



What maternity leave are you entitled to?

YOU'RE EMPLOYED

Eligible if you:

- Are earning more than £123 a week.
- Give the correct notice and proof you're pregnant.
- Have worked for your employer continuously for at least 26 weeks continuing into the 'qualifying week' - the 15th week before the expected week of childbirth.

When & how to apply:

- You should receive MATB1 form (from your Doctor or midwife) 20 weeks before due date.
- At least 15 weeks before due date, tell your employer your due date & when you want to start maternity leave.

YOU'RE SELF-EMPLOYED

Eligible if you:

- Have been self-employed for at least 26 weeks in the 66 weeks before your baby is due.

When & how to apply:

- Apply on Gov.co.uk website from 26 weeks pregnant.

HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED OR RECENTLY STOPPED WORKING

Eligible if you:

- Have been employed, you must have been earning (or classed as earning) £30 a week or more in at least 13 weeks of your employment. The weeks do not have to be together.
- You may still qualify if you've recently stopped working. It does not matter if you had different jobs or periods of unemployment.

When & how to apply:

- Apply on Gov.co.uk website from 26 weeks pregnant.

YOU DO UNPAID WORK FOR PARTNER'S BUSINESS

Eligible if you:

- Have done unpaid work for the business of your spouse or civil partner for at least 26 weeks in the 66 weeks before your baby is due (but have not been employed or self-employed).
- In the same 26 weeks, your spouse or civil partner must be registered as self-employed with HMRC and pay Class 2 National Insurance contributions.

When & how to apply:

- Apply on Gov.co.uk website from 26 weeks pregnant.

STATUTORY MATERNITY PAY (SMP)

For Statutory Maternity Pay (SMP) you must give your employer at least 28 days notice and proof you are pregnant.

Your employer must confirm if **you're eligible** for Statutory Maternity Pay, how much you will get and when it will start & stop.

What you're likely entitled to:

- 90% of average weekly earnings for 1st 6 weeks (before tax).
- Then £184.03 or 90% of average weekly earnings for the next 33 weeks (whichever is lower), Tax & NI will be deducted.

If you're **not eligible** your employer must give you an SMP1 form within 7 days of making their decision & why.

Complete SMP1 form to understand if you're eligible for Maternity Allowance.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCE

Payments can start any time between the 11th week before your baby is due and the day after the baby is born.

What you're likely entitled to:

You can get between £27 to £184.03 a week for up to 39 weeks if you're self-employed. How much you get depends on how many Class 2 National Insurance contributions you've made in the 66 weeks before your baby is due.

To get £184.03 per week you must have:

- Been registered with HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) for at least 26 weeks in the 66 weeks before your baby is due.
- Paid Class 2 National Insurance contributions for at least 13 of the 66 weeks before the baby is due.

If you've not paid any Class 2 National Insurance contributions, you'll be entitled to £27 per week Maternity Allowance.

But, you can top-up your contributions to increase your Maternity Allowance after you apply. Contact HMRC.

Payments can start any time between the 11th week before your baby is due and the day after the baby is born.

What you're likely entitled to:

You'll get £184.03 a week or 90% of your average weekly earnings (whichever is less) for up to 39 weeks if you're employed or have recently stopped working.

You can get Maternity Allowance for up to 39 weeks. Meaning if you take the full 52 weeks Statutory Maternity Leave, your final 13 weeks will be unpaid.

Payments can start any time between the 11th week before your baby is due and the day after the baby is born.

What you're likely entitled to:

You can get £27 a week for up to 14 weeks if you do unpaid work for your spouse or civil partner's business.