



Welfare Reform Act 2012

2012 CHAPTER 5

PART 1

UNIVERSAL CREDIT

CHAPTER 1

ENTITLEMENT AND AWARDS

Entitlement

3 Entitlement

- (1) A single claimant is entitled to universal credit if the claimant meets—
 - (a) the basic conditions, and
 - (b) the financial conditions for a single claimant.
- (2) Joint claimants are jointly entitled to universal credit if—
 - (a) each of them meets the basic conditions, and
 - (b) they meet the financial conditions for joint claimants.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Pt. 1 modified by 1995 c. 18, Sch. 1 para. 2(3) (as inserted (29.4.2013) by [The Universal Credit \(Consequential, Supplementary, Incidental and Miscellaneous Provisions\) Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/630\)](#), regs. 1(2), **10(b)**)

Commencement Information

- II** S. 3 in force at 29.4.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/983](#), art. 3(2)-(6), Sch. 1, **Sch. 2** (as amended: (1.7.2013) by [S.I. 2013/1511](#); (29.10.2013) by [S.I. 2013/2657](#); (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (15.9.2014) by [S.I. 2014/2321](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (21.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3094](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I.](#)

Changes to legislation: Welfare Reform Act 2012, Cross Heading: Entitlement is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- 2015/32 (as amended (10.2.2015) by [S.I. 2015/101](#)); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.11.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1930](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/483](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I2** S. 3 in force at 1.7.2013 and 29.7.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/1511](#), **art. 3, Sch.** (as amended or modified: (29.10.2013) by [S.I. 2013/2657](#); (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); and (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#))
- I3** S. 3 in force at 28.10.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/2657](#), **art. 3, Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); and (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#))
- I4** S. 3 in force at 25.11.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/2846](#), **art. 3, Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); and (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#))
- I5** S. 3 in force at 24.2.2014 and 7.4.2014 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/209](#), **art. 3, Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); and (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#))
- I6** S. 3 in force at 23.6.2014 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/1583](#), **art. 3, Sch.** (as amended or modified: (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I7** S. 3 in force at 15.9.2014 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/2321](#), **art. 3, Sch.** (as amended or modified: (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3057](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I8** S. 3 in force at 26.11.2014 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/3094](#), **art. 3** (with **art. 6**)
- I9** S. 3 in force at 28.1.2015 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/33](#), **art. 3** (with **art. 6**) (as amended: (11.2.2015) by [S.I. 2015/101](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/483](#); (11.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); (15.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/37](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I10** S. 3 in force at 16.2.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/101](#), **art. 3** (with **art. 2(2)-(4)**) (as amended or modified: (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/534](#); (17.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/740](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (14.1.2016) by [S.I. 2016/33](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I11** S. 3 in force at 18.3.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/634](#), **art. 3** (with **arts. 5, 7**) (as amended or modified: (17.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/740](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/376](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); (15.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/37](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I12** S. 3 in force at 21.9.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/1537](#), **art. 3** (as amended or modified: (23.11.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1930](#); (14.1.2016) by [S.I. 2016/33](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I.](#)

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- 2017/57; (24.4.2017) by S.I. 2017/584; (19.5.2017) by S.I. 2017/664; (28.9.2017) by S.I. 2017/952; (2.2.2018) by S.I. 2018/138; (26.4.2018) by S.I. 2018/532; and (19.7.2018) by S.I. 2018/881)
- I13** S. 3 in force at 2.12.2015 for specified purposes by S.I. 2015/1930, **art. 3** (with art. 7)
- I14** S. 3 in force at 27.1.2016 and 24.2.2016 for specified purposes by S.I. 2016/33, **art. 3, Sch.** (with art. 7)
- I15** S. 3 in force at 23.3.2016 and 27.4.2016 for specified purposes by S.I. 2016/407, **art. 3, Sch.**
- I16** S. 3 in force at 1.2.2019 for specified purposes by S.I. 2019/167, **art. 4(1)-(3)** (with art. 4(4)(11))
- I17** S. 3 in force at 30.3.2022 in so far as not already in force by S.I. 2022/302, **art. 3** (with arts. 4, 5, Sch.)

