

Advisors Toolkit

Factsheet No 5.b

Pension Age Winter Heating Payment

Pension Age Winter Heating Payment helps people of State Pension age who live in Scotland pay their heating bills. It's paid once a year and replaced [Winter Fuel Payment](#) for people in Scotland.

In winter 2024, Pension Age Winter Heating Payment was paid by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). It will be paid by Social Security Scotland from winter 2025.

Payments in winter 2026

If you're eligible, you could get a payment of between £211.15 and £316.70.

How much you're paid will depend on:

- your age
- the age of anyone you live with who is also eligible for Pension Age Winter Heating Payment
- if you receive certain benefits from DWP as a joint award
- if you live in residential care

Most eligible people will be paid automatically. These payments will be made from November 2026.

If your taxable income is over £35,000, His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) will take back your Pension Age Winter Heating Payment through the tax system.

You'll be able to opt out of getting Pension Age Winter Heating Payment if you do not want to receive it. You can opt out of receiving the pension age winter heating payment if you want to. Read more about [opting out of receiving the payment](#) on the mygov.scot website.

Eligibility

Social Security Scotland looks at your situation during a specific week to see if you're eligible: Monday 21 September to Sunday 27 September 2026. This is called the qualifying week.

To be eligible, you must have:

- been born on, or before, 21 September 1959
- lived in Scotland during the qualifying week

You will not be eligible if you:

- were in hospital getting free treatment for the whole qualifying week and the 52 weeks leading up to it
- were in custody, under a sentence imposed by a court, for the whole qualifying week
- need permission to enter the UK and your granted leave says you cannot claim public funds

More information can be found here: <https://www.mygov.scot/pension-age-winter-heating-payment>

Low Income Winter Heating Assistance in Scotland.

The Low Income Winter Heating Assistance was introduced from winter 2022 to replace the UK Government Cold Weather Payment scheme. Scottish Government have now confirmed that a guaranteed payment of £62.00 will be made to approximately 400,000 low-income households.

To be eligible, you must be in receipt of one of the following benefits (although additional qualifying criteria for some of these benefits may also need to be satisfied):

- Pension Credit
- Income Support
- Income-based JSA
- Income-related ESA
- Universal Credit
- Support for Mortgage Interest

For the most up-to-date and specific criteria, check the [mygov.scot Winter Heating Payment](#) guide.

The payment will replace the UK Government's cold weather payments.

<https://www.socialsecurity.gov.scot/benefits>