

Help with paying for a TV License (2025-26)

If you watch television – any channel, whether on a TV other device, you will probably need a TV license.

If you or someone you live with is over 75, you may be eligible for a free or a discount TV license.



You need a TV License if you:-

- Watch or record TV programmes as they're being shown on any channel.
- Watch or download programmes on BBC iPlayer
- Watch or stream live online TV programmes, like All 4 or ITVX.

This applies whether you use a television, computer, laptop, tablet, mobile phone, digital box, games console or DVD recorder.

How do I get a free TV license if I am over 75?

If someone living in the household is over 75 and receiving Pension Credit (either Savings Credit or Guarantee Pension Credit) they, or someone on their behalf, can apply for a free TV license in their name.

Apply by phone on **0300 790 6114**, online <https://tinyurl.com/FreeTVLicense>, or by scanning the QR code below.

To prove eligibility, send a copy of one of the following dated within the past 12 months:

- Decision letter from Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) or the Pension Service.
- Pension Credit Uprating letter.
- Proof of Benefit letter from the DWP.
- Warm Home discount letter.



If the current TV License is not in the name of the person who is eligible, it must be changed to their name by giving the current license number. The free license will cover others living at the address, regardless of their age.



Midlothian Financial Inclusion Network

c/o Midlothian Voluntary Action, 4/6 White Hart Street, Dalkeith EH22 1AE
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Registered Office: 14a John Street, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 8AB

Is there a discount if I am severely sight impaired?

A 50% discount on the cost of a TV License is available if you are registered as severely sight impaired.



Information on applying to join the register is available from Sight Scotland via this link <https://tinyurl.com/SightRegister> or by scanning this QR code.



Apply for the discount by phone on **0300 790 6114**, online via <https://tinyurl.com/SightConcession> or scanning this QR code.

You will also need to send one of the following as evidence that you are registered blind/severely sight impaired.

- Certificate of Visual Impairment (CVI).
- BD8 Certificate stating you are certified blind/severely sight impaired.
- Local Authority document confirming that you are registered.
- Copy of a certificate from a consultant Ophthalmologist (eye surgeon).

Other documents allowed as evidence are listed on the TV License website. Follow the link or scan the QR code immediately above.

Is there a discount if I am in a care home or supported housing?

If you live in a care home, supported or sheltered housing and are over 60, retired (or working less than 15 hours a week) or disabled, you may qualify for an ARC Concessionary License for a TV in their room or flat. It is currently £7.50 per year. Speak to the manager of your accommodation for information. You don't need a license of your own if you only watch TV in common areas.

If you are struggling to pay for your TV License:-

The TV Licensing website details ways to spread the cost through Direct Debit or a TV Licensing payment card. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/Ways-To-Pay> or scan this QR code. In some situations, a charity or debt advice agency like Citizens Advice, National Debtline or Money Advice Scotland may be able to apply for a Simple Payment Plan on your behalf.



Remember, you can be prosecuted if you watch TV without a license.