



Early Learning Payment

Spread the Word about Best Start Grant Early Learning Payment

Website/Newsletter article

You can add this news story to your organisation's website or newsletter to inform your customers and stakeholders about the Early Learning Payment.

Have you got a toddler or young child? You could be due £250

The Scottish Government has increased the level of financial support available to low income families with children with the launch of its Best Start Grant Early Learning Payment.

The £250 Early Learning Payment is for children aged between two to three and a half. You can use it for anything from children's clothes and shoes to toys, books or days out – it is not a loan so does not have to be paid back.

Delivered by Social Security Scotland, the Early Learning Payment is part of the Best Start Grant, a package of three payments that gives extra money to parents and carers on certain benefits or tax credits during the early years of a child's life.

The other payments include the Pregnancy and Baby Payment, which has been open for applications since Monday 10 December 2018. The Best Start Grant School Age payment will be launched on Monday 3 June.

Are you eligible?

- You can apply for the Early Learning Payment if you live in Scotland whether you are in work or not.
- You get certain benefits Qualifying benefits include: Universal Credit (UC), Income Support, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Related Employment and Support Allowance, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Child Tax Credit (CTC) and Working Tax Credit.
- If you are under 18 you are automatically eligible and don't have to be on a qualifying benefit.
- If you are 18 or 19, in full time education or training and dependent on someone else like a parent or carer who is claiming child benefit, child tax credit, pension credit or universal credit for you.

How do you apply?

- Social Security Scotland are taking applications via their freephone helpline on 0800 182 2222, by post or online at mygov.scot/beststartgranteearlylearningpayment

How long to get a payment?

- You should receive your money within 14-21 days. If we need any more information or supportive evidence it could take longer.