Young carers may be eligible for Young Carer Grant if they meet all of the criteria below:

- they live in Scotland
- they are aged 16 to 18
- they have been providing care for an average of 16 hours a week, for the last three months. The support they provide may be physical, mental or emotional.
- the person or people being cared for are getting a qualifying benefit*
- they are not caring for any of the people in the application as a volunteer
- they are not being paid to provide care for any of the people in the application
- they have not applied for, or received Carer's Allowance from the Department for Work and Pensions, or Northern Ireland's Carer's Allowance.*

*Personal Independence Payment (PIP) - daily living component, Disability Living Allowance (DLA) - the middle or highest care rate, Disability Living Allowance (DLA) – for children, Attendance Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance at or above the normal maximum rate with an Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, Constant Attendance Allowance at the basic (full day) rate with a War Disablement Pension, Armed Forces Independence Payment.

How much is the payment and what can it be used for?

It's a payment of £300. It's up to them what they choose to spend the money on.

If more than one person is caring for someone, can they all apply?

If more than one carer applies for the same cared for person, only the first eligible application will get the grant. If the young carer provides shared care with someone else aged 16 to 18, they should agree who should apply for the grant.

However, as well as the grant, young carers are also eligible for extra non-cash benefits on their Young Scot card. They will get extra discounts at certain stores and venues and other exclusive benefits, including cinema tickets and one-off special events. You don't have to be receiving the Young Carer Grant to access these benefits.



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How much care do they have to provide to be eligible?

They must have been caring for one or more people on average for at least 16 hours a week for the last three months. Up to three weeks break in care will be allowed during the 13 week qualifying period. As long as they still carry out 208 hours in total over the 13 week period.

How long after applying will people have to wait to get their payment?

A decision will be made once the young carers fully completed application form, including all supportive evidence has been received. The young carer will be notified of the decision and their payment will follow shortly afterwards.

What ID and evidence will be required?

Before applying, the young carer should know the details of the financial account they wish the money to be paid into. If they know their National Insurance number and their cared for person's then this will allow their application to be processed quicker.

After they have made their application they will receive a follow up letter informing them of what forms of ID they need to send to us for verification.

Does the young carer need to pay this money back?

No, it's not a loan and doesn't have to be repaid by the young carer.

Who is paid the money?

The money will be paid directly to the young carer's chosen financial account.

When can young carers apply?

They can apply yearly from age 16 to 18 and will have to reapply each year if they are still eligible.

Does it affect other benefits?

No, Young Carer Grant will be disregarded for UK benefit and tax credit assessments.

How do you apply?

Call freephone on 0800 182 2222 to complete the application over the phone or to request a paper application form. Or go to mygov.scot/young-carer-grant.

