



HM Revenue
& Customs

Child Benefit: Getting your claim right

Claim online, or through the HMRC app, and you could get your first payment in as little as 3 days.

To claim online, go to www.gov.uk/claim-child-benefit

You can view and manage your claim quickly and easily by downloading the HMRC app.

We have a range of services for disabled people.
These include guidance in Braille, audio and large print.
Most of our forms are also available in large print.
Contact our helplines (go to page 6) for more information.

Ffoniwch 0300 200 1900 i dderbyn fersiynau Cymraeg o ffurflenni a chanllawiau.

Claim Child Benefit if you or your partner are responsible for a child, even if you decide not to get Child Benefit payments

Who should claim

- either you or your partner should claim, if you're responsible for a child under 16 (or under 20 and they're in full-time non-advanced education or approved training)
- only one person can claim Child Benefit - the person who is awarded Child Benefit will automatically get National Insurance credits until their child turns 12 - **this will help to protect their State Pension**
- if you're a couple and one of you does not work or does not pay National Insurance contributions, they should fill in the form to protect their State Pension
- you do not need to be the parent of the child to claim and you may be entitled to claim even if the child does not live with you
- you can claim no matter how much you earn or have in savings

You should claim as soon as

- your baby is born and registered (babies born in the UK need to be registered at the General Register Office)
- a child comes to live with you
- you adopt a child - if you're in the process of adopting a child, apply as soon as the child comes to live with you

Make your claim now - even if you do not have all your documents because Child Benefit can only be backdated for up to 3 months. Then, send your documents as soon as you can.

Is your or your partner's income more than £60,000?

- if either you or your partner has an individual Adjusted Net Income (ANI) of more than £60,000, the person with the higher income may have to pay a tax charge on some or all of the Child Benefit you get - it's called the High Income Child Benefit Charge (HICBC) - we may use the information from any Child Benefit payments to help calculate your or your partner's HICBC
- if you or your partner decide not to get Child Benefit payments you will not have to pay the tax charge

So if:

- **both your individual ANI is below £60,000**
 - you will not need to pay the tax charge unless your or your partner's ANI goes over £60,000 in any year in the future
- **the person with the highest income has ANI between £60,000 and £80,000**
 - the tax charge will be less than the Child Benefit that you or your partner get - it will be charged at a rate of 1% of the amount of Child Benefit received for each £200 of ANI between £60,000 and £80,000
 - you will not have to pay the tax charge if you decide not to get payments (select 'no' on question 62)
 - if you or your partner decide to get Child Benefit payments, the person with the higher income must tell HMRC by either Self Assessment or PAYE to pay the tax charge
- **the person with the highest income has ANI of more than £80,000**
 - the tax charge will be the same amount as the Child Benefit that you or your partner get
 - you will not have to pay the tax charge if you decide not to get payments (select 'no' on question 62)
 - if you or your partner decide to get Child Benefit payments, the person with the higher income must tell HMRC by either Self Assessment or PAYE to pay the tax charge

i It's important that:

- you claim Child Benefit even if you decide not to get Child Benefit payments
- you and your partner check if your individual ANI is more than £60,000 every year you claim Child Benefit
 - to make sure you pay the correct tax charge

How we calculate your income

- we use your ANI to determine if you need to pay the tax charge
- your ANI is not always the same as your salary or the profits that you make if you're self-employed - it's your total taxable income including any taxable benefits you get from your job minus certain tax reliefs such as payments made gross to pension schemes

For more help or information about:

Child Benefit, go to www.gov.uk/child-benefit

HICBC and how to work out how much tax you may have to pay and information on how to pay, go to www.gov.uk/child-benefit-tax-charge

ANI, go to www.gov.uk/guidance/adjusted-net-income

Taxable income and benefits, look on your P60 or P11D or go to www.gov.uk/personal-tax-account - your employer or tax advisor can also help.

From Summer 2025, you can pay HICBC through your PAYE tax code. Go to GOV.UK and search 'High Income Child Benefit Charge'. If you need to file a Self Assessment tax return, you should pay the charge through your return each year.

