

Information on extended Child Benefit for EF Participants

16 November 2017

A decorative graphic on the right side of the page consisting of several overlapping teal squares. The squares are separated by white dotted lines, creating a grid-like pattern that is partially obscured by the overlapping nature of the shapes.

It is important that Providers know that the parent/guardian of EF participants may be eligible for Child Benefit payments.

A parent/guardian can still get Child Benefit after their child turns 16 if their child is enrolled or accepted onto relevant education or training before their 19th birthday. The Employability Fund is classed as relevant training.

To claim extended Child Benefit for up to 20 weeks, you can use the online service (sign-in or set up a Government Gateway account).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-benefit-apply-for-extension-ch299>

The Child Benefit Office can only backdate Child Benefit for up to three months from the date they get your claim. So it's best to make a claim straight away to avoid losing money.

When an EF participant leaves the Employability Fund programme and their parent/guardian is receiving Child Benefit, the parent/guardian can apply for a 20 week extension in specific circumstances e.g. if they progress to further education or unemployed or register with the local Skills Development Scotland office.

The Child Benefit Office can be contacted in a number of ways:

Online

[Report changes that affect your Child Benefit](#)

[Ask a question about Child Benefit](#)

Phone

Call HMRC for information about eligibility, claiming and stopping Child Benefit, changing your personal details and making a complaint. HMRC can only discuss your claim with you or someone you have authorised as your representative. A partner or someone else can get general advice but they must be [authorised to discuss a claim](#) with the helpline.

Telephone: **0300 200 3100** Textphone: **0300 200 3103** Outside UK: **+44 161 210 3086**

Opening times: Monday to Friday: 8am to 8pm, Saturday: 8am to 4pm, Closed Sundays, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year's Day.

Please have your National Insurance number or Child Benefit number with you when you call.

SDS recommends that EF Providers bring this information to the attention of all EF Participants who are in receipt of the SDS Young Persons Allowance during induction.

If you are aware of any errors in this document please notify employabilityfund@sds.co.uk