

What is the Winter Fuel Payment?

The Winter Fuel Payment is a government initiative providing up to £300 to help pensioners cover heating costs during the winter months. However, from this winter (2024/2025), new eligibility rules will apply.

Am I eligible for Winter Fuel Payment?

Due to government changes, only those receiving *Pension Credit* or *other means-tested benefits* will receive Winter Fuel Payment this year and beyond.

You may be eligible if you meet all the following criteria:

- You were born on or before 22 September 1958
- You receive Pension Credit or other means-tested benefits, such as:
 - Universal Credit
 - Income Support
 - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 - Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit
- You were living in England between 16 and 22 September 2024 (the qualifying week)

Payment Information

If eligible, you will receive the payment automatically between November to December 2024. There is no need to apply.

What is Pension Credit?

Pension Credit is for people who are over the State Pension age (66) and on a low income. It is a separate benefit from the State Pension, and you may be eligible for additional support.

If you have reached State Pension age, you can claim Pension Credit if your weekly income is less than:

- £218.15 if you are single
- £332.95 if you are a couple

How to Claim Pension Credit

1. Visit www.gov.uk/pension-credit-calculator to check eligibility
2. Apply online at www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim
3. Call the Pension Credit Enquiry line on 0800 99 1234 (Monday to Friday, 8am-6pm) to apply by telephone

Information Required to make a Claim

- National Insurance number(s)
- Details of your income and pensions
- Money, savings, and investments details (usually for the last 3 months)

Important Date for Winter Fuel Payment

The last date to make a Pension Credit claim and still be eligible for the Winter Fuel Payment is 21 December 2024

Need More Help?

Contact: Faisal Khan, MHA Welfare Benefits & Financial Support Officer. Tel: 01274 771144

