

New Deal for young people

Help finding work
if you're 18-24

jobcentreplus

Part of the Department for Work and Pensions



You should read this leaflet if you are claiming Jobseeker's Allowance and you are aged 18 to 24. It will tell you about the support you can get from New Deal for young people to help you find a job.

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What is New Deal?

New Deal aims to help you get a job if you are out of work. It will give you the chance to train, learn and do work experience so that you:

- get more confident
- get new skills
- can be worth more to people looking for staff, and
- can find and stay in work.

What is New Deal for young people?

New Deal for young people will help you find and keep a job or start to work for yourself. It will help you improve the skills you have and learn new skills. While you are on New Deal for young people you will get help and support from your personal adviser. They will help you look at what you can do, and to build on the skills you have.

If you are claiming Jobseeker's Allowance, and you are aged 18 to 24, you must take part in New Deal for young people to carry on getting some of your benefits unless you have a good reason for not taking part.

Is New Deal for young people for me?

If you are aged 18 to 24 and have been claiming Jobseeker's Allowance for 6 months or more, you must take part in New Deal for young people.

If both you and your personal adviser decide that it is best, you may even be able to join if you have been claiming Jobseeker's Allowance for less than 6 months.

Your personal adviser

When you join New Deal you will get a personal adviser. They will be from Jobcentre Plus and will help you at every stage of New Deal. They will check how you are doing and help you plan what to do next. This could be face-to-face or on the phone.

You should talk to your personal adviser if you are not sure about something or you have a question.

The first stage of New Deal for young people

The first stage of New Deal for young people is called 'gateway'. It lasts for up to 16 weeks. At this stage you will meet your personal adviser every week so that they can find out what you can do, what sort of work you want, and how you can get it.

We will help you:

- work out the steps you can take towards getting a job, and set these out in your own action plan
- work out what jobs you could apply for
- fill in application forms and write a CV
- get advice on careers
- find other support if you need it, and
- pay for some of your costs, such as bus fares or train fares.

The second stage of New Deal for young people

If you don't find a job in the first stage, you will join the second stage of New Deal for young people. This is called 'options' and will last at least 13 weeks. You and your personal adviser will decide what training and work experience you can do to help you find work. What you do will depend on what's right for you.

The final stage of New Deal for young people

If you still have not found a job, the final stage is 'follow-through'. This will give you extra help and support to look for work. This stage can last for up to 26 weeks.

What New Deal asks of you

New Deal offers you a real chance of finding a job. To get the most from it you must work with your personal adviser at all stages.

You need to:

- make a real effort to find work
- follow your action plan
- join in at all times, and
- go to all your interviews.

If you don't do all these things, you may not be able to get Jobseeker's Allowance. Your personal adviser will help you understand what you must do to make sure you carry on getting your benefits.

Helping an employer to give you a job

If we find an employer who can offer you the kind of work you want, we can help them pay your wages for the first few months as you settle in. This means you can be paid the going rate for the job.

Making work pay

One of the aims of New Deal is to make sure you are better off in work than on benefit. Your personal adviser will help you work out what pay you need from a job so you don't lose out.

How will work affect my benefit?

If you find work through New Deal, there are some benefits you may still get. Your personal adviser will be able to tell you what benefits you can get.

What is a mentor?

As part of New Deal, you could get a mentor to give you extra support and advice. They will help you find and keep a job by listening to what you want and helping you decide what to do. Your mentor will be someone local. Ask your personal adviser if you would like a mentor.

To find out more

To find out more about New Deal, contact Jobcentre Plus by visiting www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk or you can find our addresses and numbers in your local phone book.

To look for work

If you are looking for work, you can search our list of jobs online at www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk

Or you can call us on **0845 6060 234** (textphone **0845 6055 255**) to find out what jobs are available.

Lines are open between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday, and between 9am and 1pm on Saturdays.

Call charges

From 1 August 2007, calls to 0845 numbers from BT land lines should cost no more than 4p per minute with a 6p call set up charge. You may have to pay more if you use another phone company or a mobile phone, or if you are calling from abroad.

Calls from mobile phones can cost up to 40p per minute, so check the cost of calls with your service provider.

Textphones

Where textphone numbers are provided, these are for people who find it hard to speak or hear clearly.

If you do not have a textphone, some libraries or citizens advice bureaux may have one.

Textphones do not receive text messages from mobile phones.

Important information about this leaflet

This leaflet is only a guide and does not cover every circumstance. We have done our best to make sure that the information in this leaflet is correct as of January 2008.

It is possible that some of the information is oversimplified, or may become inaccurate over time, for example because of changes to the law.

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