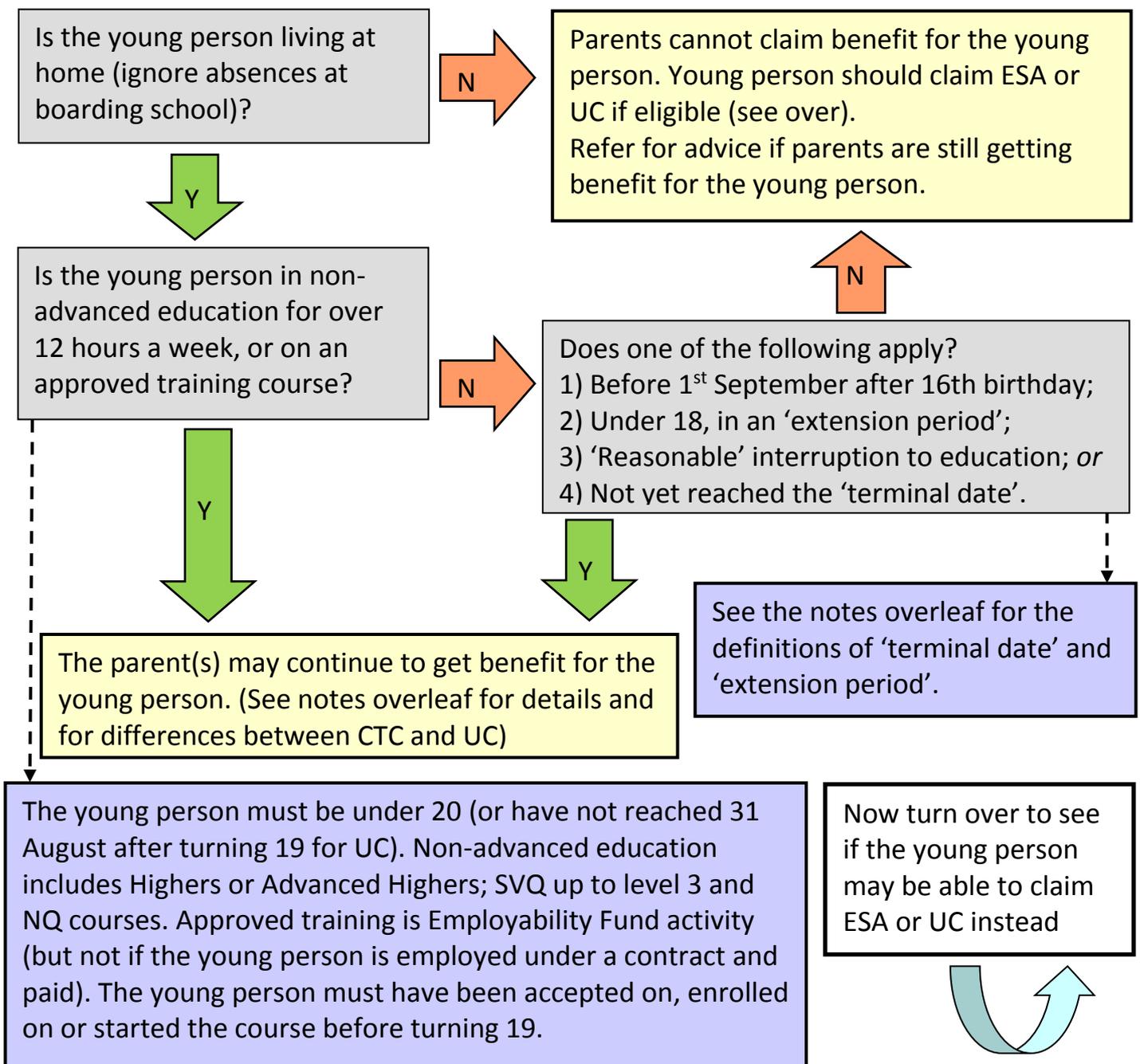
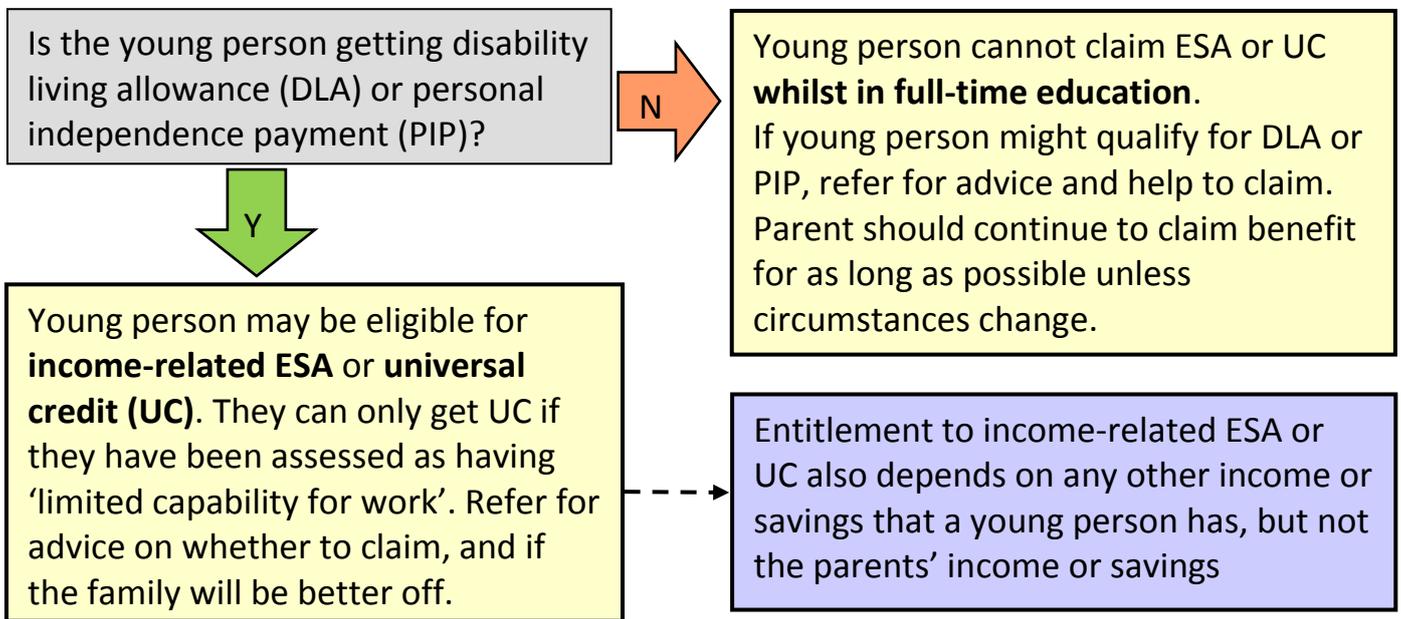


