

UNIVERSAL CREDIT & SICKLE CELL ANAEMIA

HOW DOES UNIVERSAL CREDIT AFFECT PIP AND DLA

If you're an adult and getting either Personal Independence Payment (PIP) or Disability Living Allowance (DLA), it will continue to be paid along with your Universal Credit payment.

You get these benefits if your condition is severe enough for you to qualify for them. They won't affect the amount you get in Universal Credit.

However, if you're claiming DLA or PIP for a sick or disabled child, the rate of benefit you're getting can affect your Universal Credit payment.

WHICH BENEFITS DOES IT REPLACE?

- Working tax credit.
- Child tax credit.
- Housing benefit.
- Income-related employment and support allowance (ESA).
- Income-based jobseeker's allowance (JSA).
- Income support.





WORK CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT

When you make a claim for Universal Credit, you may be asked to attend a Work Capability Assessment. This is designed to assess how your disability or illness affects your ability to work.

UNIVERSAL CREDIT IF YOU HAVE A SICK OR DISABLED CHILD

If your child is disabled or has a long-term health condition, you may be able to claim the disabled child element as part of your monthly Universal Credit payment.

The rate of disabled child element you get will depend on the rate of DLA or PIP you are getting for them.

UNIVERSAL CREDIT KEY FACTS

If you're in an area which offers a full service and are entitled to the benefits being replaced, you'll be asked to claim Universal Credit.

If you're not in a full service area, you will continue to claim existing benefits until you're invited to claim UC.

If you get help with your rent, this will be included in your monthly payment – you'll then pay your landlord directly.

If you live with someone as a couple and you are both entitled to claim UC, you will get one monthly joint payment paid into a single bank account.

UC is paid monthly in arrears so it can take up to five weeks after you make your claim to get your first payment

There are no limits on how many hours a week you can work if you're claiming UC.

Instead, the amount you get will gradually reduce as you earn more, so you won't lose all your benefits at once.

You have to make your claim online.

UNIVERSAL CREDIT IF YOU HAVE A SICK OR DISABLED CHILD

If your child is disabled or has a long-term health condition, you may be able to claim the disabled child element as part of your monthly Universal Credit payment.

The rate of disabled child element you get will depend on the rate of DLA or PIP you are getting for them.

UNIVERSAL CREDIT

APPEALS

IF YOU THINK A DECISION ABOUT YOUR UNIVERSAL CREDIT IS WRONG AND SHOULD BE CHANGED.

You can appeal using the templates below.

Mandatory Reconsideration Letter Template

Date:

National Insurance number:

Claimant name:

Re: my Universal Credit award

I am writing to request a mandatory reconsideration of my Universal Credit award.

I have received my award of Universal Credit but it does not include a housing element.

As you are paying me other parts of my Universal Credit a decision must have been made and I am requesting a mandatory reconsideration of the failure to include a housing element in respect of assessment period(s) since xxxx.

I meet all the conditions for the housing element specified in regulation 25 and Schedules 1 to 3 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013, including occupation of the home, liability, and payments which can be met by Universal Credit. I have supplied clear evidence of these including a current tenancy agreement. I have met these conditions since the start of the assessment period beginning xxx.

Please look at this decision again and pay me my housing element back to the start of the assessment period beginning xxxx.

As I believe the problem may arise from a delay in considering the evidence of my housing costs, I shall also be submitting a complaint.

Yours sincerely,

A Claimant

UNIVERSAL CREDIT

APPEALS

IF YOU THINK A DECISION ABOUT YOUR UNIVERSAL CREDIT IS WRONG AND SHOULD BE CHANGED.

Universal Credit Housing Element Letter Template

Date:

National Insurance Number:

Claimant name:

Re: the delay in my Universal Credit housing element

I claimed Universal Credit on xxxx and supplied you with details of my tenancy agreement at a face-to-face interview on xxx. As well as my tenancy agreement I supplied a utility bill with my current address/bank statement showing rent payments/supporting letter from my landlord (*delete as appropriate*).

According to your own guidance I have supplied more than sufficient evidence to show that I meet the conditions for the housing costs element.

I am receiving other elements of my Universal Credit including the standard allowance and *add other elements being received*.

It has now been x months since you had all the evidence you needed to award me the housing element back to the beginning of my claim. This is an unacceptable delay and I expect a response from you within 7 days, or payment of my housing costs, before I take my complaint to the next level of your complaints system.

Yours sincerely,

A Claimant

UNIVERSAL CREDIT

APPEALS

IF YOU THINK A DECISION ABOUT YOUR UNIVERSAL CREDIT IS WRONG AND SHOULD BE CHANGED.

[Limited Capability To Work Activity Letter Template](#)

Date:

National insurance number:

Claimant name:

Re: my limited capability for work-related activity element

I would like you to consider this request for a mandatory reconsideration of the decision not to include a limited capability for work-related activity element in my Universal Credit award.

I claimed Universal Credit on xxxx. At the time I was pursuing a mandatory reconsideration of a decision that I was not entitled to Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). Following an appeal I was awarded ESA up to the date of my claim for Universal Credit. My ESA includes a support component because the tribunal found that I had limited capability for work-related activity.

The Universal Credit (Transitional) Regulations 2014 reg 19 say that a LCWRA element should be included from the first assessment period of my award for Universal Credit because there has been a determination that I was entitled to the support component of ESA. It does not matter that this decision was retrospectively made by a tribunal because the date of a revised decision is the date of the original decision. Reg 19(6) makes it clear you have to take the tribunal's decision into account even though my income-related ESA terminated because of my Universal Credit claim before the decision was made.

The law therefore requires you to include a limited capability for work-related activity element in my Universal Credit and to pay me arrears of that element going back to xxx (beginning of the first assessment period).

Yours sincerely,

A claimant

UNIVERSAL CREDIT

APPEALS

IF YOU THINK A DECISION ABOUT YOUR UNIVERSAL CREDIT IS WRONG AND SHOULD BE CHANGED.

Limited Capability For Work Complaint Letter Template

Date:

National Insurance number:

Claimant name:

Re: my Universal Credit award

I am writing to request a mandatory reconsideration of my Universal Credit award.

I have received my award of Universal Credit but it does not include a housing element.

As you are paying me other parts of my Universal Credit a decision must have been made and I am requesting a mandatory reconsideration of the failure to include a housing element in respect of assessment period(s) since xxxx.

I meet all the conditions for the housing element specified in regulation 25 and Schedules 1 to 3 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013, including occupation of the home, liability, and payments which can be met by Universal Credit. I have supplied clear evidence of these including a current tenancy agreement. I have met these conditions since the start of the assessment period beginning xxx.

Please look at this decision again and pay me my housing element back to the start of the assessment period beginning xxxx.

As I believe the problem may arise from a delay in considering the evidence of my housing costs, I shall also be submitting a complaint.

Yours sincerely,

A Claimant