Help with filling in your claim form – page 2

Questions 1 and 26 – where to find your (or your partner's) National Insurance number

If you do not know your National Insurance number, you can find this:

- online – go to www.gov.uk/find-national-insurance-number
- in the HMRC app
- on a document you already have, for example a payslip or P60

Example of a National Insurance number

QQ 12 34 56 A

If you do not have a National Insurance number your claim will be delayed. Send us your Child Benefit claim now and tell us your National Insurance number as soon as you can.

Go to www.gov.uk/apply-national-insurance-number

Page 3 of your claim form

Question 14

The UK is England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. It does not include the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands.

Do not include any countries that you're visiting, for example on holiday or for work purposes.

Question 15

This question is about the country you live in most of the time. The UK is England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. It does not include the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands.

Do not include any countries that you're visiting, for example on holiday or for work purposes.

Question 18

You're subject to immigration control if:

- the Home Office says you can stay in the UK – known as 'leave to enter or remain', but only if you do not claim certain benefits or housing help paid by the UK government – known as 'no recourse to public funds'
- you need permission to stay in the UK – known as 'leave to enter or remain', but you do not have it

You are not subject to immigration control if you have indefinite leave to remain or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

EU nationals can now be subject to immigration control.

Question 26

If your partner is also getting Child Benefit you must tell us their National Insurance number.

The image shows a screenshot of page 3 of a claim form, divided into two columns. The left column is titled '1 About you continued' and the right column is titled 'About you continued'. The form contains various questions with checkboxes and input fields. Callout boxes with arrows point to specific questions: Question 14 (UK residence), Question 15 (country of residence), Question 18 (immigration control), and Question 26 (partner's National Insurance number). The form also includes questions about employment, marital status, and partner information.

1 About you continued

14 Tell us where you have lived

Always lived in the UK, go to question 22

Lived in the UK and abroad, go to question 15

Never lived in the UK, go to question 15

15 Do you usually live in the UK?
Read page 3 of the CH2 Notes.

No If No, go to question 16

Yes If Yes, go to question 17

16 Which country do you usually live in?
Country

17 Tell us the date you arrived in the UK
DD MM YY

18 Are you subject to immigration control now, or have you been at any time in the last 6 months?
Read page 3 of the CH2 Notes.

No If No, go to question 20

Yes If Yes, go to question 19

19 If you've been subject to immigration control in the last 3 months, tell us the date your immigration status was granted
DD MM YY

20 What is your employment status?
Tick the box or boxes that apply.
You only need to answer this question if you've ever lived outside of the UK.

Looking for work in the UK

Employed in the UK

Self-employed in the UK

None of these - I've enough money to support my family in the UK

About you continued

21 Do you work in another country or receive benefit from another country, or have you at any time in the last 3 months?

No If No, go to question 22

Yes If Yes, tell us the name of the country
Country

22 Are you a member of HM Forces or a civil servant working abroad?

No Yes

23 What is your marital or civil partnership status?
Tick one box that applies. We consider you single for Child Benefit purposes unless you live with a partner.

Married or in a civil partnership, go to question 24

Living with a partner as if you're married or a civil partner since
DD MM YY go to question 24

Widowed, go to question 34

Separated since
DD MM YY go to question 34

Divorced, go to question 34

Single, go to question 34

2 About your partner

24 Your partner's full name

25 Your partner's date of birth
DD MM YY

26 Your partner's National Insurance number
Read page 3 of the CH2 Notes.

QQ 12 34 56 A

27 Your partner's nationality
This is shown on their passport if they have one, for example British, Irish, French, Polish.
Nationality

Page 3

Pages 5 and 6 of your claim form

Questions 39 and 52

If the child's birth was registered in:

- England or Wales, you'll need to tell us the system number - you'll find this at the bottom left hand corner of their birth certificate

Example of a birth certificate system number

123456789

- Scotland, you'll need to tell us the district number, year and entry number - you'll find this at the top of their birth certificate

Example of a birth certificate district number, year and entry number

123 2000 456

To help us process your claim without delay enter the details clearly.