4 Basic conditions

- (1) For the purposes of section 3, a person meets the basic conditions who—
 - (a) is at least 18 years old,
 - (b) has not reached the qualifying age for state pension credit,
 - (c) is in Great Britain,
 - (d) is not receiving education, and
 - (e) has accepted a claimant commitment.
- (2) Regulations may provide for exceptions to the requirement to meet any of the basic conditions (and, for joint claimants, may provide for an exception for one or both).
- (3) For the basic condition in subsection (1)(a) regulations may specify a different minimum age for prescribed cases.
- (4) For the basic condition in subsection (1)(b), the qualifying age for state pension credit is that referred to in section 1(6) of the State Pension Credit Act 2002.
- (5) For the basic condition in subsection (1)(c) regulations may—
 - (a) specify circumstances in which a person is to be treated as being or not being in Great Britain;
 - (b) specify circumstances in which temporary absence from Great Britain is disregarded;
 - (c) modify the application of this Part in relation to a person not in Great Britain who is by virtue of paragraph (b) entitled to universal credit.
- (6) For the basic condition in subsection (1)(d) regulations may—
 - (a) specify what “receiving education” means;
 - (b) specify circumstances in which a person is to be treated as receiving or not receiving education.
- (7) For the basic condition in subsection (1)(e) regulations may specify circumstances in which a person is to be treated as having accepted or not accepted a claimant commitment.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C2** S. 4(1)(a) modified (29.4.2013) by [The Universal Credit Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/376\)](#), regs. 1, **8**
- C3** S. 4(1)(c) modified (29.4.2013) by [The Universal Credit Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/376\)](#), regs. 1, **15**
- C4** S. 4(1)(d) modified (29.4.2013) by [The Universal Credit Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/376\)](#), regs. 1, **12**
- C5** S. 4(1)(d) excluded (29.4.2013) by [The Universal Credit Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/376\)](#), regs. 1, **14**

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- C6** S. 4(1)(d) restricted by S.I. 2014/1230, reg. 60 (as inserted (24.7.2019) by [The Universal Credit \(Managed Migration Pilot and Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/1152), regs. 1(2), 3(7))

Commencement Information

- I18** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 29.4.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/983](#), art. 3(2)-(6), Sch. 1, **Sch. 2** (as amended: (1.7.2013) by [S.I. 2013/1511](#); (29.10.2013) by [S.I. 2013/2657](#); (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (15.9.2014) by [S.I. 2014/2321](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (21.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3094](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#) (as amended (10.2.2015) by [S.I. 2015/101](#)); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.11.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1930](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/483](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I19** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 1.7.2013 and 29.7.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/1511](#), art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (29.10.2013) by [S.I. 2013/2657](#); (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); and (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#))
- I20** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 28.10.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/2657](#), art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); and (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#))
- I21** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 25.11.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/2846](#), art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); and (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#))
- I22** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 24.2.2014 and 7.4.2014 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/209](#), art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); and (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#))
- I23** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 23.6.2014 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/1583](#), art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I24** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 15.9.2014 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/2321](#), art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3057](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I25** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 26.11.2014 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/3094](#), art. 3 (with art. 6)
- I26** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 28.1.2015 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/33](#), art. 3 (with art. 6) (as amended: (11.2.2015) by [S.I. 2015/101](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/483](#); (11.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); (15.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/37](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I27** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 16.2.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/101](#), art. 3 (with art. 2(2)-(4)) (as amended or modified: (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/534](#); (17.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/740](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (14.1.2016) by [S.I. 2016/33](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))

