

Getting ready for Universal Credit

Universal Credit (UC) has arrived in Surrey.

Until Summer 2018 UC can only be claimed by Surrey individuals who meet certain criteria, known as gateway conditions.

This means most claims will be restricted to jobseekers who don't have children, a mortgage or certain benefits in payment. There are other restrictions, so check before claiming.

Claims for UC are made online: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit>

Before you start the claim, you will need the following information:

- National Insurance number
- Your postcode
- Bank, building society, credit union or Post Office account details for UC payment.
- Rent agreement (if you have one)
- Your landlord's address and phone number
- Details of savings or other capital
- Details of any other unearned income
- Details of other benefits being claimed
- Partner details (if you have a partner)

If you need help to make a claim you can call UC on 0345 600 0723.

You will then be contacted by your local Jobcentre Plus who will tell you when to attend an appointment with your Work Coach.

You may also be asked to take additional paperwork with you, such as payslips or evidence of identity.

Citizens Advice Reigate & Banstead can support you with benefits advice. Call 03444 111 444 (Mon-Fri 1000 to 1600) or drop-in (times see www.carbs.org.uk)

