

Housing Benefit

Housing Benefit Payment on Two Homes

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Amber Valley
Borough Council

Housing Benefit on two homes

Housing Benefit is normally only paid for the rent you pay on one home at a time.

There are a few exceptions to this and you may be able to get extra help if:

- You have moved into other rented accommodation due to fear of violence.
- You are a student or trainee, are one of a couple, and have to live in separate rented accommodation from your partner.
- You have a large family and you have been housed in two properties.
- You have moved to a new home which you pay rent on and still have to pay rent on your old home.

If you think any of these may apply to you, you will find more details below.

Fear of violence

You may get benefit if you have left your former home and are staying away because of violence or the fear of violence. This can either be in your home by another person, or outside your home by a former member of your family.

We always have to consider if it is reasonable to pay benefit and we pay for up to 52 weeks.

For benefit to be paid for up to 52 weeks you must intend to return to and live in the home you left.

If you do not intend to return to the home then the maximum period for which benefit may be paid on two homes is four weeks.

Students or trainees

Couples who are living in separate rented accommodation may receive benefit for both properties. We must agree that you cannot avoid living in separate accommodation and that it is reasonable to pay benefit on both homes. There is no time limit on these payments.

Large families

If you have a large family and have been housed in two separate homes because your household is too large to be placed in one home, we can pay benefit for both properties. To qualify you must have been placed in the accommodation by the Housing Department, the properties must be next to each other or within a few streets of each other. There is no time limit on these payments.

Unavoidable overlap

If you have moved to a new home which you rent and still have to pay rent on your old home, you may be able to get some help.

The situation has to be unavoidable, for example if you were offered a new home to rent but were unable to give your old landlord the notice he needed. Benefit may be paid for up to 4 weeks on your old home. For this to be considered you must have moved to your new home.

If you think you should get extra benefit

If you think your circumstances mean that you should get benefit on two homes please fill in the attached application and send it to us.

If you would like more information please contact us. Our details are on page 18 of this leaflet.

Strictly Confidential

Application for benefit on two homes

Please answer all the questions in full, or tick the boxes that apply. Then pull out the form and send it to the address of page 18 of this leaflet.

Title

Surname

All other names

Your date of birth

National Insurance (NI) number

You can get this from your NI number card, payslips, tax papers or other letters from social security.

Your address

Postcode

Daytime telephone number

I want to claim Housing Benefit on two homes because:

(please tick the box that applies)

I left home due to violence or fear of violence *(go to section 1)*

I am one of a student couple who are living in separate rented accommodation *(go to section 2)*

I have a large family and have been housed in two properties *(go to section 3)*

I have moved to a new home which I rent and have had to pay rent to my previous landlord even though I wasn't living there *(go to section 4)*

Section 1: Violence or fear of violence

What is your usual home address?

Postcode

What is your new address?

Postcode

What date did you leave home?

<input type="text"/>					
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Please give your reasons for leaving home.

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Are you still being charged rent for you old home?

Yes No

Section 2: Student couple

What address are you living at?

Postcode

What date did you move into this address?

<input type="text"/>					
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What address is your partner living at?

Postcode

What date did your partner move into this address?

<input type="text"/>					
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Please give reasons why you are renting two properties.

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Section 3: Large family in two properties

Please give the addresses of both the properties your family is living in.

Address 1

Postcode

What date did you move into this address?

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Address 2

Postcode

What date did you move into this address?

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Please give the reasons why your family needs two properties to live in.

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Section 4: Unavoidable overlap

What was your old address?

Postcode

What date did you give notice to your landlord?

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How much notice did you have to give the landlord of your old address?

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Up to what date will you be charged rent at your old address?

(please enclose proof of this)

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On what date did you leave your old address?

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What is your new address?

Postcode

Declaration & warning

Even if someone else has filled in this form for you, you must sign this declaration if you can. If you have a partner, they should sign this declaration as well.

Please read this declaration carefully before you sign and date it.

