



Social Security  
Scotland

Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

# Young Carer Grant

## What is Young Carer Grant?

It's a yearly payment of £390.25 for young carers aged 16, 17 or 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, 17 or 18
- they have been providing care for an average of 16 hours a week, for the last 3 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 Support Payment from Social Security Scotland, Carer's Allowance from the Department for Work and Pensions or Northern Ireland's Carer's Allowance.\*

\* The daily living component of Personal Independence Payment (PIP), the daily living component of Adult Disability Payment, the middle or highest care rate of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) including Child Disability Living Allowance, the middle or highest care rate of Child Disability Payment, Attendance Allowance, Armed Forces Independence Payment, Constant Attendance Allowance. If the person being cared for gets Constant Attendance Allowance, they need to be getting either: Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (at or above the normal maximum rate), or War Disablement Pension (at the basic rate).

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

It's a payment of £390.25. It's up to them what they choose to spend the money on.

## If more than 1 person is caring for someone, can they all apply?

If more than 1 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, 17 or 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. They don't have to be receiving the Young Carer Grant to access these benefits.

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

They must have been caring for 1 or more people on average for at least 16 hours a week for the last 3 months. Up to 3 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 they have to wait to get their payment?**

A decision will be made once they have fully completed the application form, including all supporting information, has been received. They 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 people apply?**

People can find out more and apply online at **mygov.scot/benefits**. They can also apply in person, over the phone or ask for a paper application form by post by calling us free on **0800 182 2222**.

### **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)