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- I28** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 18.3.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/634](#), [art. 3](#) (with [arts. 5, 7](#)) (as amended or modified: (17.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/740](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/376](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); (15.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/37](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I29** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 21.9.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/1537](#), [art. 3](#) (as amended or modified: (23.11.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1930](#); (14.1.2016) by [S.I. 2016/33](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I30** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 2.12.2015 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/1930](#), [art. 3](#) (with [art. 7](#))
- I31** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 27.1.2016 and 24.2.2016 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2016/33](#), [art. 3](#), [Sch.](#) (with [art. 7](#))
- I32** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 23.3.2016 and 27.4.2016 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2016/407](#), [art. 3](#), [Sch.](#)
- I33** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 1.2.2019 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2019/167](#), [art. 4\(1\)-\(3\)](#) (with [art. 4\(4\)\(11\)](#))
- I34** S. 4(1)(4) in force at 30.3.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/302](#), [art. 3](#) (with [arts. 4, 5](#), [Sch.](#))
- I35** S. 4(2)(3) (5)-(7) in force at 25.2.2013 by [S.I. 2013/358](#), [art. 2\(2\)](#), [Sch. 2 para. 2](#)

5 Financial conditions

- (1) For the purposes of section 3, the financial conditions for a single claimant are that—
- the claimant's capital, or a prescribed part of it, is not greater than a prescribed amount, and
 - the claimant's income is such that, if the claimant were entitled to universal credit, the amount payable would not be less than any prescribed minimum.
- (2) For those purposes, the financial conditions for joint claimants are that—
- their combined capital, or a prescribed part of it, is not greater than a prescribed amount, and
 - their combined income is such that, if they were entitled to universal credit, the amount payable would not be less than any prescribed minimum.

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C7** S. 5 modified (21.5.2020) by [The Universal Credit \(Coronavirus\) \(Self-employed Claimants and Reclaims\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020](#) (S.I. 2020/522), regs. 1, [2\(2\)\(3\)](#)

Commencement Information

- I36** S. 5 in force at 25.2.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/358](#), [art. 2\(1\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 1](#)
- I37** S. 5 in force at 29.4.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/983](#), [art. 3\(2\)-\(6\)](#), [Sch. 1](#), [Sch. 2](#) (as amended: (1.7.2013) by [S.I. 2013/1511](#); (29.10.2013) by [S.I. 2013/2657](#); (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (15.9.2014) by [S.I. 2014/2321](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (21.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3094](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#) (as amended (10.2.2015) by [S.I. 2015/101](#)); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.11.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1930](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/483](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I38** S. 5 in force at 1.7.2013 and 29.7.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/1511](#), [art. 3](#), [Sch.](#) (as amended or modified: (29.10.2013) by [S.I. 2013/2657](#); (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by

