

Address

Professor Steven Broomhead
Chief Executive

Lynton Green
Director of Corporate Services
& Deputy Chief Executive

East Annexe Town Hall Sankey Street Warrington WA1 1UH

30th November 2020

Help with your food and utility bills this winter - are you eligible?

You may be eligible for help from the Covid19 Winter Grant scheme. This is additional funding over the winter months to support with food and basic utility bills.

To be eligible for the grant you must be one of the following status:

- 1. A parent or carer of a child living with you aged 0 to 16 years;
- 2. A parent or carer of a young person aged 16 to 18 years living with you;
- 3. A young person aged 16 18 years living independently;
- 4. A parent or carer of a young person aged 19 to 24 years with special educational needs or disability (SEND) if they have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) or have had an EHCP previously;
- 5. A young person aged 19 to 24 years with SEND if you have an EHCP or have had an EHCP previously;
- 6. A young person aged 18 21 years who has previously spent time in the care of Warrington Borough Council as a child.

Also, to be eligible for the grant you must currently be claiming one of the following financial support benefits (income is based on household):

- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190);
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit;
- Universal Credit.

Please be aware that you commit benefit fraud by claiming benefits you are not entitled to on purpose, for example by providing false information. Action will be taken with anyone found to be making a fraudulent claim.

Young People who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or carer, can claim for themselves, however full household circumstances have to be taken into account.

This grant can be used for food, heating, lighting, cooking, water and sewerage needs. It is not intended to cover debt advice and general financial hardship support which is not linked to food, warmth and/or hygiene. This grant is not to be used to cover housing costs as there are other benefits and support is available to cover these costs.

If you meet both the eligibility status in the list 1-6 <u>AND</u> are currently claiming one of the listed financial support benefits, please complete the following online Winter Grant application form: <u>www.warrington.gov.uk/COVID2020-WG</u>. You will be able to make a claim for each child in your household within this one application. If possible please complete the form by 13th December 2020 in order for us to try and get the first payment of £20.57 for each eligible child to you before Christmas, with a further three payments being made during the January to March period.

If you would like further information on the grant or support completing the form please email: covidwinterpaymentgrant@warrington.gov.uk or call Contact Warrington 01925 443322.

Yours faithfully

Lynton Green

Director of Corporate Services & Deputy Chief Executive

Website address for the Covid19 Winter Grant Scheme application form: www.warrington.gov.uk/COVID2020-WG