

# Help to pay your council tax

## What is the council tax support scheme (CTS)?

CTS is a means-tested reduction to help people who are on a low income to pay their council tax bill.

## Can I apply for it?

If you are on a low income, or receiving means-tested benefits, you may be eligible to claim CTS. You can claim it whether you are working, unemployed or retired. You can also claim whether you rent or own your own home.

## I am receiving universal credit. Can I apply for CTS too?

Yes, but you must fill in a CTS form separately to your universal credit application.

## How much will I get?

This depends on a lot of things: which benefits you receive, your age, your income, your savings, who you live with and how much council tax you pay.

## What other help is available?

Council tax discretionary relief (CTDR) can help if you cannot afford to pay your council tax bill. It's normally paid in addition to our CTS.

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## How to apply for CTS

Go to [leicester.gov.uk/counciltax](https://leicester.gov.uk/counciltax), follow the links to council tax support scheme and fill in the online forms.

## How to apply for CTDR

Go to [leicester.gov.uk/myaccount](https://leicester.gov.uk/myaccount), follow the links and fill in the online forms.

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## Help to get online

You can use computers free of charge in any city library and at the council's Customer Service Centre on Granby Street. You can also learn basic computer skills in free sessions at these libraries: Beaumont Leys, Belgrave, Central, New Parks and Westcotes. Contact your local library for details or visit [leicester.gov.uk/getcomputerskills](https://leicester.gov.uk/getcomputerskills)

## Council tax exemptions and other discounts

You might be able to get an exemption or discount if:

- a person in your house has a severe mental impairment, such as dementia or a learning disability;
- you were in care provided by Leicester City Council on your 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, and are now aged under 25;
- a person in your house is a carer;
- your home has been adapted for someone with a disability;
- your home is an annexe to another property;
- your house is empty – maybe you have left to go into a care home or hospital;
- you are a student, apprentice or youth training trainee;
- you live on your own.

These exemptions **do not depend** on your income. Go online for more information: [leicester.gov.uk/counciltax](https://leicester.gov.uk/counciltax)

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## Contact the council

### My Account

Sign up for an account and access council services 24 hours a day from any computer or mobile device.

- Request it
- Pay it
- Report it

[leicester.gov.uk/myaccount](https://leicester.gov.uk/myaccount)

### My Revenues and Benefits

Do you pay council tax or get housing benefit? Register for My Revenues and Benefits to look at your payments and tell us about changes.

[leicester.gov.uk/myrb](https://leicester.gov.uk/myrb)

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## Personal budgeting support

Citizens Advice LeicesterShire are working with Leicester City Council to help you with budgeting. Find out more at [leicester.gov.uk/universalcredit](https://leicester.gov.uk/universalcredit)