If you're claiming for a child who has been claimed for before, and you do not have the child's birth certificate, leave questions 39 and 52 blank.

Questions 43 and 56

Questions 43 and 56

If the child lives with you but Child Benefit is being paid to someone else, in some circumstances we can transfer the benefit to you.

If we do transfer the benefit, you may not get a payment of Child Benefit until 4 weeks (and in some cases 8 weeks) after you've made your claim.

If someone else has claimed Child Benefit for the same child that you're claiming for, we'll get in touch with you.

Questions 45 and 58

Questions 45 and 58

You should answer 'No' to this question if the child does not live with you in the UK. If the child lives with someone else but you pay towards the cost of looking after them and both of you claim the benefit, the person who the child lives with will usually get the Child Benefit.

Questions 46 and 59

Questions 46 and 59

If the child lives with more than one person, each person may submit a claim to Child Benefit for the same child. However, only one person can be paid Child Benefit.

If 2 or more children are being cared for, Child Benefit may be paid to each person for a different child.

If you cannot agree which of you is to get the Child Benefit, someone acting on behalf of the Commissioners for HM Revenue and Customs will decide.

Questions 42 and 55

Questions 42 and 55

If you're not the child's parent but you're looking after the child, you can still claim Child Benefit.

3 Children you want to claim for - Child 1

36 Child's full name including last or family name
As shown on their birth or adoption certificate.

Child's last name

Child's first name

Child's middle names

37 Is this child male or female?
Male Female

38 Child's date of birth
DD MM YYYY

39 Has this child's birth been registered in England, Wales or Scotland?
No If No, send the documents as shown on page 4 of this form - 'Documents we need'
Yes If Yes, and they were born in England or Wales, do not send any documents, tell us the 9 digit system number from the bottom left hand corner of their birth certificate - read page 4 of the CH2 Notes

Yes If Yes, and they were born in Scotland, do not send any documents, tell us the district number, year and entry number from their birth certificate - read page 4 of the CH2 Notes

40 Has this child ever been known by any other name?
No Yes If Yes, tell us the other name
Child's other name

41 Has the name been changed by deed poll?
No Yes

42 Is this child your:
Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.
Birth child Adopted child
Stepchild None of these

43 Have you or anyone else ever claimed Child Benefit for this child? Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.
No If No, go to question 45
Yes If Yes, go to question 44

44 What is the name and address of the person who claimed Child Benefit for this child?
Name
Address
Postcode

45 Does this child live with you in the UK?
Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.
No If No, tell us the name and address of the person the child lives with
Name
Address
Postcode

46 Has this child lived with anyone else at a different address to you in the last 12 months?
Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.
No If No, go to question 48
Yes If Yes, tell us their name, address and telephone number
Name
Address
Postcode
Telephone number

47 What date did the child come to live with you?
DD MM YYYY

48 Are you adopting or planning to adopt this child through a local authority?
No Yes

For official use only Page 5



These questions apply to all children on this claim form

Page 7 of your claim form

Question 62

Only answer this question if either you or your partner have an individual Adjusted Net Income (ANI) of more than £60,000 a year.

It's important to claim Child Benefit to protect your State Pension.

You can decide not to be paid Child Benefit if you do not want to pay the extra tax charge.

Read 'Is your or your partner's income more than £60,000' on page 2.

For more information, go to www.gov.uk/child-benefit-tax-charge

Question 66

You should think about the benefits of having your Child Benefit paid into an account that's in:

- your name
- the name of your husband, wife or partner
- the names of you and your husband, wife or partner
- the name of someone acting on your behalf
- the names of you and a person acting on your behalf

Payment into an account in your own name allows you to get your Child Benefit when you need it.

However, if you want to use an account that is not in your name, you may do so. It'll be your responsibility to make sure you get the money or that the money is used in the way you want.

We cannot pay into:

- more than one account
- a Nationwide account that's in someone else's name

The best way to stay in charge of your Child Benefit, is to have it paid into an account in your own name. It may not be as easy to get your payments if they're paid into a different account.

