



## **Pension Credit**

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- To claim Pension Credit, you should telephone the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on 0800 99 1234.
- The earliest you can start your application is 4 months before you reach Pension Credit qualifying age. You can check your State Pension Credit Age on-line <https://www.gov.uk/state-pension-age>
- You can claim any time after you reach Pension Credit qualifying age, but your claim can only be backdated for 3 months.
- You will need; your National Insurance number, information about your income, savings and investments and your bank account details.
- Pension Credit can be made up of two parts: - Guarantee Credit and Savings Credit. Guarantee Credit is paid to people whose income is below set amounts, it tops up weekly income to a guaranteed minimum level. Most people who reached State Pension age on or after 6 April 2016 won't be eligible for Savings Credit. But you may still get Savings Credit if you reached your State Pension age before 6 April 2016. If you stop being eligible for Savings Credit for any reason, you won't be able to get it again.
- Any savings you have up to £10,000 will not affect your Pension Credit. Other disregards may also apply to some of your savings/capital.
- Any savings you have over £10,000, that are not disregarded will be assessed by the DWP as providing a 'tariff income' of £1 per week for every extra £500 or part £500 you have. For example, if you have £14,000 in capital £8.00 tariff income is added on to your income to calculate your Pension Credit entitlement ( $£14,000 - £10,000 = £4,000 / 500 = £8$ )
- If you move to permanently live in a care home your capital will normally include the value of your former home if it is unoccupied unless you can show that you are taking reasonable steps to sell it. Other disregards might apply to your former home, you should seek advice.
- Please note the qualifying age for Pension Credit is gradually going up to 68 in line with the increase in the age for State Retirement Pension.

# Adult Social Care

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This information sheet is for guidance only. April 2019.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/adult-social-care-and-health>