



1. Home (<https://www.gov.uk/>)
2. Money and tax (<https://www.gov.uk/browse/tax>)
3. National Insurance (<https://www.gov.uk/browse/tax/national-insurance>)

## Apply for a National Insurance number

You need to apply by phone for a National Insurance number.

### National Insurance number application line

Telephone: 0800 141 2075

Textphone: 0800 141 2438

Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm

Welsh language: 0800 141 2349

Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 5pm

Find out about call charges (<https://www.gov.uk/call-charges>)

To apply for benefits without a National Insurance number, contact Jobcentre Plus (<https://www.gov.uk/contact-jobcentre-plus/new-benefit-claims>) instead.

There's a different process if you've lost your National Insurance number (<https://www.gov.uk/lost-national-insurance-number>).

### If you're moving to the UK

You may have a National Insurance (NI) number printed on the back of your biometric residence permit (BRP) (<https://www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits>). You don't need to apply for a National Insurance number if you already have one, or one is printed on your BRP.

If you don't have a National Insurance number, you must apply. You can only apply for it once you're in the UK. You must have the right to work or study in the UK to get a National Insurance number.

### Working without a National Insurance number

You can start work before your National Insurance number arrives if you can prove you can work in the UK (<https://www.gov.uk/legal-right-work-uk>). You should tell your employer that you've applied for one, and give it to them when you have it.

### National Insurance number interview

Jobcentre Plus may write to you and ask you to come to an interview where you'll be asked about

your circumstances and why you need a National Insurance number.

The letter will also tell you which documents to bring to prove your identity, such as:

- passport or identity card
- residence permit
- birth or adoption certificate
- marriage or civil partnership certificate
- driving licence

You'll be told at the interview how long it'll take to receive your National Insurance number.

If you change your address before you receive it, tell the Department for Work and Pensions by contacting the National Insurance number application line.

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### **If you turned 16 and didn't get a number**

You will normally be sent a National Insurance number automatically just before your 16th birthday if you live in the UK.

If you didn't get one, call the National Insurance number helpline

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/contact/national-insurance-numbers>) if you're under 20.

Call the National Insurance number application line if you're over 20.

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### **National Insurance**

- Find a lost National Insurance number (<https://www.gov.uk/lost-national-insurance-number>)
- National Insurance (<https://www.gov.uk/national-insurance>)
- More (<https://www.gov.uk/browse/tax/national-insurance>)