Benefit choices when a disabled young person lives at home and is still in education

This chart provides basic information about when young people **aged 16 to 19** with a disability or health problem can claim employment and support allowance (ESA) or universal credit (UC); and when their parent(s) can continue to receive benefit for them (normally child benefit and either child tax credit or universal credit). This is important, as some families can choose between the two options.

The chart applies to families who live in the UK and have no restriction on their right to claim benefit. Nationals of other EU states and people subject to immigration control should seek advice about which benefits they can claim.





The family should seek expert advice on how they will be affected financially, and what future changes to the benefits system may mean for them.

Notes:

- Universal credit (UC) has started to replace income-related ESA, child tax credits and some other benefits in parts of Scotland. It is planned that UC will be rolled out across the whole of Scotland by December 2018. To check when you will be affected, enter your postcode at universalcreditinfo.net or www.cpag.org.uk
- The '**extension period**' is a period of up to 20 weeks where a parent can still get child tax credit and child benefit if a young person isn't in any education or training, has registered with Skills Development Scotland for work and training, and is under 18.
- You can continue to get child benefit up until the '**terminal date**'. This is the last day of February, May, August or November after a young person leaves education or training.
- If your child works 24 hour per week you cannot get child benefit or child tax credit during the extension period or up until the terminal date.
- If a parent gets **universal credit** their child element stops either on the 31st August after the young person turns 19 or when the young persons is no longer in education, whichever happens first. The 'extension period' and 'terminal date' rules do not apply, and there is no rule allowing universal credit to continue during a reasonable interruption in education or training.
- A parent's working tax credit, housing benefit and council tax reduction may also be affected if their child claims ESA or universal credit (UC).
- If a parent receives the maximum child tax credit for a young person who gets DLA or PIP, the family will be better off if the young person does not claim ESA.
- Most claimants must pass a 'work capability assessment' to stay on ESA or UC. UC is not paid at all to young people in education unless the assessment is passed.
- Young people who have worked and paid national insurance contributions for over 6 months may also qualify for contributory ESA, and should seek advice.
- DLA claimants turning 16 have to claim PIP unless they are in hospital or terminally ill.