

## Universal Credit and Students in Further Education

### You are on Universal Credit (UC) and start studying

#### Step 1 Do you count as a student?

You count as a student if any of the following is true:

- You are In full time education (over 12 hours a week) and not have yet reached the first 31st August after your 19th birthday
- You are on a fulltime course for which bursary is provided for your maintenance
- (If none of the above apply) you are on a course which is not compatible with your work related

NO

Your UC  
can continue

#### Step 2 You are a student - so are you eligible for UC?

YES



You are eligible for UC if you are a student and if any of the following is true:

- You are responsible for a child
- You are under 21(or are 21 but were under that age when you started the course) and are without parental support
- You are ill/disabled. You must have limited capability for work (assessed by the DWP) and also get disability living allowance (DLA) or personal independence payment (PIP)
- You are over the qualifying age for state pension credit and your partner has not yet reached that age
- You have a partner who is not a student

NO

Your UC  
stops

#### Step 3 You can get UC as a student. Do you also have to meet work related requirements?

YES



There are no work-related requirements if any of the following is true:

- You are under 21 (or 21 and turned that age on your course) and are without parental support
- You are in receipt of student income which is taken into account for universal credit (e.g. bursary maintenance)
- You have a child under one, or are severely disabled (technically if you are in the 'support group')
- You are pregnant and there are less than 11 weeks before your due date or you had a baby less than 15 weeks ago.

Or

There are limited work-related requirements (which may include attending work focused interviews and/or undertaking 'work preparation') if:

- You have a child aged 1-4 years old, or
- You are disabled but not severely(technically if you are in the 'work related activity group')

#### Step 4 Do you have student income?

Most student income will usually count as income for UC e.g. bursary maintenance allowance is taken into account for UC and the first £110 of student income is disregarded each month. However, there are some elements that are disregarded completely and they are detailed below

Grant income in FE for any of the following is disregarded:

- Tuition fees or exam fees
- In respect of your disability
- Extra costs due to residential study away from your usual place of study during term time
- The costs of your normal home (where you live somewhere else during your course) unless those costs are met by your UC
- The maintenance of someone who is not included in your UC claim
- Books equipment course travel costs or childcare costs