



Habinteg
Housing Association (Ulster) Ltd

Welfare Reform

Universal Credit

Universal Credit (UC) is replacing 6 other benefits with a single monthly payment if you're out of work or on a low income.



Universal Credit as part of Welfare Reform

Universal Credit (UC) is possibly the most significant of the changes being introduced as part of Welfare Reform. For those aged between 18-64 years old, UC will replace the following 6 income based benefits .

- **Income based Job Seekers**
- **Income related Employment Support Allowance**
- **Income Support**
- **Working Tax Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit**
- **Housing Benefit**

If you receive the above benefits and are **aged 18-64**, you will be transferred to UC **between 2019 and 2022**. If your circumstances do not change before then, you have nothing further to do.

NB If you **do** have a change in circumstances or if you make a new benefit claim before the above dates, please contact your housing officer or advice worker. A change in circumstances includes:

- **Moving from out of work to in work**
- **Moving from in work to out of work**
- **Moving out of work to sick**
- **Moving from sick to in work (or permitted work becomes permanent)**
- **Moving from in work to sick (reduction in hours due to sickness)**

- **Claimants separating**
- **Income Support lone parent child reaching 5 / permanently leaving household**
- **Household becoming responsible for a child for the first time**
- **Moving from sick to out of work**

Getting ready for Universal Credit

You can start to prepare for Universal Credit by:

- **Setting up a bank account, if you don't already have one**
- **Setting up an email address**
- **Familiarising yourself with using the Internet**
- **Checking how much rent you pay (including any service charges)**
- **Making sure you have the documents you need to verify your identity - this may include your passport, driving license or a household bill**

For additional information on Universal Credit or any other area of welfare and money advice, contact:

Sandra McCoubrey, Welfare Advice Officer

 **02890 395665**

 **Sandra.mccoubrey@habinteg-ulster.co.uk**

Alternately, you can speak with your Housing Officer or you can avail of free, independent advice from the **Welfare Changes Helpline** on **0808 802 0020**.

Do you require this information in an alternative format?

This leaflet can be viewed or 'listened to' on our website in the language of your choice. We also work with Language Line to offer an interpreting service, where needed.

Czy potrzebuje Pan/Pani pomocy z informacjami zawartymi w niniejszym podręczniku lub czy wymaga Pan/Pani tego materiału w alternatywnym formacie?

Necessita auxílio com as informações contidas neste manual ou exige este material num formato alternativo?

Ar jums reikia pagalbos su informacija, pateikta šiame vadove ar Jums reikia tai alternatyviu formatu medžiaga?

هل تحتاج مساعدة فيما يتعلق بالمعلومات الواردة في هذا الكتيب أم هل أنتم بحاجة لهذه المواد في نظام بديل الشكل؟

以在这本手册中被控制，或是做你的信息给你需要帮助在一种供选择的格式中需要这种材料？

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Habinteg's offices are open:
08:45 to 16:45 Monday to Thursday
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