I understand the following:

- If I give information that is incorrect or incomplete, you may take action against me. This may include court action.
- You will use the information I have provided to process my claim for Housing Benefit or Council Tax Support (or both). You may check some of the information with other sources within the council, rent offices, other councils and government organisations.
- You may use any information I have provided in connection with this and any other claim for social security benefits or Discretionary Housing Payments that I have made or may make. You may give some information to other government organisations, if the law allows this.
- You may also use any information I have provided to keep my, or my partner's, Council Tax account up to date and to award or remove any relevant discounts.
- Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, the contents of this form may have to be disclosed in response to a request. Under the Data Protection Act 1998, however, your own personal data will be processed and held securely and not be released to unauthorised third parties without your consent, except where the law allows. The council may, however, disclose your personal information to other local authorities and governmental departments and agencies for data-matching purposes with a view to the possible prevention and detection of fraud, corruption, money laundering and other forms of crime and for the proper administration of your affairs, where appropriate.

I know I must let you know of any change in my circumstances or the circumstances of anyone in my household which might affect my claim. I know I must let you know of any change as soon as I know about it.

I declare the information I have given on this form is correct and complete.

Signature of person claiming

Date

Partner's signature

Date

Notes

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Notes

A large rectangular area with a light gray border, containing 20 horizontal lines for writing notes. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the box.

What if I disagree with the council's decision on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support?

If you disagree with the decision you can ask us to look at your claim again. You must contact us within one month of the date of the decision letter. You can phone, write or visit us and ask us to explain the decision. Also, you can ask for a written statement of reasons, which will show more information about the decision. If you are still not satisfied, you can appeal.

Please contact us and we will give you more advice.

Information & contact details

Do I have to tell the council of any changes?

Yes: If your circumstances change in any way, the law says you must tell the benefits section immediately.

Would you like more information?

If you would like more information please phone the Benefit section on the following number: **01773 841470**

**Amber Valley Borough Council
Benefits & Revenues Service
PO Box 1
Town Hall
Market Place
Ripley
Derbyshire
DE5 3BT**

Website: www.ambervalley.gov.uk

E-mail: benefits@ambervalley.gov.uk

English

This document is available in alternative formats (including audio and large print) and other languages on request. Please call 01773 570222 or send a small enquiries@ambervalley.gov.uk

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਮੰਗ ਕੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਵਿਚ (ਜਿਵੇਂ ਅਡੀਓ ਟੇਪ 'ਤੇ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਹੋਇਆ ਅਤੇ ਵੱਡੇ ਅੱਖਰਾਂ ਵਿਚ) ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਲਿਖਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਹਦੇ ਬਾਰੇ, ਬਿਠਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਨੰਬਰ 01773 570222 'ਤੇ ਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ, ਜਾਂ ਇਸ ਖੱਤੇ 'ਤੇ ਈਮੇਲ ਭੇਜੋ - enquiries@ambervalley.gov.uk

Cantonese

本文件可以按要求製作成另外的格式 (包括錄音帶及特大字體) 和翻譯成其他語言。請致電 01773 570222，或發送電郵至 enquiries@ambervalley.gov.uk

Hindi

"यह दस्तावेज़ मंग कने पर (अधियो और मोटी छपाई समेत) वैकल्पिक रूपों और अन्य भाषाओं में उपलब्ध है। कृपया 01773 570222 पर फ़ोन करें वा enquiries@ambervalley.gov.uk पर ईमेल करें।"

Urdu

یہ دساتاویج مڭ کسے پر متبادل صورتوں (جس میں موٹی اور بڑا ڈھانچہ اور بڑی ممت میں شامل ہے) اور دیگر زبانوں میں دستیاب ہے۔ براہ مہربانی تلفظ نمبر 01773 570222 پر فون کریں یا ای میل ایڈریس enquiries@ambervalley.gov.uk پر ای میل بھیجیں۔

Polish

Na żądanie, dokument ten jest do uzyskania w różnych formatach (łącznie z wersją dźwiękową i dużym drukiem) oraz w innych językach. Prosimy o zatelefonowanie pod numer: 01773 570222 lub wysłanie maila do: enquiries@ambervalley.gov.uk

Our Benefits Office is open during the following hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9.00am - 4.30pm
and on Wednesday: 10.00am - 4.30pm

You can write to:

Amber Valley Borough Council
Benefits & Revenues Service
PO Box 1
Town Hall
Market Place
Ripley
Derbyshire DE5 3BT

Tel: 01773 841470

Fax: 01773 841462

For independent advice you could contact the following:

Citizens' Advice Bureau: 0300 456 8390

Welfare Rights: 01629 531535

FRAUDLINE

**'Do you know someone who
is falsely claiming benefit?'**

If you do, please inform the Benefit Investigation Unit on:

The Fraudline number: **01773 841466**

or contact The National Fraud Line on: **0800 854 440**

