

Help with paying your Council Tax (2025-26)

If you are on a low income or in receipt of certain benefits, you may be eligible for a Council Tax Reduction to help paying your Council Tax bill.

You can claim whether you own your home or are renting, and whether or not you are in employment.



How is the amount of Council Tax Reduction decided?

Your eligibility and the amount you may receive will depend on several factors including:

- your age.
- your income, including any benefits you receive.
- your savings.
- who you live with.
- how much Council Tax you pay.

If you receive the Guarantee Credit part of Pension Credit, you may get your Council Tax paid in full. (Please see the information sheet on Pension Credit.)

If you do not receive Guarantee Credit, but you have a low income, with less than £16,000 in savings, you may still get some help.

If you are granted Council Tax Reduction, you should also get a reduction of up to 35% on the public water and sewerage charges on your council tax bill, unless you are already receiving another discount.

Other Council Tax Discounts and Exemptions: -

In addition to Council Tax Reduction, there are other discounts and exemptions that may be available, for example any of these apply to you:-

- You live alone.
- You are an unpaid carer.
- You, or someone else in your household, has a severe mental impairment, such as dementia or a learning difficulty.
- There are adaptations in your home to make it suitable for a disabled person who lives there.
- There is another person living in the household who is on a low income, but who is not your partner.
- You are not currently living in your property, for example because you have gone into hospital or moved into a care home.
- You have your main residence somewhere else.
- There is an issue with your property, such as a flood, which may be covered by a discretionary discount.

How to apply:-

The process is the same for applying for Council Tax Reduction, Discounts and Exemptions. Information you provide will be assessed to determine what you may be entitled to receive.

Download and print a claim form to complete from <https://tinyurl.com/Council-Tax-Reduce> or scan this QR code.

Request a claim form from the Council office at Midlothian House, 40-46 Buccleuch St, Dalkeith EH22 1GN, or

Phone the Council on 0131 271 3201 and ask for a copy to be posted to you.

