



Social Security Scotland
Tèarainteachd Shòisealta Alba

Social Security Scotland Presentation to Joined Up for Jobs

Wednesday 19th May 2021

Dignity, fairness, respect.



Background

- In 2016, the United Kingdom Government amended the Scotland Act to devolve powers to the Scottish Parliament. This included a number of social security powers.
 - The Scottish Government was required to create its own primary legislation to take on these powers. This was done through the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018.
 - Social Security Scotland is an Executive Agency of the Scottish Government. We were set up to administer the new Scottish social security system.
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Social Security Scotland

- Executive Agency of the Scottish Government.
- Will deliver benefits in Scotland for people with disabilities, carers, and some people on low incomes needing help with particular costs.
- Offices in Dundee and Glasgow.
- Developing a nationwide face to face and local service.

Who we are

- We will administer the new Scottish Social Security System in accordance with:
 - The Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018
 - Our Charter
- Deliver a rights-based approach.
- A system developed with people, for people.
- Incremental introduction.

Benefits we currently deliver

Benefit	Who can apply?
Carer's Allowance Supplement	Carers in receipt of Carer's Allowance
Best Start Grant: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pregnancy and Baby Payment• Early Learning Payment• School Age Payment	Families on low incomes and receiving certain qualifying benefits
Best Start Foods	Families on low incomes and receiving certain qualifying benefits from pregnancy through to the child reaching 3 years old
Funeral Support Payment	People on low incomes and receiving certain qualifying benefits
Young Carer Grant	Young people aged 16 to 17 (or 18 and still at school) who do at least 16 hours of caring a week
Job Start Payment	16 to 24 year olds who are in receipt of certain benefits
Scottish Child Payment	Families on low incomes and receiving certain qualifying benefits with a child under 6
Child Winter Heating Assistance	A yearly payment of £200 for families of children getting the highest rate care component of Disability Living Allowance for children.

Carer's Allowance Supplement

- Carer's Allowance Supplement is an extra payment for carers in Scotland who receive Carer's Allowance.
- We will make payments of £231.40 to clients every six months.
- Carers who meet the criteria on two set dates per year will receive the payment. A letter will be sent to those eligible to notify them, and the payment will be made into the same account that their Carer's Allowance is paid into.
- This does not affect other benefits. Clients will continue to receive Carer's Allowance at the same time and rate as they do now. These payments will not be taken into account when being assessed for other benefits.

Best Start Grant

A package of three payments.

Pregnancy and Baby Payment

- A £606 payment for a first child and £303 for any subsequent children. We will pay an extra £303 for a multiple birth.
- Applications can be made from 24 weeks pregnant up to the day the baby is six months old.

Early Learning Payment

- A £252.50 payment made between the ages of two and three and a half years old.

School Age Payment

- A £252.50 payment made around the time a child normally starts primary one.


Best Start Foods

- Best Start Foods replaced the Healthy Start paper vouchers with a new payment card.
- It works in a similar way to a bank card and can be used to buy healthy foods including milk, infant formula, fruit, vegetables, pulses and eggs.
- Eligible families on low income benefits will get £17 on their card every four weeks during pregnancy, and for any other children between one and three years old. For babies up to the age of one, the payment increases to £34.

Funeral Support Payment

- Provides support to help people meet the costs of a funeral, and replaces the Funeral Expense Payment in Scotland.
- Clients may be eligible if they are in receipt of a qualifying benefit, have the nearest relationship to the person who has died, and they must be responsible for the payment of the funeral.
- An eligibility checker is available at the start of our online and paper application forms.
- Funeral Support Payment is a part-payment. It will cover some, but likely not all, of the funeral costs. The amount a client will receive will depend on what they have claimed and what funds were left by the person who died.

Young Carer Grant

- The Young Carer Grant is a yearly £308.15 payment for young people aged 16 to 18 who spend an average of at least 16 hours each week caring for somebody in receipt of a qualifying benefit.
 - This is a cash benefit to spend as they choose. Clients can apply if they are at school, in further education, employed or unemployed.
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Job Start Payment

- Job Start Payment is a new payment to help 16 – 24 year olds in Scotland with the costs of starting a new job.
- It's a one off payment of £252.50, or £404 if the young person has a child. This money can be spent on anything for starting work like clothing, travel costs or lunches.
- The young person must live in Scotland at the time of the job offer and have been out of paid work and in receipt of a qualifying benefit for 6 months or more to be eligible.
- Care leavers in Scotland have a wider eligibility to apply for this payment. They must be between the age of 16 to 25 years old, and only need to be in receipt of a qualifying benefit at the point of the job offer - not for the full 6 months before applying.

Scottish Child Payment

- Was introduced from 15/2/21 for eligible families, with a child under 6, who are in receipt of certain low income benefits
- No cap on the number of children a family can claim for.
- Paid every four weeks, equivalent to £10 per week, per child.
- Families were invited to apply in advance of the benefit being introduced.
- Applications could be made from November, with the first payments being made from the end of February 2021.
- For those who applied before the benefit opened, payment will be calculated from the launch date on 15/2/21.

Child Winter Heating Assistance

- The Child Winter Heating Assistance is a new £202 payment to help families of a child on the highest rate care component of Disability Living Allowance for Children to heat their homes.
- More than 14,000 children were expected to be eligible in 2020.
- No direct application required, we make payments automatically to eligible families.

Benefits we will deliver in the future

Benefit
Child Disability Payment
Adult Disability Payment
Pension Age Disability Payment
Carer's Additional Child Payment
Winter Heating Assistance and Cold Spell Heating Assistance (older people)
Carer's Assistance
Scottish Child Payment (for children over six)
Employment Injury Assistance

How people can apply



Online: mygov.scot




By phone: call freephone 0800 182 2222



By post: download form from mygov.scot
or request by phone

Return to: PO Box 10301, Dundee, DD1 9FY

Once live, our Local Delivery teams will provide face to face pre-claims support:

- advising on eligibility
 - assisting the completion of application forms
 - ID and document verification
 - advice and support for a client whilst their application is in progress
 - if required, advice on requesting a redetermination or appeal and making a complaint will be given, however assistance on these processes will not be given
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Local Delivery - face to face service

Face to face service will be provided in the form of:

- Co-located services
- Regular 'surgeries' or 'drop in' sessions
- Visits to prison and hospitals
- Home visits



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Thank you.

Any questions?



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