

# Housing Benefit for single people

November 2014  
Factsheet

A guide to help single people understand Housing Benefit

## About this factsheet:

This factsheet will help single people to understand Housing Benefit.

It provides an overview of how to apply and who will it be paid to.

If you are single and under 35, see our 'Factsheet: Housing Benefit for under 35s'.

For more information about our services for single homeless people, please visit:

[www.harrow.gov.uk/singlehomeless](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/singlehomeless)

## What is Housing Benefit?

You can apply for housing benefit to help pay your rent and some service charges. You cannot get help with heating, hot water, energy or food.

## Who can claim?

You can apply for help if you rent or part-rent your home and:

- you receive benefits
- you work and have a low income
- you are a pensioner and have a low income

You cannot claim if you have savings of £16,000 or more.

## How much will I get?

The amount you get depends on your age, income and where you live. To calculate your entitlement, visit:

[www.entitledto.co.uk](http://www.entitledto.co.uk)

If you rent your home from a private landlord, the maximum you can get is limited to the Local Housing Allowance.

To find the Local Housing Allowance in your area, visit:

[www.voa.gov.uk](http://www.voa.gov.uk)

## How can I claim?

You can claim Housing Benefit from your local council by completing a form. Give as much information as possible when completing the form and remember to the evidence requested. To find your local council, visit:

[www.gov.uk/find-your-local-council](http://www.gov.uk/find-your-local-council)

## Can I claim with other benefits?

You can also make a claim for Housing Benefit when making a new application for:

- Income Support
- Jobseekers Allowance
- Employment Support Allowance or Incapacity Benefit
- Pension Credit

Download a Housing Benefit form HCTB1 from Gov.uk or ask your Job Centre Plus.



For information about:

### Private renting

[www.gov.uk/private-renting](http://www.gov.uk/private-renting)

### Benefits

[www.gov.uk/browse/benefits](http://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits)

[www.entitledto.co.uk/](http://www.entitledto.co.uk/)

### Housing Benefit

[www.gov.uk/housing-benefit/overview](http://www.gov.uk/housing-benefit/overview)

[www.voa.gov.uk/corporate/RentOfficers/LHADirect.html](http://www.voa.gov.uk/corporate/RentOfficers/LHADirect.html)

Contact us:

### Housing Advice

[Housing.advice@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:Housing.advice@harrow.gov.uk)

0208 424 1093



### Who will my Housing Benefit be paid to?

Your landlord will usually be paid direct if you rent from the council or a housing association.

Housing Benefit for private tenants is usually paid to you.



### Can I get my Housing Benefit paid direct to my landlord?

In some cases, you can get your Housing Benefit paid directly to your landlord. Ask for direct payment if:

- your landlord has requested direct payment
- you have trouble managing your money
- you have been homeless

### How can I speed up my claim?

- Claim Housing Benefit immediately
- Submit all the information with your application
- Respond quickly to any queries

