

2009 RATES

CONTRIBUTORY ESA	£ PER WEEK
Assessment phase	
aged under 25	50.95
aged 25 or over	64.30
Main phase	
Basic allowance	64.30
Work-related activity component	25.50
Support component	30.85
INCOME-RELATED ESA	
£ PER WEEK	
Prescribed amount	
Single person	
aged under 25 (assessment phase)	50.95
aged under 25 (post-assessment phase)	64.30
aged 25 or over	64.30
Lone parent	
aged under 18 (assessment phase)	50.95
aged under 18 (post-assessment phase)	64.30
aged 18 or over	64.30
Couple	
both aged 18 or over	100.95
either member aged under 18	See Chapter 5(9)
Additional components	
Work-related activity component	25.50
Support component	30.85
Premiums	
Enhanced disability	
single	13.40
couple	19.30
Severe disability	
single	52.85
couple (one qualifies)	52.85
couple (both qualify)	105.70
Pensioner	
single (work-related activity group)	40.20
single (support group)	34.85
single (assessment phase)	65.70
couple (work-related activity group)	72.00
couple (support group)	66.65
couple (assessment phase)	97.50
Carer	29.50

Since we published our guide to Employment and Support Allowance 2008-2009 in October 2008, a number of changes have been made. This supplement updates the guide, based on information available up to the end of March 2009.

1 Introduction

No changes.

2 The basic conditions

No changes.

3 The work capability assessment

No changes.

4 Contributory ESA

3. National insurance contributions

Class 1

Replace £105 a week (for the tax year 2008/09) with £110 a week (for the tax year 2009/10).

Replace £90 a week (for the tax year 2008/09) with £95 a week (for the tax year 2009/10).

Class 2

Replace £2.30 a week with £2.40 a week.

Replace 33rd edition, page 74 with 34th edition, Chapter 11(3).

Chapter 4(3) National insurance contributions, page 15

4. Contribution credits

Replace Chapter 12(2) with Chapter 11(4).

Chapter 4(4) Contribution credits, page 15

5. Contribution conditions

Benefit years

The 2009 benefit year started on 4.1.09 and ends on 2.1.10.

Chapter 4(5) Contribution conditions, page 15

6. The first condition – paid contributions

Lower earnings limits

Add 2009/10 – £95.

Chapter 4(6) The first condition – paid contributions, page 15

9. How much do you get?

See 2009 rates (left).

Chapter 4(9) How much do you get?, page 17

Continued overleaf

5 Income-related ESA

9. The prescribed amount and additional components

Under 18 couple rates change as below. For single person and lone parent rates – see 2009 ESA rates overleaf.

Prescribed amount	per week
Couple	
both aged 18 or over ¹	£100.95
both under 18 (assessment phase) ²	£76.90
both under 18 (assessment phase complete) ²	£100.95
one aged 25 or over ³	£64.30
one aged 18-24 (assessment phase) ³	£50.95
one aged 18-24 (assessment phase complete) ³	£64.30

ESA Regs, Sch 4, Part 1

Couples (where one partner is aged under 18) – In the table of rates above, the reference numbers mean:

- 1: includes couples where one is under 18 but would be eligible for either income-related ESA or income support if they were single, or is eligible for income-based jobseeker's allowance (JSA) or severe hardship payments;
- 2: only if one is responsible for a child; or each would be eligible for income-related ESA if they were single; or the claimant's partner would be eligible for income support if they were single or is eligible for income-based JSA or severe hardship payments. If none of these conditions are met, the single person's amount will apply (£50.95 during the assessment phase, £64.30 after this);
- 3: only if the other is under 18 and would not be eligible for either income-related ESA or income support (even if they were single), income-based JSA or severe hardship payments.

Chapter 5(9) The prescribed amount and additional components, page 21

10. The premiums

See 2009 rates overleaf.

Chapter 5(10) The premiums, page 21

11. The severe disability premium

Replace £50.35 with £52.85 throughout.

Replace £100.70 with £105.70 throughout.

Chapter 5(11) The severe disability premium, page 21

12. The enhanced disability premium

Replace £12.60 with £13.40.

Replace £18.15 with £19.30.

Chapter 5(12) The enhanced disability premium, page 23

13. The pensioner premium

Replace £124.05 with £130.00.

Replace £189.35 with £198.45.

Chapter 5(13) The pensioner premium, page 23

14. The carer premium

Replace £27.75 with £29.50.

Chapter 5(14) The carer premium, page 23

15. Going into hospital

Replace £50.35 with £52.85.

Chapter 5(15) Going into hospital, page 23

6 Housing Costs

4. Calculating your housing costs

The standard interest rate used to calculate the amount of interest is 6.08%. This figure will be reviewed in July 2009.

Chapter 6(4) Calculating your housing costs, page 26

Section 5. Non-dependent deductions

Weekly gross income	deduction (per week)
£382 or more	£47.75
£306 to £381.99	£43.50
£231 to £305.99	£38.20
£178 to £230.99	£23.35
£120 to £177.99	£17.00
Under £120	£7.40

Chapter 6(5) Non-dependent deductions, page 27

6. Waiting periods

The waiting period has been reduced from 26/39 weeks to 13 weeks and the loans ceiling increased from £100,000 to £200,000. The 13-week waiting period and higher ceiling also apply if you were entitled to a relevant benefit but still serving the waiting period on 4 January 2009.

Chapter 6(6) Waiting periods, page 27

7 Income

No changes.

8 Capital

No changes.

9 Claiming ESA

No changes.

10 Work-focused interviews

No changes.

11 Decisions, revisions and appeals

7. After the tribunal

Replace Social Security and Child Support Commissioners with Social Entitlement Chambers.

Replace Commissioners with Judges.

Chapter 11(7) After the tribunal, page 46

12 Other issues

No changes.

Appendix 1/2/3

No changes.