



HM Revenue
& Customs



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Support for a child conceived without your consent

Including through rape or while in a coercive or controlling relationship

Please note there is separate guidance for claimants living in Northern Ireland. This is for England, Scotland and Wales only.

Since 6 April 2017 families are usually able to claim support through Child Tax Credit, Universal Credit or Income Support for up to two children. You will not be paid an additional amount for more than two children, unless the children were born before 6 April 2017 (on or before 6 April for Income Support) or an exception applies.

For the purposes of this form, by child we mean anyone aged under 16, or a young person aged under 20 who enrolled on, accepted or started full-time non-advanced education, such as A-levels, or approved training before they turned 19.

Details of the exceptions to the policy is on GOV.UK at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claiming-benefits-for-2-or-more-children#special-circumstances>

There may also be support for other children in the household if they were born before 6 April 2017 or if another exception applies.

One of those exceptions applies to third or later children where either:

- you did not, or could not, consent to the act that led to the conception of the child, or
- you were in a coercive or controlling relationship with the other biological parent of the child at or around the time of the conception

In order to get this extra support, you must not be living with the other biological parent of the child. You will be asked to confirm this in this form.

NCC1 Guidance for
Claimants 06/19

Getting extra support

We can pay for any child conceived under these circumstances where they are the third or later child you are responsible for. If you think this applies to you, you can apply for this exception:

- through providing any available evidence of a conviction for rape or controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship, where this relates to the conception of your child, or
- through providing any available evidence of an award made under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme or the Northern Ireland Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme in respect of a relevant sexual offence, physical abuse or mental injury which you suffered, where this relates to the conception of your child,

or

- by completing this form below and asking someone else to fill in part of it. This should be someone you have previously spoken to or are now speaking with in their professional capacity about the non-consensual act or coercive or controlling behaviour you experienced which relates to the conception of your child. They should be a healthcare professional (for example, your GP), specialist support worker from an approved organisation as listed on GOV.UK, or a registered social worker. This is to give us the information we need to support you further

You do not need to tell the third party the name of the other biological parent. We will not ask you for other evidence and you do not have to report anything to the police.

The Government will handle the information you provide discreetly and confidentially, in line with its strict data protection rules. If you are eligible to receive this extra support, any future benefit notifications will not include the reason for the additional support for the child.

If you do not fill in and return the form

You may not receive additional benefit for a third or subsequent child unless the child was born before 6 April 2017 or one of the other exceptions applies. These are detailed at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claiming-benefits-for-2-or-more-children#special-circumstances>

If you are having difficulties with this form, see the **More information** section below.

More information

For more information on how to make a claim for this exception

- **If you are claiming Universal Credit** contact your case manager or work coach
- **If you are claiming Child Tax Credit** go to www.gov.uk/hmrc/ctc-exceptions for further information and guidance or call the Tax Credit Helpline on 0345 300 3900
- **If you are claiming Income Support** go to www.gov.uk/income-support for further information and guidance

Equality and diversity

We are committed to treating people fairly, regardless of their disability, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, transgender status, marital or civil partnership status, age, religion or beliefs. Please contact us if you have any concerns.

Definitions of terms used

What is non-consensual conception?

For this form, it means conception that results from an act to which the claimant did not agree by choice, or did not have the freedom or capacity to agree by choice. This can be where the claimant was raped, whether by a partner, someone they knew, or a stranger. It can also include circumstances in which at or around the time of conception the claimant was subject to repeated or continuous controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship.

What is a controlling or coercive behaviour?

Controlling or coercive behaviour is a type of domestic abuse or violence. Coercive behaviour is an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

Controlling behaviour is a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Controlling or coercive behaviours might include:

- isolating a person from their friends and family
- depriving them of their basic needs
- monitoring their time
- monitoring a person through online communication tools or using spyware
- taking control over aspects of their everyday life, such as where they can go, who they can see, what to wear and when they can sleep
- depriving them of access to support services, such as specialist support or medical services
- repeatedly putting them down such as telling them they are worthless
- enforcing rules and activity which humiliate, degrade or dehumanise the victim
- forcing the victim to take part in criminal activity such as shoplifting, neglect or abuse of children to encourage self-blame and prevent disclosure to authorities
- financial abuse including control of finances, such as only allowing a person a punitive allowance
- threats to hurt or kill
- threats to a child
- threats to reveal or publish private information. For example, threatening to out someone
- assault
- criminal damage (such as destruction of household goods)
- rape
- preventing a person from having access to transport or from working

This is not an exhaustive list.

For this exception, the controlling or coercive behaviour must have had a serious effect on the claimant. This means that it caused someone

- to fear that violence will be used against them on at least two occasions; or
- serious alarm or distress which had a substantial adverse effect on their usual day-to-day activities.

What is covered by intimate or family relationship?

To receive the exception due to controlling or coercive behaviour, the claimant must, at or around the time the child was conceived, have been personally connected with the person who is likely to be the child's other biological parent. "Personally connected" covers situations where:

- they were in an intimate personal relationship with each other, whether or not they were living together
- they were living together in the same household and were members of the same family or had previously been in an intimate personal relationship with each other. Family members include a former partner or a relative such as a parent, step parent, sibling or step sibling. It can also include a relative of the claimant's spouse or partner.