Questions 63 and 64

Child Benefit is usually paid every 4 weeks. But, you can choose to get your Child Benefit paid weekly if you're bringing up children on your own, or you or your partner get:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Pension Credit
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Universal Credit

If you want Child Benefit to be paid weekly, tell us at question 64 why you qualify.

If you qualify and choose to get your Child Benefit paid weekly, you must tell us immediately if you stop:

- bringing up children on your own
- getting at least one of the above benefits

If this happens, we may stop paying your Child Benefit weekly and change it to paying you every 4 weeks.

The screenshot shows the 'Higher income earners' section of the form. It includes questions 62 through 70. Question 62 asks if the user or partner has an individual Adjusted Net Income (ANI) of more than £60,000 a year. Question 63 asks if they want to be paid Child Benefit every week. Question 64 asks why they qualify for weekly payments. Question 65 asks if they already get Child Benefit. Question 66 asks where they want the Child Benefit paid. Question 67 asks for the name of the bank or building society. Question 68 asks for the branch sort code. Question 69 asks for the account number. Question 70 asks for a roll or reference number if the account is with a building society. The form also includes an 'Important' note at the bottom: 'Fill in the declaration on page 8.'

Question 68

Make sure you enter the sort code shown on your bank card or statements from your bank or building society. If the account is not in your name you'll need to get the branch sort code. This is usually 6 digits. Include any zeros - for example, 00 11 22.

Question 69

Your account number is usually 8 digits and is shown on your bank card or statements from your bank or building society. If the account is not in your name you'll need to get the bank account details. Include any zeros - for example, 00123456.

Avoid overpayments

You must tell us straightaway about any changes that affect your Child Benefit. If you do not tell us about any changes at the right time you'll have to pay back any money you should not have been paid.

For information on changes that affect your Child Benefit go to www.gov.uk/report-changes-child-benefit

Question 70

If your account is with a building society, or a bank that used to be a building society, you may have an additional reference number. This number may be called:

- a roll number
- an account reference
- an account number

If you're not sure which numbers to enter, check with your bank or building society. If your account is not with a bank or building society, for example an account with a Credit Union or other provider, check with them what information they need from you so they can pay the money into your account.

Other things you might need to know

National Insurance credits

Before 6 April 2010, if you received Child Benefit for a child under 16, you automatically qualified for a scheme called Home Responsibilities Protection (HRP), which helped to protect your State Pension.

From 6 April 2010, for each week that you're entitled to Child Benefit for a child under 12, you'll receive weekly National Insurance credits to protect your future entitlement to the State Pension.

If you reach State Pension age on or after 6 April 2010, any complete tax years of HRP you've already built up before 2010 will be converted into qualifying years. Up to 22 years of HRP can be converted into qualifying years for your State Pension.

For more information phone the National Insurance Helpline on 0300 200 3500.

Your rights and obligations

'HMRC Charter' explains what you can expect from us and what we expect from you.

For more information, go to www.gov.uk/government/publications/hmrc-charter

Help

You can find more information online, go to GOV.UK and search for 'Child Benefit'.

If your circumstances have changed, go to GOV.UK and search for 'Report changes that affect your Child Benefit'.

If you cannot go online or need more help, or require an alternative format:

- call the Child Benefit helpline on 0300 200 3100
- if you're a Relay UK user call 18001 then 0300 200 3100
- if you're overseas call +44 161 210 3086

You can get extra support if your health condition or personal circumstances make it difficult for you to contact HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). Go to GOV.UK and search for 'Get help from HMRC'.

You can also write to:

HMRC Child Benefit Office
PO Box 1
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE88 1AA

You'll need your National Insurance number if you call or write.

These notes are for guidance only and reflect the position at the time of writing. They do not affect any right of appeal.

HMRC CDIO CEPO

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HMRC 04/26 7003772

Additional children fill in and attach to your completed Child Benefit claim form

Child 3

1 Child's full name including last or family name
As shown on their birth or adoption certificate.

Child's last name
Child's first name
Child's middle names

2 Is this child male or female?

Male Female

3 Child's date of birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4 Has this child's birth been registered in England, Wales or Scotland?

