

# Moving to Universal Credit

All you need to know about Managed Migration to Universal Credit



**When do I need to apply for Universal Credit?** Don't do anything until you've received a letter from the Department of Work and Pensions. The letter is called a **Universal Credit Migration Notice** and will tell you when you need to move. Contact us as soon as you receive this and we'll support you to ensure you don't lose out on money.



**Will I be moved automatically?** No. There will be a deadline date in the letter and you must claim Universal Credit by then. It is important you look out for this letter as ignoring it will mean your current benefit payments will stop. If you receive tax credits, you will still need to claim by the date in the letter. The deadline date is 3 months.

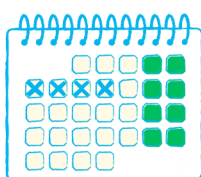


**Will I get the same amount when moving to Universal Credit?** Many people will receive the same amount as their previous benefit. If your Universal Credit payment is less than your previous benefits, then you could be eligible for something called **Transitional Protection**.



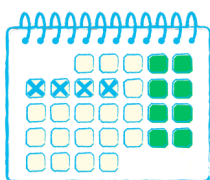
This means you would be on the same amount as your previous benefits or tax credits. For this, you must apply within the deadline mentioned above and have no changes in your circumstances. Here's an example of how Transitional Protection works...

**This is Sarah.** She's entitled to **£700** on her existing benefits or tax credits. Her Universal Credit entitlement is **£600**. This means her Transitional Protection is **£100**. Her total Universal Credit entitlement is now **£700**.



**When will I get my letter?** Look out for your letter in the post at some point this year.

The table on the next page will give you a rough idea of when you are likely to receive your letter. This is just a guide so don't worry if you don't receive it by the date suggested.



**This table is a guide only and dates may change:**

<b>Your Current Benefit</b>	<b>When you may get the letter</b>
Employment Support Allowance (ESA)	from July to December 2025
Employment Support Allowance with Housing Benefit	from July to December 2025

**all income based legacy benefits to end before March 2026**

#### **Do all the Universal Credit rules apply to me?**



If you claim within the deadline date on your letter, then some Universal Credit rules do not apply to you. If you receive tax credits, you can make a claim, even if you have over £16,000 in savings and investments. However, after 12 months, normal rules apply and if you still have more than £16,000 in money, savings and investments, you will not be eligible for Universal Credit.

Not everyone will move to Universal Credit. If you only receive Housing Benefit and you are a pensioner (aged 66 or over), you will instead continue to receive support to pay your rent from housing benefit. If you are claiming tax credits and of state pension age, then the DWP will write and ask you to apply for Universal Credit or Pension Credit, depending on your circumstances.

If you receive new style benefits, either new style Employment Support Allowance (ESAc) or new style Jobseekers Allowance (JSAc), then you will not be asked to move to Universal Credit.

We can advise if you're not sure.

**If you need to chat about any of this, please contact Margaret Hall, our Tenancy Sustainment Officer, on 01259 722 899 or email: [margaret.hall@ochilviewha.co.uk](mailto:margaret.hall@ochilviewha.co.uk)**