

What is Universal Credit?

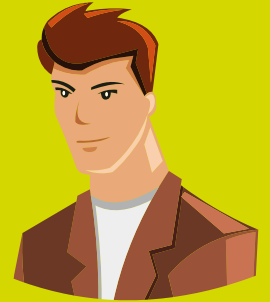
Universal Credit is a single, monthly payment that will replace individual payments of:

- › Income support
- › Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)
- › Income based employment & support allowance
- › Housing benefit
- › Child tax credit
- › Working tax credit



What change could trigger a move onto Universal Credit?

- › Finishing work or school / college with no job lined up.
- › Being found fit for work and your Employment and Support Allowance ending.
- › Having a break in your Jobseekers Allowance claim – for example if you fail to sign on without good reason.
- › Separating from a partner who was supporting you financially.



If you believe that due to a change in your circumstances you may have to make a claim for Universal Credit please contact us – we can check whether you do and can offer you help and advice.

What will happen?

At the present time only single people with no children making a new claim for benefits will need to claim Universal Credit. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will be able to tell you about which benefits you will need to claim.

When making a claim for Universal Credit they will also assess any additional assistance that you require to help you pay your rent. You will no longer need to apply for housing benefit with Dumfries & Galloway Council. You will however have to apply to the council for a council tax reduction.



The payment of Universal Credit

Universal Credit will be paid monthly, in arrears, in to your bank account. It will be your responsibility to pay your rent direct to Loreburn.

Remember if you will be claiming Universal Credit you should:-

1. Contact your Income Services Officer at Loreburn Housing Association
2. Find out where you can access the internet
3. If you think you might have difficulty using the internet find out how you can get help to improve your IT skills



Claiming Universal Credit

You will have to claim for Universal Credit online.

The Universal Credit Service Centre can be contacted on 0345 600 0723.

What information will the DWP need about my rent?

1. How much rent you are charged
2. A copy of your tenancy agreement
3. A recent rent statement



UNIVERSAL CREDIT
and what it means to you

Loreburn
Housing Association

For further information or advice please contact your Income Services Officer on **01387 321300**