Housing Benefit & Council Tax Rebate

Second Adult Rebate

(Alternative Maximum Council Tax Benefit)

1. What is Second Adult Rebate

It is a benefit to help you with your council tax and is paid by Gloucester City Council, based on rules set by the Government. It is paid as a reduction on your council tax bill.

2. Who can get it

You can claim Second Adult Rebate if someone else aged 18 or over living in your home is on a low income. Unlike the other benefits, there is no limit on the amount of savings you have.

You must also be the sole person liable to pay Council Tax to the city council on the property you claim for.

If, however, you have a partner, you will NOT normally get Second Adult Rebate except in very special circumstances. A partner means a person you are married to or have a civil partnership with, or a person you live with as if you were their husband, wife or civil partner. (A civil partnership is a formal arrangement that gives same-sex partners the same legal status as a married couple.)

If your partner is one of the following, you may still be able to claim Second Adult Rebate:

- People under 18, or aged 18 if child benefit is payable
- Education leavers under 20
- Various students, foreign language assistants and student nurses
- Youth Training trainees under 25
- Apprentices on NCVQ/SVEC courses.
- People who are severely mentally impaired
- Carers
- People in prison or other forms of detention
- People who normally live elsewhere
- Members of religious communities
- Diplomats and members of international bodies or of visiting forces

The above is a summary. Please ask for more details.

3. Who cannot get it?

- If you have a partner who is not included in paragraph 2.

- If the other adult(s) in your household pay you rent on a commercial basis. That is, if they have a rent book, Tenancy Agreement or pay for Board and Lodgings to you as a landlord/landlady.

4. How is it worked out?

We work out Second Adult Rebate by looking at the combined income of the other adult(s) in your property. With the exception of JSA, Income Support, Employment Support Allowance and Pension Credit, all income is used to work out the benefit including any interest paid on their savings.
5. **How much will I get?**

If the Second Adult is on Income Support, Jobseeker’s Allowance (Income based), Employment Support Allowance (income related) or Pension Credit and living with a full time student householder the maximum Second Adult rebate payable will be 100%.

If the householder is not a student and all of the Second adults in the household receive Income Support, Jobseeker’s Allowance (Income based) Employment Support Allowance (income related) or Pension Credit the maximum Second Adult Rebate payable will be 25%.

The minimum amount of Second Adult Rebate you can receive is 7.5% of your Council Tax charge.

6. **How can I claim Second Adult Rebate?**

Ring 01452 396483 to have a form sent to you, or call into the Herbert Warehouse to pick up a Second Adult rebate form (address/details on the back of this leaflet). You will need to return it with evidence of the Second Adult’s income and original documents to show proof of your National Insurance number.

**Change of Circumstances**

Once you start receiving benefit, you must tell us of any changes in the circumstances of anyone on your claim, for example:

- Your household:
  - If someone else comes to live with you
  - If someone leaves
  - If someone living with you starts/finishes work
  - When you stop receiving child benefit for any children
  - If you move
  - If someone living with you stops/starts receiving income support, job seekers allowance or Employment Support Allowance.

If the income of the other Adult(s) in the property changes.

It is always better to inform us of any changes and we will tell you if it will affect your award of benefit.

If you tell us of a change *after* one calendar month which would result in you getting more benefit, then we will only action the change from the Monday after you tell us, which means you lose out on benefit. If the change means we have overpaid you, then we will normally backdate the change to the Monday after it happened, resulting in an overpayment.