

# Warm Home Discount

## What is it and how can I apply?

As part of our Challenge Poverty Week initiatives, ALLenergy wants to remind everyone about the Warm Home Discount. With gas and electricity bills staying high this winter, it's worth finding out whether you qualify for the Warm Home Discount, the £150 discount on your winter energy bills is potentially available in England, Scotland and Wales. New rules expanding the criteria mean more people are now eligible, so it's worth checking if you can get the help you need.

It is a government-backed scheme that offers a reduction of £150 off your electricity bill for the winter period between October 2025 and March 2026. The money isn't paid directly to you. Instead, a discount is applied to your electricity bill. You could get also money off your gas bill if your supplier provides you with both gas and electricity (known as a dual fuel tariff).

## New criteria mean more people now qualify

From Winter 2025/26 more people will be able to get the £150 discount as the criteria has been expanded. Now every billpayer who gets certain benefits will qualify. Previously, you would need to get certain benefits **AND** earn under a certain amount. **So, if you have previously been turned down don't assume this will still be the case.**

## The deadline to have your name on the bill and qualify was 24 August

To be eligible your name **MUST** be on your bill by 24 August. If you have recently moved or changed supplier, you might not be named on your bill. If you're not sure or need to make a change, contact your energy supplier as soon as possible.

## Which benefits do I need to get to be eligible?

To get the discount your name must be on your bill by 24 August 2025 **AND** get:

- Pension Credit (savings OR guarantee element) – Core Group 1
- Or
- Universal Credit – Core group 2

Don't get these benefits but claim other means-tested benefits?

You could still be eligible if you claim one of the benefits that was replaced by Universal Credit, this will only apply to a small number of people. If you're not sure – from October 2025, you'll be able to check using the government's online tool.

### **I think I am eligible for Pension Credit but haven't applied**

You must apply and have a successful claim covering 24 August. Pension Credit can be backdated by a maximum of three months. This means if you apply for Pension Credit before 23 November and are successful, you should be able to get the Warm Home Discount from your supplier.

But Pension Credit is not automatically backdated. This means you must request backdating on your claim form.

### **I am eligible for Universal Credit but haven't applied**

You must apply and have a successful claim covering 24 August. Universal Credit can only be backdated by one month. This means if you apply before 23 September and are successful, you should be able to get the Warm Home Discount from your supplier this year.

But Universal Credit is not automatically backdated. This means you have to request backdating.

If you are eligible, you should get a letter between October and December 2025. The letter will confirm if you are eligible for an automatic rebate or advise you to call a helpline to check if you are eligible.

### **What happens if I don't get a letter?**

If you don't automatically qualify for Warm Home Discount, it might be because the government doesn't have enough information. You might be asked for documents to prove your eligibility: like an energy bill with your name on it or proof that you receive benefits.

### **How do I apply for the Warm Home Discount?**

If you're with an energy supplier that doesn't offer Warm Home Discount, but you still qualify for it, you can switch to a company that provides it but before you switch check that their tariff is costs the same or ideally less than your current tariff.

The Warm Home Discount is available to you if you live in a park home, however you will need to apply for it.

### **I live in Scotland; how do I apply?**

The payment is only automatic in Scotland if you get the Guarantee Credit element of Pension Credit, Core group1. If you get Universal Credit (Core group 2) and are eligible for it on 25 August 2025 (the qualifying date for the payment), you will have to apply to your energy supplier to claim it. Applications will open in October. Staff at ALIenergy are here to assist you make the application if you are unable go online and complete the form.

### **Which energy companies offer the Warm Home Discount?**

Most energy suppliers do offer this discount. However, not all suppliers take part in the Warm Home Discount scheme.

If you qualify for the discount and your current supplier doesn't offer it, you might want to switch supplier to one who does.

### **What if I have a pre-pay or pay-as-you-go meter?**

If you use a pre-pay or pay-as-you-go meter, you can still qualify for the discount. Make sure you let your electricity supplier know and providing you are eligible, they will automatically apply the discount.

### **What other ways can I save money on my energy bills or get help with energy costs?**

**Advisers at ALLenergy are keen to help offer advice and support, we can be contacted on 01631 565183 or email [enquiries@alienergy.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@alienergy.org.uk)**