Changes to legislation: Welfare Reform Act 2012, Cross Heading: Entitlement is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- S.I. 2014/1661; (28.7.2014) by S.I. 2014/1923; (17.11.2014) by S.I. 2014/3067; (19.1.2015) by S.I. 2015/32; (10.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/634; (20.7.2015) by S.I. 2015/1537; (25.1.2017) by S.I. 2017/57; and (2.2.2018) by S.I. 2018/138)
- I39** S. 5 in force at 28.10.2013 for specified purposes by S.I. 2013/2657, art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by S.I. 2014/1452; (30.6.2014) by S.I. 2014/1661; (28.7.2014) by S.I. 2014/1923; (17.11.2014) by S.I. 2014/3067; (19.1.2015) by S.I. 2015/32; (10.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/634; (20.7.2015) by S.I. 2015/1537; (23.5.2016) by S.I. 2016/596; (25.1.2017) by S.I. 2017/57; and (2.2.2018) by S.I. 2018/138)
- I40** S. 5 in force at 25.11.2013 for specified purposes by S.I. 2013/2846, art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by S.I. 2014/1452; (30.6.2014) by S.I. 2014/1661; (28.7.2014) by S.I. 2014/1923; (17.11.2014) by S.I. 2014/3067; (19.1.2015) by S.I. 2015/32; (10.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/634; (20.7.2015) by S.I. 2015/1537; and (23.5.2016) by S.I. 2016/596)
- I41** S. 5 in force at 24.2.2014 and 7.4.2014 for specified purposes by S.I. 2014/209, art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by S.I. 2014/1452; (30.6.2014) by S.I. 2014/1661; (28.7.2014) by S.I. 2014/1923; (17.11.2014) by S.I. 2014/3067; (19.1.2015) by S.I. 2015/32; (10.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/634; (20.7.2015) by S.I. 2015/1537; (23.5.2016) by S.I. 2016/596; and (25.1.2017) by S.I. 2017/57)
- I42** S. 5 in force at 23.6.2014 and further specified dates for specified purposes by S.I. 2014/1583, art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (30.6.2014) by S.I. 2014/1661; (28.7.2014) by S.I. 2014/1923; (17.11.2014) by S.I. 2014/3067; (19.1.2015) by S.I. 2015/32; (10.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/634; (20.7.2015) by S.I. 2015/1537; (19.5.2017) by S.I. 2017/664; (28.9.2017) by S.I. 2017/952; (2.2.2018) by S.I. 2018/138; (26.4.2018) by S.I. 2018/532; and (19.7.2018) by S.I. 2018/881)
- I43** S. 5 in force at 15.9.2014 and further specified dates for specified purposes by S.I. 2014/2321, art. 3, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (17.11.2014) by S.I. 2014/3057; (19.1.2015) by S.I. 2015/32; (10.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/634; (20.7.2015) by S.I. 2015/1537; (23.5.2016) by S.I. 2016/596; (29.9.2016) by S.I. 2016/963; (24.4.2017) by S.I. 2017/584; (19.5.2017) by S.I. 2017/664; (28.9.2017) by S.I. 2017/952; (26.4.2018) by S.I. 2018/532; and (19.7.2018) by S.I. 2018/881)
- I44** S. 5 in force at 26.11.2014 for specified purposes by S.I. 2014/3094, art. 3 (with art. 6)
- I45** S. 5 in force at 28.1.2015 for specified purposes by S.I. 2015/33, art. 3 (with art. 6) (as amended: (11.2.2015) by S.I. 2015/101; (10.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/634; (6.4.2017) by S.I. 2017/483; (11.4.2018) by S.I. 2018/138; (16.1.2019) by S.I. 2019/10; (15.1.2019) by S.I. 2019/37; and (31.1.2019) by S.I. 2019/167)
- I46** S. 5 in force at 16.2.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by S.I. 2015/101, art. 3 (with art. 2(2)-(4)) (as amended or modified: (10.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/534; (17.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/740; (20.7.2015) by S.I. 2015/1537; (14.1.2016) by S.I. 2016/33; (21.3.2016) by S.I. 2016/407; (23.5.2016) by S.I. 2016/596; (29.9.2016) by S.I. 2016/963; (25.1.2017) by S.I. 2017/57; (24.4.2017) by S.I. 2017/584; (19.5.2017) by S.I. 2017/664; (28.9.2017) by S.I. 2017/952; (2.2.2018) by S.I. 2018/138; (26.4.2018) by S.I. 2018/532; and (19.7.2018) by S.I. 2018/881)
- I47** S. 5 in force at 18.3.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by S.I. 2015/634, art. 3 (with arts. 5, 7) (as amended or modified: (17.3.2015) by S.I. 2015/740; (21.3.2016) by S.I. 2016/407; (23.5.2016) by S.I. 2016/596; (29.9.2016) by S.I. 2016/963; (25.1.2017) by S.I. 2017/57; (6.4.2017) by S.I. 2017/376; (24.4.2017) by S.I. 2017/584; (19.5.2017) by S.I. 2017/664; (28.9.2017) by S.I. 2017/952; (2.2.2018) by S.I. 2018/138; (26.4.2018) by S.I. 2018/532; (19.7.2018) by S.I. 2018/881; (16.1.2019) by S.I. 2019/10; (15.1.2019) by S.I. 2019/37; and (31.1.2019) by S.I. 2019/167)
- I48** S. 5 in force at 21.9.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by S.I. 2015/1537, art. 3 (as amended or modified: (23.11.2015) by S.I. 2015/1930; (14.1.2016) by S.I. 2016/33; (21.3.2016) by S.I. 2016/407; (23.5.2016) by S.I. 2016/596; (29.9.2016) by S.I. 2016/963; (25.1.2017) by S.I. 2017/57; (24.4.2017) by S.I. 2017/584; (19.5.2017) by S.I. 2017/664; (28.9.2017) by S.I. 2017/952; (2.2.2018) by S.I. 2018/138; (26.4.2018) by S.I. 2018/532; and (19.7.2018) by S.I. 2018/881)
- I49** S. 5 in force at 2.12.2015 for specified purposes by S.I. 2015/1930, art. 3 (with art. 7)
- I50** S. 5 in force at 27.1.2016 and 24.2.2016 for specified purposes by S.I. 2016/33, art. 3, **Sch.** (with art. 7)
- I51** S. 5 in force at 23.3.2016 and 27.4.2016 for specified purposes by S.I. 2016/407, art. 3, **Sch.**