No If No, send the documents as shown on page 4 of the CH2 Child Benefit claim form - 'Documents we need'

Yes If Yes, and they were born in England or Wales, do not send any documents, **tell us the 9 digit system number from the bottom left hand corner of their birth certificate** - read page 4 of the CH2 Notes

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Yes If Yes, and they were born in Scotland, do not send any documents, **tell us the district number, year and entry number from their birth certificate** - read page 4 of the CH2 Notes

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5 Has this child ever been known by any other name?

No Yes If Yes, tell us the other name

Child's other name

6 Has the name been changed by deed poll?

No Yes

7 Is this child your:
Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.

Birth child Adopted child

Stepchild None of these

8 Have you or anyone else ever claimed Child Benefit for this child? Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.

No If No, go to question 10

Yes If Yes, go to question 9

Child 3 continued

9 What is the name and address of the person who claimed Child Benefit for this child?

Name
Address
Postcode

10 Does this child live with you in the UK?

Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.

No If No, tell us the name and address of the person the child lives with

Name
Address
Postcode

Yes If Yes, go to question 11

11 Has this child lived with anyone else at a different address to you in the last 12 months?

Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.

No If No, go to question 13

Yes If Yes, tell us their name, address and telephone number

Name
Address
Postcode
Telephone number

12 What date did the child come to live with you?

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

13 Are you adopting or planning to adopt this child through a local authority?

No Yes

14 Do you want to claim for any more children now?

No If No, tear off this sheet then go to question 62 of your claim form

Yes If Yes, fill in page 8

Remember to send this sheet with your completed claim form

Tear off here

For office use 17

For office use 18

Tear off here

For office use 19

For office use 20

For official use only

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Additional children fill in and attach to your completed Child Benefit claim form

Child 4

1 Child's full name including last or family name
As shown on their birth or adoption certificate.

Child's last name
Child's first name
Child's middle names

2 Is this child male or female?

Male Female

3 Child's date of birth

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

4 Has this child's birth been registered in England, Wales or Scotland?

No If No, send the documents as shown on page 4 of the CH2 Child Benefit claim form - 'Documents we need'

Yes If Yes, and they were born in England or Wales, do not send any documents, **tell us the 9 digit system number from the bottom left hand corner of their birth certificate** - read page 4 of the CH2 Notes

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Yes If Yes, and they were born in Scotland, do not send any documents, **tell us the district number, year and entry number from their birth certificate** - read page 4 of the CH2 Notes

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5 Has this child ever been known by any other name?

No Yes If Yes, tell us the other name

Child's other name

6 Has the name been changed by deed poll?

No Yes

7 Is this child your:

Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.

Birth child Adopted child

Stepchild None of these

8 Have you or anyone else ever claimed Child Benefit for this child? Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.

No If No, go to question 10

Yes If Yes, go to question 9

Child 4 continued

9 What is the name and address of the person who claimed Child Benefit for this child?

Name
Address
Postcode

10 Does this child live with you in the UK?

Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.

No If No, tell us the name and address of the person the child lives with

Name
Address
Postcode

Yes If Yes, go to question 11

11 Has this child lived with anyone else at a different address to you in the last 12 months?

Read page 4 of the CH2 Notes.

No If No, go to question 13

Yes If Yes, tell us their name, address and telephone number

Name
Address
Postcode
Telephone number

12 What date did the child come to live with you?

D	D	M	M	Y	Y	Y	Y
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

13 Are you adopting or planning to adopt this child through a local authority?

No Yes

14 Do you want to claim for any more children now?

No If No, tear off this sheet then go to question 62 of your claim form

Yes If Yes, answer questions 1 to 14 on a separate sheet of paper or download the 'Additional children' form

Go to www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-benefit-claim-form-ch2 and select Claim Child Benefit for additional children (form additional children CH2(CS))

Remember to send this sheet with your completed claim form

Tear off here

For office use 23

For office use 24

Tear off here