

Summary of Housing Benefit changes relating to temporary absence outside GB

Situation	Current Rules of absence outside GB	Proposed Rules of absence outside GB
Claimant or partner temporarily absent for any reason.	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
Claimant absent in connection with the death of a partner	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 8 weeks (aligns with UC)
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 (aligns with UC)
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 (aligns with UC)
Claimant or partner absent abroad in order to receive medical treatment	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks (aligns with UC)
Claimant or partner accompanying a partner, child or qualifying young person for medical treatment abroad	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks (aligns with UC)
A person enters residential accommodation to determine whether it is suitable for their needs	13 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
The person is resident in hospital or similar institution as a patient	52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks (aligns with UC)
The claimant, partner or dependent child is undergoing medical treatment (MT) or medically approved convalescence in accommodation other than	52 weeks	Up to 26 weeks (aligns with UC)

residential accommodation		
The person is providing medically approved care (MAC) of a person residing in the UK or elsewhere.	52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
The person is caring for a child whose parent is temporarily absent for receiving MAC or MT.	52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
The person receiving temporary care in residential accommodation that is not on a trial basis.	52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
The person that has left their dwelling through fear of violence in that dwelling.	52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
In connection with being a mariner or continental shelf worker	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 26 weeks (aligns with UC)
In connection with being a Share fisherman	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 4 weeks
The person is undertaking a training course.	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
Students	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
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 or is sentenced following conviction	Up to 52 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
Crown Servants	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
Members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces	Up to 13 weeks if absent outside of GB. If within GB, 13 weeks	For absence outside of GB, 26 weeks (aligns with UC Reg 10) For absence within GB, no change.
Northern Ireland, Isle of Man and the Channel Islands (absences to any of these places is absence outside GB)	13 weeks	4 weeks in line with treatment in other legacy benefits and UC

Summary of Pension Credit changes relating to temporary absence outside GB

Situation	Current Rules of absence outside GB	Proposed Rules of absence outside GB
Claimant or partner temporarily absent from GB for any reason.	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 4 weeks (aligns with UC)
Claimant absent in connection with the death of a partner	Up to 13 weeks	Up to 8 weeks (aligns with UC)
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 (aligns with UC)
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 (aligns with UC)
Claimant or partner absent abroad in order to receive medical treatment	Open-ended	Up to 26 weeks (aligns with UC)
Claimant or partner accompanying a partner, child or qualifying young person for medical treatment abroad	13 weeks	Up to 26 weeks (aligns with UC)
Transitional Protection	Exists for when the last rule change was introduced in 2008.	Those abroad at the time of the rule change subject to the old rules until they return to GB