Changes to legislation: Welfare Reform Act 2012, Cross Heading: Entitlement is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- I52** S. 5 in force at 1.2.2019 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2019/167](#), **art. 4(1)-(3)** (with [art. 4\(4\)\(11\)](#))
I53 S. 5 in force at 30.3.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/302](#), **art. 3** (with [arts. 4, 5, Sch.](#))

6 Restrictions on entitlement

- (1) Entitlement to universal credit does not arise—
- (a) in prescribed circumstances (even though the requirements in section 3 are met);
 - (b) if the requirements in section 3 are met for a period shorter than a prescribed period;
 - (c) for a prescribed period at the beginning of a period during which those requirements are met.
- (2) A period prescribed under subsection (1)(b) or (c) may not exceed seven days.
- (3) Regulations may provide for exceptions to subsection (1)(b) or (c).

Commencement Information

- I54** S. 6 in force at 29.4.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/983](#), **art. 3(2)-(6)**, **Sch. 1**, **Sch. 2** (as amended: (1.7.2013) by [S.I. 2013/1511](#); (29.10.2013) by [S.I. 2013/2657](#); (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (15.9.2014) by [S.I. 2014/2321](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (21.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3094](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#) (as amended (10.2.2015) by [S.I. 2015/101](#)); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.11.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1930](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/483](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I55** S. 6 in force at 1.7.2013 and 29.7.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/1511](#), **art. 3**, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (29.10.2013) by [S.I. 2013/2657](#); (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); and (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#))
- I56** S. 6 in force at 28.10.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/2657](#), **art. 3**, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); and (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#))
- I57** S. 6 in force at 25.11.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/2846](#), **art. 3**, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); and (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#))
- I58** S. 6 in force at 24.2.2014 and 7.4.2014 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/209](#), **art. 3**, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (16.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1452](#); (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); and (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#))
- I59** S. 6 in force at 23.6.2014 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/1583](#), **art. 3**, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (30.6.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1661](#); (28.7.2014) by [S.I. 2014/1923](#); (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3067](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I60** S. 6 in force at 15.9.2014 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/2321](#), **art. 3**, **Sch.** (as amended or modified: (17.11.2014) by [S.I. 2014/3057](#); (19.1.2015) by [S.I. 2015/32](#);

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- (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I61** S. 6 in force at 26.11.2014 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2014/3094](#), **art. 3** (with **art. 6**)
- I62** S. 6 in force at 28.1.2015 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/33](#), **art. 3** (with **art. 6**) (as amended: (11.2.2015) by [S.I. 2015/101](#); (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/634](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/483](#); (11.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); (15.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/37](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I63** S. 6 in force at 16.2.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/101](#), **art. 3** (with **art. 2(2)-(4)**) (as amended or modified: (10.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/534](#); (17.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/740](#); (20.7.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1537](#); (14.1.2016) by [S.I. 2016/33](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I64** S. 6 in force at 18.3.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/634](#), **art. 3** (with **arts. 5, 7**) (as amended or modified: (17.3.2015) by [S.I. 2015/740](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); (6.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/376](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#); (16.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/10](#); (15.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/37](#); and (31.1.2019) by [S.I. 2019/167](#))
- I65** S. 6 in force at 21.9.2015 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/1537](#), **art. 3** (as amended or modified: (23.11.2015) by [S.I. 2015/1930](#); (14.1.2016) by [S.I. 2016/33](#); (21.3.2016) by [S.I. 2016/407](#); (23.5.2016) by [S.I. 2016/596](#); (29.9.2016) by [S.I. 2016/963](#); (25.1.2017) by [S.I. 2017/57](#); (24.4.2017) by [S.I. 2017/584](#); (19.5.2017) by [S.I. 2017/664](#); (28.9.2017) by [S.I. 2017/952](#); (2.2.2018) by [S.I. 2018/138](#); (26.4.2018) by [S.I. 2018/532](#); and (19.7.2018) by [S.I. 2018/881](#))
- I66** S. 6 in force at 2.12.2015 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2015/1930](#), **art. 3** (with **art. 7**)
- I67** S. 6 in force at 27.1.2016 and 24.2.2016 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2016/33](#), **art. 3**, **Sch.** (with **art. 7**)
- I68** S. 6 in force at 23.3.2016 and 27.4.2016 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2016/407](#), **art. 3**, **Sch.**
- I69** S. 6 in force at 1.2.2019 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2019/167](#), **art. 4(1)-(3)** (with **art. 4(4)(11)**)
- I70** **S. 6** in force at 30.3.2022 in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 2022/302](#), **art. 3** (with **arts. 4, 5**, **Sch.**)
- I71** S. 6(1)(a)(3) in force at 25.2.2013 for specified purposes by [S.I. 2013/358](#), **art. 2(1)**, **Sch. 1 para. 2**

