

Universal Credit

Are you ready?

Universal Credit is being fully rolled out across County Durham by the Department for Work and Pensions from October 2017.

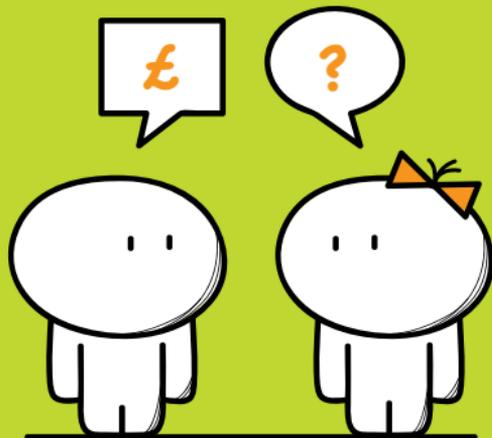
It's a single monthly payment which replaces:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Housing Benefit**
- **Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.**

For most working age people, if you make a new claim for any of these benefits – **this will affect you!**

Universal Credit does not apply to pensioners or households with three or more children.

If you move onto Universal Credit and receive help with your rent, the DWP will pay this as part of your new benefit. This means you will be responsible for paying rent to your landlord.



Universal Credit will mean big changes for anyone receiving it.

Get ready!

Apply online - You will need to verify your identity, manage your claim online and have your own email account.

Bank account - You will need a bank account for your money to be paid directly in to.

Change to receiving your benefits monthly - this includes your rent if you receive help with it.

Think about how you will manage your money and speak to your landlord if you will have difficulties paying your rent.

For further information, visit www.gov.uk/universal-credit

For support, including advice on our welfare assistance scheme, contact Durham County Council on 03000 260 000.

