

## Best Start Grant

### **Q: What are the Scottish Government's plans for the Best Start Grant?**

Since the Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby Payment opened for applications on 10 December 2018, Social Security Scotland has made payments to more than 7000 low income households. The support provided to families across Scotland as at the end of January – in just the first two months of it starting – totalled £2.7 million.

We will start paying the next part of this benefit - the Best Start Grant Early Learning and Best Start Grant School Age payments – this summer. These new payments will provide £250 per child to help with the costs of early learning at the age of 2 or 3, and around the time when a child might start primary school.

When fully implemented, the Best Start Grant will take provision for the first child from £500 under the UK Sure Start Maternity Grant, to £600. These three payments, will benefit families with a total of up to £1,100. Subsequent children, who received nothing under the previous UK Government, will receive up to a total of £800. This is an increase of up to £1,400 for a two child family.

For further information on Best Start Grant go to:

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/social-security/best-start-grant/>