

APPLYING FOR PENSION CREDIT

Step 1

Check your eligibility for Pension Credit using this [Pension Credit Calculator](#) or call the Pension Credit claim service: 0800 99 1234 Textphone: 0800 169 0133

If you meet the eligibility conditions for [Carer's Allowance](#)/Carer Support Payment (e.g. care for more than 35 hours per week) specify that you have an underlying entitlement on the calculator.

Step 2

If the calculator says you may be entitled to Pension Credit, apply and ask for it to be backdated.

If you do not already have a letter telling you that you have the underlying entitlement to Carer's Allowance, apply for Carer's Allowance/Support Payment at the same time as you apply for Pension Credit. Request for Pension Credit to be backdated when you apply.

Step 3

Receive a decision

If you receive a decision on Pension Credit first and it's a no, wait until you receive a letter saying you have an underlying entitlement to Carer's Allowance/Support Payment. This could mean you would become entitled to Pension Credit.

Let the Pension Service know when you receive your underlying entitlement letter to see whether it would make a difference to your Pension Credit claim.

Entitled

Contact the Winter Fuel Payments team to ask for the payment.

**Check for other benefits:
Let your local authority know that you have been awarded Pension Credit. It may mean you get more Housing Benefit or extra help with your Council Tax.**

Not entitled

If you don't already have an award and think you or your partner might qualify, apply for Attendance Allowance

If an award is made for Attendance Allowance:
Let the Pension Service know and also update your local authority to see whether your Housing Benefit, or Council Tax support can be increased even more. Re-check possible eligibility for Pension Credit using [Pension Credit Calculator](#) or call Pension Credit claim line 0808 100 6165