

Universal Credit Full Service

Employers Introduction to Universal Credit

Universal Credit is one of the most fundamental reforms to the welfare system for more than 60 years. The focus of Universal Credit is to make work pay. It increases the financial benefits of work and provides businesses with a more flexible workforce.

The Basics

Universal Credit is a new single monthly payment for people who are in work and on a low income or out of work. It brings together a range of current benefits and tax credits. It opens up opportunities to work thus helping to ensure people are better off in work than on benefits.

Benefits for Employers

- We've changed the rules so that people aren't limited by the hours they can work, or discouraged from taking temporary or short-term work. It ends the 16 hour a week rule that may previously have led people to restrict the hours they work to avoid losing their benefits.
- As people's earnings increase, their Universal Credit payments reduce at a steady rate, so they can be sure they will be better off working and earning more.
- Jobcentre Plus work coaches will encourage claimants to discuss with their employers how they can increase their chances of earning more.
- With UC replacing Tax Credits employers are likely to have UC claimants in their workforce now or in the near future. Having access to a more flexible and responsive workforce can help businesses with the challenges of filling vacancies.
- For the first time, Universal Credit gives Employers the opportunity to support claimants who are in work to progress because they can:
 - Be flexible about their hours
 - Take up the offer of overtime
 - Increase to full-time hours
- In addition, working families can claim back up to 85% of their registered childcare costs each month under Universal Credit.

Find Out More

All information and support for Employers can be found via [Employers Hub on GOV.UK](#)

Answers to Questions employees and workers may have about Universal Credit can be found via [Universal Credit: how it helps your employees and workers](#)

For all local employer related matters, contact your local Jobcentre Plus:

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