

Help with health costs

- Are you on benefits or a tight budget but still paying some health costs, such as prescription charges, travel costs, eye tests, or dental charges?
- Are you receiving Incapacity Benefit, on a small private pension, a student or a carer?
- You may be eligible for more help with costs.

Follow the steps below to check.

STEP 1: Are you receiving:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance
- Pension Credit Guarantee Credit
- Working or Child Tax Credit with an NHS exemption certificate

STEP 2: Do you think you may be eligible for one of these benefits? Help to check and apply is available:

Older people	Care Direct Pension Service	0845 1551 007 or 01271 395331
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Working age people	Jobcentre Plus - see phone book, or Citizens Advice Bureau - see phone book or www.citizensadvice.org.uk/index/getadvice.htm	
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STEP 3: Apply for a Low Income certificate

On a tight budget with savings of less than £16,000 and not eligible for the benefits listed in Step 1?

Apply for a Low Income Certificate, using form HC1 available at your local hospital, job centre, dentist or optician, or ring 0845 610 1112 to order a form.

You can have help to complete the form from the agencies in Step 2, or over the phone on 0845 850 1166. The certificate you receive will tell you if you can have full or partial help with costs.

Full details in leaflet HC11 "Help with Health Costs April 2009".