Changes to legislation:

Welfare Reform Act 2012, Cross Heading: Entitlement is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 22 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2013/1511 by [S.I. 2017/57 art. 51314Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2013/2657 by [S.I. 2016/596 art. 4-6Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2013/2657 by [S.I. 2017/57 art. 1315Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2013/2846 by [S.I. 2016/596 art. 347Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2013/983 by [S.I. 2018/138 art. 3](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2013/983 by [S.I. 2019/10 reg. 3\(1\)](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2013/983 by [S.I. 2019/167 art. 5\(2\)](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2013/983, art. 5A(1), 6(1) by [S.I. 2017/483 art. 2](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2014/1583 by [S.I. 2017/664 art. 5Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2014/209 by [S.I. 2016/596 art. 348Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2014/209 by [S.I. 2017/57 art. 1016Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2014/2321 by [S.I. 2016/596 art. 59Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2014/2321 by [S.I. 2016/963 art. 37813Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2014/2321 by [S.I. 2017/584 art. 5Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2014/2321 by [S.I. 2017/664 art. 5Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/101 by [S.I. 2016/596 art. 3-510Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/101 by [S.I. 2016/963 art. 46-1214Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/101 by [S.I. 2017/57 art. 3-9111217Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/101 by [S.I. 2017/584 art. 346-9Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/101 by [S.I. 2017/664 art. 3-57-9Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/1537 by [S.I. 2016/596 art. 3411Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/1537 by [S.I. 2016/963 art. 3-1215Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/1537 by [S.I. 2017/57 art. 3-7912Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/1537 by [S.I. 2017/584 art. 346-9Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/1537 by [S.I. 2017/664 art. 3-9Sch.](#)

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/33 by [S.I. 2018/138 art. 6](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/33 by [S.I. 2019/10 reg. 3\(2\)](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/33 by [S.I. 2019/167 art. 5\(3\)](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/33 by [S.I. 2019/37 art. 5](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/33, art. 6(11) by [S.I. 2017/483 art. 3](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/634 by [S.I. 2018/138 art. 6](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/634 by [S.I. 2019/10 reg. 3\(3\)](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/634 by [S.I. 2019/167 art. 5\(4\)](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/634 by [S.I. 2019/37 art. 5](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2015/634, art. 7(2) by [S.I. 2017/376 reg. 4](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2016/596 by [S.I. 2016/963 art. 17](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.I. 2019/37 by [S.I. 2019/935 art. 2](#)
- specified provision(s) modification of earlier commencing S.I. 2014/1583 by [S.I. 2018/532 art. 3Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) modification of earlier commencing S.I. 2014/2321 by [S.I. 2018/532 art. 3Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) modification of earlier commencing S.I. 2015/101 by [S.I. 2018/532 art. 3Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) modification of earlier commencing S.I. 2015/1537 by [S.I. 2018/532 art. 3Sch.](#)
- specified provision(s) modification of earlier commencing S.I. 2015/634 by [S.I. 2018/532 art. 5](#)