

Housing Benefit - Temporary absences that start on or after 28 July 2016

Situation	Before 28 July 2016	On or after 28 July 2016
	Rules of absence INSIDE GB	Rules of absence OUTSIDE GB
Claimant or partner temporarily absent for any reason.	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 4 weeks
Claimant absent in connection with the death of a partner	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 8 weeks (4 weeks and further 4 weeks if unreasonable to expect claimant to return)
Claimant or partner absent in connection with the death of a child or a qualifying young person normally living with the claimant	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 8 weeks (4 weeks and further 4 weeks if unreasonable to expect claimant to return)
Claimant or partner absent in connection with the death of a close relative of claimant, partner or of a child of qualifying young person normally living with the claimant.	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 8 weeks (4 weeks and further 4 weeks if unreasonable to expect claimant to return)
Claimant or partner absent abroad in order to receive medical treatment	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks
Claimant or partner accompanying a partner, child or qualifying young person for medical treatment abroad	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks
A person enters residential accommodation to determine whether it is suitable for their needs	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 4 weeks
The person is resident in hospital or similar institution as a patient	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks
The claimant, partner or dependent child is undergoing medical treatment or medically approved convalescence in accommodation other than residential accommodation	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks
The person is providing medically approved care of a person residing in GB or elsewhere	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks

The person is caring for a child whose parent or guardian is temporarily absent for receiving medically approved care or medical treatment.	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks
The person receiving temporary care in residential accommodation that is not on a trial basis.	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks
The person that has left their dwelling through fear of violence in that dwelling	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks
In connection with being a mariner or continental shelf worker	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 26 weeks
The person is undertaking a training course	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks
Eligible Students	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks
A person is detained in custody on remand pending trial, pending sentence upon conviction, has bail requirements to live elsewhere, needs to live in bail accommodation	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks
A person is sentenced following conviction	Up to 13 weeks where the period of absence is unlikely to exceed 13 weeks	None