Our decision about your tax credits

We are very sorry to have to tell you that you are not entitled to receive tax credits. When we awarded you tax credits, we did not take into account that your leave to remain in the United Kingdom is subject to the condition that you do not have recourse to public funds. Because this was our mistake, and it was reasonable for you to think that your tax credit payments were right, you will not have to repay any tax credits you have received so far.

Exceptions

You may still be entitled to tax credits if one of the following exceptions applies to you.

- You claimed tax credits as a couple, and only one of you is subject to the condition that you do not have recourse to public funds.
- You are subject to a maintenance undertaking and have been resident in the UK for at least five years or your sponsor has died.
- Your funds from abroad are disrupted.
- You are a national of Algeria, Morocco, San Marino, Tunisia or Turkey and are lawfully working in the UK.

If any of these applies to you, or your leave to remain in the United Kingdom is no longer subject to the condition that you do not have recourse to public funds, please contact us. Our address and phone number are shown at the top of this letter.

Leave to remain in the UK

If you have applied to the Immigration and Nationality Directorate (IND) for further or indefinite leave, or will be doing so shortly, you are advised to send a copy of this letter to IND. As you have been paid tax credits because of our error, they have agreed not to treat these payments as “recourse to public funds”.

Your right of appeal

If you disagree with this decision, you have 30 days from the date of this notice to appeal. But you may want to phone us first to see if we can reach agreement without a formal appeal. You will still have the right to appeal if you do this.

If you would like more information, please phone the Helpline.