



Healthy Start Vouchers

Low-income families are eligible for Healthy Start Vouchers in **England, Wales and Northern Ireland** and Best Start Food in **Scotland**.

The current value of the Healthy Start Vouchers (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) is £4.25 per child per week to help buy healthy foods (fruit, veg, milk and formula milk). Currently uptake of the scheme is low and only 55% of eligible families are signed up.

To apply, families fill in a paper booklet and send in the freepost envelope provided. Applicant can also call 0300 330 7010 or email healthy.start@nhsbsa.nhs.uk to apply. Eligibility criteria is explained in the booklets and [here](#).

Organisations can order booklets in bulk by calling 0300 123 1002. Posters about the scheme can be downloaded [here](#) and you can read more about the vouchers [here](#).

The Department of Health and Social Care has recently agreed to temporarily extend the Healthy Start scheme to British children (aged 0-4), whose parent/guardian meet the financial eligibility criteria and are excluded from claiming public funds as a consequence of their immigration status (NRPF).

To qualify for the temporary extension, you must meet all the following criteria:

- you have a child, or more than one child, who is aged 0-4;
- your families take-home pay is less than £408 per month; and
- your immigration status includes the condition that you cannot access public funds (NRPF)

Please advise that potential applicants must write to this email (Healthystartclaim@dhsc.gov.uk) stating they believe they qualify, and we will be in touch with them to discuss the application process.