**Scottish Child Payment Bridging Payments**

The Scottish Child Payment Bridging Payments bring together the Covid hardship payments and the Family Pandemic Payment into one payment, made 4 times a year.

**These payments are available for each child who gets free school meals because of low income.** **(other than automatic entitlement P1-P4)**

**2021**

* The COVID Spring Hardship payment (£100) paid at Easter
* The Family Pandemic Payment (£100) paid at Summer
* An autumn payment (£160) to be paid in October
* A winter payment (£160) to be paid in December

**2022**

In 2022, 4 equal payments of £130 will be made at Easter, Summer, October and Christmas. The payments will be made in line with the start of the school holidays

**Who can get it?**

You could get the payment if you meet the eligibility criteria for free school meals. This is usually because you're on a low income or getting certain benefits. Check the full eligibility criteria for free school meals if you're not sure.

You might also get the payment if you're experiencing financial hardship. For example, if:

* you're waiting for your first Universal Credit payment
* your immigration status means you cannot get help from the government

You can't get these payments if your child is in early learning and childcare (nursery). The [Scottish Child Payment](https://www.mygov.scot/scottish-child-payment) is available for children under the age of 6.

Visit website –

<https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/CouncilAndGovernment/Coronavirus/Family-pandemic-payment.aspx>

**For advice and assistance please contact -**

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