



Social Security  
Scotland

Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

# Winter Heating Payment

## **What is Winter Heating Payment?**

It is a payment of £59.75 to help people getting certain benefits who might have extra heating needs during the winter period.

It is paid once a year and if a person is eligible they will receive the payment automatically.

It replaces Cold Weather Payment from the Department for Work and Pensions for people in Scotland. Unlike the Cold Weather Payment, it does not depend on how cold the temperature gets.

## **How often is it paid?**

It is a yearly payment for eligible people

## **Who gets Winter Heating Payment?**

Eligibility is the same as Cold Weather Payment.

People must get and meet specific requirements of a qualifying benefit on at least 1 day during a qualifying week.

## **The qualifying benefits are:**

- Universal Credit
- Pension Credit
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Support for Mortgage Interest

There are no specific requirements for Pension Credit. If the client gets Pension Credit, they are eligible for Winter Heating Payment.

A full list of each benefit's further requirements can be found online at [mygov.scot/winter-heating-payment/eligibility](https://mygov.scot/winter-heating-payment/eligibility).

**Do people need to apply?**

Most eligible people will receive this payment automatically and do not need to request it.

People will receive a letter from Social Security Scotland to let them know they are eligible.

If people do not receive a Winter Heating Payment and think they're eligible, they should contact us by calling us free on **0800 182 2222**, or filling out a Winter Heating Payment request form which can be accessed online at **[mygov.scot/winter-heating-payment-request-form](https://mygov.scot/winter-heating-payment-request-form)**.

**How will people find out if they qualify?**

People will get a letter to let them know they are eligible.

**When will the payment be made?**

Payments are made once a year. Payments for winter 2025 - 2026 will be made from mid-December 2025.

**How will the payment be made?**

Social Security Scotland will usually make the payment into the account we have on record.

**Do people need to provide evidence or receipts?**

No. Clients do not need to show how their payment was spent.

**What if the person lives outside of Scotland?**

One of the eligibility requirements is the person getting the payment must live in Scotland for at least 1 day during the qualifying week of 4 - 10 November 2024.

If a person lived in Scotland during the qualifying week but they currently live in another part of the UK, they may be eligible for Winter Heating Payment.

**Does someone have the right to request a re-determination or appeal?**

Yes. People can ask Social Security Scotland to look at their decision again.

**Do these payments affect other benefits?**

No, they will not be taken into account for UK benefit and tax credit assessments.

**How can people contact us?**

Call us free on: 0800 182 2222



Text Relay Service: 18001 +0300 244 4000 (for the hard of hearing)



British Sign Language users: [contactscotland-bsl.org](https://contactscotland-bsl.org)



Webchat: [chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot](https://chat.socialsecurity.gov.scot)

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