How to claim <u>Backdated Benefits and Reductions</u>

What is backdating Benefit?

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support are normally awarded from the Monday following the day your application is received by the Benefit Service. However, the law allows us to make an award from an earlier date if you have a good reason (good cause) for not applying earlier.

For working age claims, we can only backdate your Housing Benefit for up to one month and your Council Tax Support for up to six months from the date you request this. You must give a good reason why this should be done.

How do I apply?

Fill in the section below and send it to us.

We will write to you within 14 days. If your claim is refused, details of how to appeal will be sent to you.

Please complete and return this form as soon as possible to:

The Benefits Service, Council Offices, Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8EQ

SBC Tel: 01438 242440 EHC Tel: 01279 655261

What is good cause?

Some examples are:

- Death of a close relative.
- Being in hospital or seriously ill.
- Being wrongly advised by a person who should have known better, ie Council staff.

It is NOT good cause simply not applying.



East Herts and Stevenage Benefit Service

My Benefit reference number (if known)

Name

Address

I claim Housing Benefit

No
Yes

I would like my Housing
Benefit backdated to (date):

I claim Council Tax Support No Yes I would like my Council Tax Support backdated to (date):

My reason for this request is: (if you need more space, please attach a separate sheet)

I declare that the above information is correct

Signature Date

Please complete, print and return this form as soon as possible to: The Revenues Service, Council Offices, Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8EQ Alternatively click the send button below. This will open your email application and attach as a new message.



The personal information you supply on this form will be used for the processing of Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support and will be used in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. For more information go to www.eastherts.gov.uk/dataprotection or contact the Council's Information Management team by email on foi@eastherts.gov.uk or by telephone on 01279 655261.



Independent Advice is available from your local Citizens Advice Bureaux

Bishop's Stortford

Methodist Church 34B South Street Bishop's Stortford CM23 3AZ

Buntingford

Manor House High Street Buntingford SG9 9AB

Hertford

Sele Community Hub 18 Fleming Crescent, HERTFORD SG14 2DJ

Stevenage

Sixth Floor Daneshill Danestrete Stevenage SG1 1BY

For East Herts Council

01279 655261

Hertford Office:

Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford, Herts SG13 8EQ

If you would like a translation of this document

in another language, large print, Braille, audio,

Bishop's Stortford Office:

Information

or electronic, please contact us:

Navigation House (Shopmobility)
Riverside, Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM23 3AS

Our opening hours are as follows: Tuesdays - Wallfields, Hertford, 10am-2pm. Wednesdays - Bishop's Stortford, 10am-2pm. Thursdays - Wallfields, Hertford, 10am-2pm. Fridays - Bishop's Stortford 10am-2pm.

For Stevenage Borough Council 01438 242440

Customer Services Centre,
Daneshill House, Stevenage,
Herts SG1 1HN Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm

Hertfordshire telephone advice line

03444 111 444

10am-4pm Monday - Friday www.ehcas.org.uk

Email: benefits@hertspartnership-ala.gov.uk

www.eastherts.gov.uk www.stevenage.gov.uk

We will provide signers, lipspeakers and deaf blind interpreters by appointment.

(We need to see original documents. If you visit our office we will verify and copy your documents for you)