

Non-dependants



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Number 4 in a series of benefit information leaflets.

Non-dependants

If you are claiming Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit or both, non-dependant adults that live with you can affect the level of benefit you receive.

This leaflet is part of a series (illustrated opposite) produced by a group of local authorities to help make Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit easier to understand.

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Who is a non-dependant?

A non-dependant is someone aged 18 years or over who lives with you. It does not include someone living in your home who has a legally enforceable agreement to pay rent to you or your landlord.

Examples of a non-dependant would be a son, a daughter or elderly relative.

How does a non-dependant affect my benefit payment?

If they live in your home, we normally have to reduce the amount of benefit you get. This is called a non-dependant deduction.

How much are non-dependant deductions?

The amount of deduction made depends on how much gross income your non-dependant has and whether they are working over 16 hours a week.

By gross income we mean all the money they get including earnings (before tax and National Insurance is deducted), social security benefits and interest paid on savings. We will need to see original proof of the non-dependant's income and capital, for example pay slips and savings pass books. If you don't show us original proof (ie, not photocopies), we will deduct the maximum allowed.

Attendance Allowance and Disability Living Allowance don't count as income.

The non-dependant deductions are set by government and change every April. See the table opposite showing the current deduction levels.

Non-dependant couples

If the non-dependants living in your home are married to each other or living together as a couple, we add their incomes together and make one deduction from your benefit.

Joint tenant or joint owner

If you share your home with a joint tenant or joint owner and a non-dependant lives in the home with both of you, we will take only half the normal non-dependant deduction off your benefit.

Non-dependant deduction table (April 2007)

For each non-dependant:	RENT	COUNCIL TAX
<i>not in paid work</i>	£7.40	£2.30
<i>receiving pension credit</i>	Nil	Nil
<i>in paid work whose gross weekly income is less than £111</i>	£7.40	£2.30
<i>in paid work whose gross weekly income is between £111 and £163.99</i>	£17.00	£2.30
<i>in paid work whose gross weekly income is between £164 and £212.99</i>	£23.35	£4.60
<i>in paid work whose gross weekly income is between £213 and £282.99</i>	£38.20	£4.60
<i>in paid work whose gross weekly income is between £283 and £352.99</i>	£43.50	£5.80
<i>in paid work whose gross weekly income is £353 or more</i>	£47.75	£6.95
<i>on a Youth Training Scheme</i>	Nil	Nil
<i>in hospital for over 52 weeks</i>	Nil	Nil
<i>who is in legal custody</i>	Nil	Nil
<i>under 25 and receiving income support, Jobseeker's Allowance (income based)</i>	Nil	Nil
<i>aged 25 or over and receiving income support, Jobseeker's Allowance (income based)</i>	£7.40	Nil
<i>who is a full time student*</i>	Nil	Nil

*A non-dependant deduction in respect of housing benefit only will apply if a student takes up work during the summer vacation.

When is a non-dependant deduction not made?

Deductions are not made if you or your partner are:

- registered blind;
- receiving Attendance Allowance or Disability Living Allowance (care component).

Deductions are not made from your benefit if the non-dependant adult living with you:

- is aged under 25 and receiving Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance;
- receives a Youth Training Allowance;
- has been a hospital in-patient for more than 52 weeks;
- is a prisoner;
- is a student (although deductions will be made if they work during the summer vacation);
- usually lives elsewhere;
- receives Pension Credit.

Participating authorities: Broxbourne, Dacorum, Hertsmere, Ipswich, Lincoln City, North Herts, St Albans, Stevenage, Three Rivers and Welwyn Hatfield.



Where to get help and advice

To get more information you can visit us at:

Three Rivers District Council
Three Rivers House
Northway, Rickmansworth
Herts WD3 1RL

Offices are open: Mon to Thu 8.30am – 5.30pm
Fri 8.30am – 5pm

Telephone: 01923 773138 (benefits section)

Email: benefits@threerivers.gov.uk

Fax: 01923 727181

Website: www.threerivers.gov.uk

South Oxhey Area Office
37 Oxhey Drive
South Oxhey
Herts WD19 7SD

Benefits officer

available: Mon and Thu 9am – 4.30pm
Fri 9am – 4pm

Other organisations that provide help and advice

Citizens Advice Bureaux

Watford 01923 234949

Rickmansworth 01923 720424

Abbots Langley 01923 267949

Oxhey & District 020 8421 0911

Other formats

This leaflet is also available in large print, Braille, on audio cassette and in other languages. Please contact us if you need this leaflet in one of these formats.

This leaflet gives basic advice and is a general guide. If you have a question that is not answered in this leaflet, or if you want more advice, please contact us.