

01/25 - Transition to Universal Credit and Pension Credit - Miscellaneous Amendments

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INTRODUCTION

1. This Memo gives guidance on The Social Security (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2025¹.

1 [Social Security \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2025](#)

2. These regulations make changes in relation to the transition of legacy benefit recipients to Universal Credit (UC) and Pension Credit (PC). These regulations come into force on **27/01/25** except where otherwise stated.

3. This Memo will cover the Pension Credit aspects only. For the full version of the impact of these regulations including the changes relating to Universal Credit please see [ADM Memo 1/25](#).

MIGRATION FROM TAX CREDITS TO PC: DEADLINE FOR MAKING A CLAIM

4. Where a Tax Credit recipient is invited to claim PC through the issue of a Tax Credit Closure Notice they are given three months to make their claim.¹

5. Entitlement to Tax Credits ends on 05/04/25. There may be cases where a Tax Credit Closure Notice cannot be sent within three months of that date (for instance, where someone becomes entitled to Tax Credits following a mandatory reconsideration). Regulations are therefore amended to allow the deadline for making the UC claim for a Tax Credit recipient to be 06/04/25 in that circumstance.

¹ Article 3A(3), Welfare Reform Act 2012 (Commencement No.32 and Savings and Transitional Provisions) Order 2019

CHILDREN PLACED FOR ADOPTION IN PC

6.. The general rule is that a child or qualifying young person cannot be the responsibility of a claimant if they are looked after by the Local Authority. However, where a child or qualifying young person has been placed with the claimant for adoption the intention is that they are treated as responsible for that child,

thereby being able to receive the additional amount of PC¹. The regulations are amended to reflect this.

7. Also, a definition of “foster parent” is introduced (the definition as found in UC):

“foster parent” means—

- a. in relation to England, a person with whom a child is placed under the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (England) Regulations 2010;
- b. in relation to Wales, a person with whom a child is placed under the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015;
- c. in relation to Scotland, a foster carer or kinship carer with whom a child is placed under the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009²

1 State Pension Credit Regulations 2002, Para 4(3) of Schedule IIA; 2 Regulation 2, Universal Credit Regulations 2013

ANNOTATIONS

The number of this Memo (01/25) should be noted at paragraphs:

Paragraph 4: [CH77](#), paragraph 7: [78573](#)

CONTACTS

If you have any queries about this memo, please write to Decision Making and Appeals (DMA) Leeds, Existing arrangements for such referrals should be followed, as set out in Memo DMG [04/19](#) - Requesting case guidance from DMA Leeds for all benefits.

DMA LEEDS: January 2025