

Tenancy Sustainment

Children & Families

Ochil View's Tenancy Sustainment officer can help with the following:

Child Benefit:

You can get Child Benefit if you are responsible for bringing up a child who is:

- Under 16
- Under 20 if they stay in approved education or training

Only one person can get Child Benefit for a child, it is paid every 4 weeks and there is no limit to how many children you can claim for.

Weblinks:

For more information: [Information on child benefit](#)

To apply: [How to claim](#)



Scottish Child Payment

Scottish Child Payment helps towards the costs of supporting your family. It's a weekly payment of £27.15 that you can get for every child you look after who's under 16 years of age. You'll get the payment every 4 weeks if your application is successful. To get Scottish Child Payment you must live in Scotland. Either you or your partner must be responsible for a child, they might be the child's kinship carer.

Scottish Child Payment does not affect any other UK or Scottish Government benefits that you, or any person in your household, currently get. If you want to know how Scottish Child Payment might affect local council allowances or grants, you can [contact your local council](#)

Weblinks:

For more information: [Scottish Child Payment - mygov.scot](#)

At apply: [Scottish Child Payment Application](#)

Best Start & Best Start Food Grant

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods are payments that help towards the costs of being pregnant or looking after a child. You may be able to get Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods if you or your partner meet all these conditions:

- live in Scotland
- are pregnant or have a child who's the right age for a payment
- are the main person looking after the child
- get certain benefits or payments

Weblinks:

For more information: [Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods Information](#)

To apply: [Apply for Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods](#)

School Meals Support

All children in primary 1 to 5, at schools run by their local council or funded by the Scottish Government, can get free school lunches during term-time. **Your financial circumstances do not matter.**

For children in primary 6 up to secondary school you may be entitled to free school meal if you get certain benefits.

If your child attends a school for children with additional support needs run by their local council or are Scottish Government funded can get free school lunches during term-time. **Your child's age and your financial circumstances do not matter.**

if you're not getting any benefits or tax credits your child might still be entitled to free school meals if you are experiencing financial hard ship.

Weblinks:

For more information: [Free School Meals Clackmannanshire](#)

In Clackmannanshire: [Free school meals - mygov.scot](#)

In Fife: [Free School Meals Fife](#)



School Uniform Support

You may be able to get financial help with your child's school clothing and shoes. This help is called a 'school clothing grant'. You apply to your local council. It's normally a cash grant paid directly to your bank account.

Who can apply and the amount of money you'll get depends on your local council.

Everybody who gets a school clothing grant will get at least:

£120 per child of primary school age

£150 per child of secondary school age

You get one school clothing grant payment each year. Councils usually make most payments in July or August before the new school year starts. But this can vary between councils.

Weblinks:

For more information: [Help with school clothing costs - mygov.scot](https://mygov.scot)

In Clackmannanshire: [School Clothing Grants Clackmannanshire](#)

In Fife: [School clothing grants](#) | [Fife Council](#)

Funded early learning/childcare

Your child starting from the age of 2 may be able to get funded early learning and childcare if either:

- you get certain benefits
- you or your child have experience of care

Funded early learning and childcare is free to you.

If you qualify, your local council can help you find a place.

Your local council may offer funded early learning and childcare to people who do not meet the criteria on this page.

Weblinks

For more information: [My Gov Scotland](https://mygov.scot)

Clackmannanshire council: [Clackmannanshire Council](#)

Fife council: [Fife Council](#)



Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)

An Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) helps young people by providing financial support for students aged 16, 17, 18 or 19 who plan to stay on at school or college.

EMA is a weekly payment of £30, paid every 2 weeks in arrears.

Every year if claiming EMA, you will have to complete:

- an EMA application form
- a learning agreement

You can apply for EMA or renew your application on [My Gov Scot](#)

Job Start Payment

You could get a one-off payment of £314.45, or the higher rate of £503.10 if you're the main carer of any children.

You are eligible if:

- you have been living in Scotland on the day you were offered the job
- you are aged 16-24
- you have been offered a job in the last 3 months
- you have not received Job Start Payment within the last 2 years
- you have been out of work and receiving one or more of a qualifying benefits for at least 6 months when you receive a job offer.

The qualifying benefits are:

- Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Support
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Universal Credit

The work you have been offered also must average at least 12 hours per week over a 4 week period.

Care leavers aged 16-25 can also claim. You're a care leaver if you've spent time in care but stopped being looked after on, or after, your 16th birthday. This could have been in either a foster, residential, secure or formal kinship care placement. If you are a care leaver, you only need to be out of work and receiving a qualifying benefit on the day of the job offer, not for the previous 6 months.

For More information & to apply please click on the link: [Job Start Payment application](#)

Winter Heating Payment

Winter heating payment 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.

It is a yearly payment for eligible people. 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.

Weblinks:

For more information & to apply : [Winter Heating Payment](#)

Benefit checker

To find out if you are receiving the correct amount of benefits you are entitled to and to find grants in your local area you can go online to Turn 2 us. They have a benefit and grants calculator & checker that is free to use.

Weblink: [Turn 2 Us](#)

Contact Our Tenancy Sustainment Officer:



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