

The background features a series of concentric circles in light gray, some solid and some dashed, creating a sense of depth and movement. A large, solid green oval is positioned in the center, serving as a container for the text. A thick, dark gray curved line sweeps across the lower left portion of the green oval.

Benefits and Transition to Adulthood

Child Benefit and Child Tax Credit

You can continue to get child benefit and child tax credit for a young person up to the age of 20, if they are in full time education or approved training (not paid).

If the young person is over 19 they need to have started or been enrolled on their course of education before their 19th birthday.

Universal credit

You can continue to get a child element for a young person up to the 1st September after their 19th birthday if they are in full time education or approved training.

If they are 19 they need to have started or been enrolled on the course or training before their 19th birthday.

Young Person not in education or training

Once a young person reaches 18, if they are not in education or training, the child benefit (and any child element of the parents' tax credits or universal credit) will stop.

The young person is now eligible to claim benefits in their own right. They should claim universal credit. Universal Credit replaces income support, income based job seekers allowance, income based employment and support allowance, tax credits and housing benefit.

If they are unable to work due to their disability or long term health condition they need to submit "fit notes" and will have to undergo a work capability assessment.

Young Person over 19/20, still in education

In order to be eligible for universal credit whilst in full time education the young person needs to be entitled to DLA or PIP, and have a "limited capability for work".

In order to prove limited capability for work they need to claim "new style" ESA (like contribution based ESA) on a credit-only basis. By claiming new style ESA they will have an assessment for "limited capability for work". They will get Class 1 NI contributions through the new style ESA credits only claim.

They should also claim universal credit in order to get benefit awarded.

How to Claim

ESA

- You can claim new style ESA online, through www.gov.uk, or on a paper form available from the same website.

Universal Credit

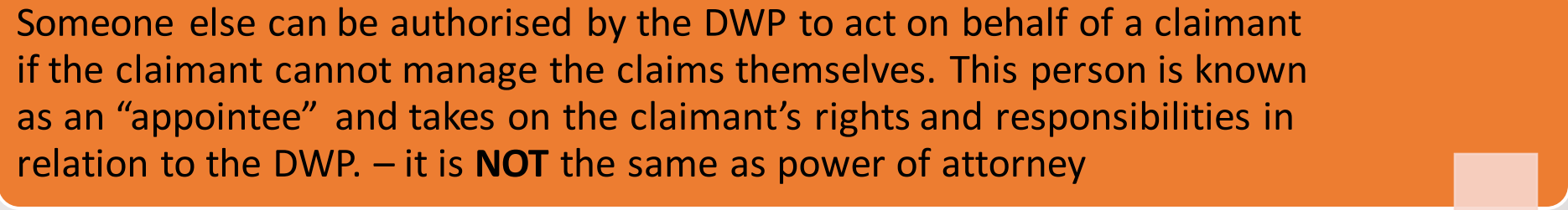
- You can claim universal credit online, through www.gov.uk . If you have difficulty doing this you can call the universal credit helpline.

Remember

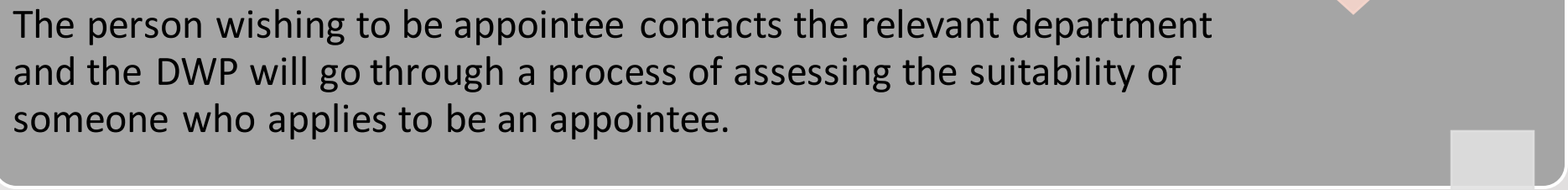
- Remember to contact Carers Count if you want help with benefits queries and applications

Who should claim? - appointeeship

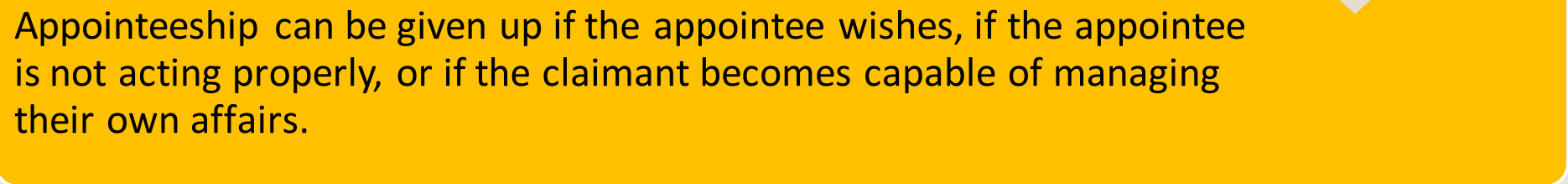
Someone else can be authorised by the DWP to act on behalf of a claimant if the claimant cannot manage the claims themselves. This person is known as an “appointee” and takes on the claimant’s rights and responsibilities in relation to the DWP. – it is **NOT** the same as power of attorney

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The person wishing to be appointee contacts the relevant department and the DWP will go through a process of assessing the suitability of someone who applies to be an appointee.

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Appointeeship can be given up if the appointee wishes, if the appointee is not acting properly, or if the claimant becomes capable of managing their own affairs.

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**Help
available!**

Carers Count can help with all sorts of benefits issues such as –

- Understanding benefits
- Checking what benefits you can claim
- Checking eligibility for PIP or DLA for example
- Helping you claim benefits
- Filling in forms
- Understanding letters from the DWP
- Challenging DWP decisions
- Contact us on 0300 012 0231