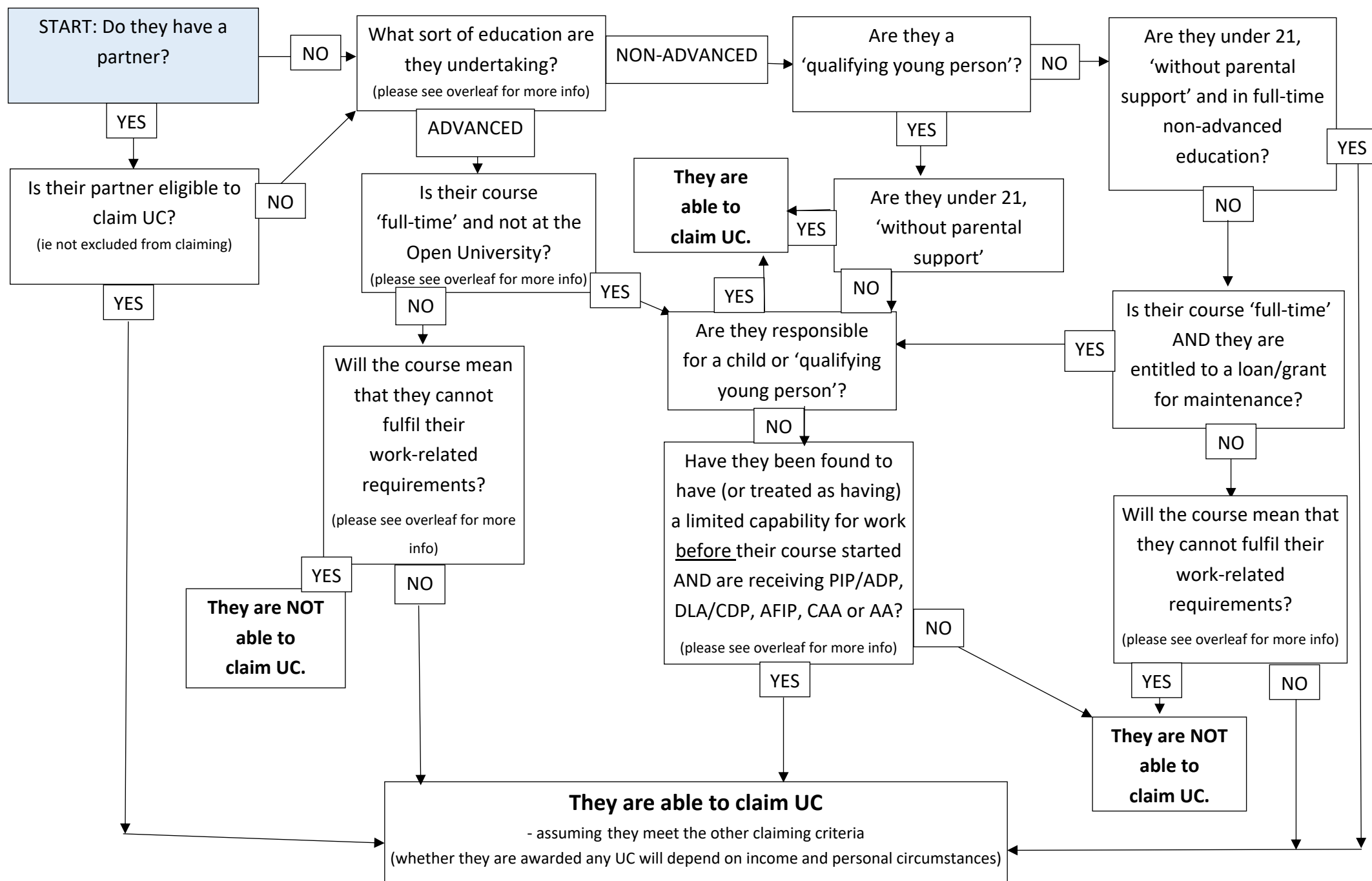


# Can a student claim Universal Credit? (See over for definitions)



## Definitions:

### Advanced Education

A course of study leading to -

- BTEC / NVQ / SQQ - level 4 or 5
- HNC / HND
- a diploma of higher education
- a foundation degree
- an undergraduate or professional degree
- a postgraduate degree
- any other course that is above advanced GNVQ, Scottish Higher or equivalent.

### Non-advanced Education

A course of study leading to -

- A Levels, or similar (e.g. International Bachelorette)
- SNQ 1-5 or Higher or Advanced Higher Level
- BTEC / NVQ / SVQ - level 1-3
- National Diploma / Certificate
- Ordinary National Diploma

any other qualification or training program that is of an equivalent or lower level than the above.

### Qualifying Young Person

Individuals who are age 16,17,18 or 19 who are attending an 'approved training' course or a non-advanced course at a school or college, where:

- this is not being provided under a contract of employment, and
- the average time spent in lessons receiving tuition, engaging in practical work or supervised study during term time exceeds 12 hours per week, and
- it is between 1st September following their 16th birthday and 1st September following their 19th birthday (if they are 19, they must have been accepted onto the course before turning 19).

PLEASE NOTE: where a 'qualifying young person' is on a Traineeship or 'Relevant Training Scheme' that will last under 6 months and has been requested by their Work Coach, they will be able to claim UC.

### Undertaking a course

A person is regarded as undertaking a course from the day on which the course starts to their last day on the course (either because the course has ended or they have quit or been dismissed).

This includes any holidays between periods of study, time needed to retake exams or modules and time out due to health problems or caring responsibilities.

### Full-time course

For 'qualifying young people', a course is classed as full-time if it is over 12 hours a week.

For everyone else, there is no definition of full-time education in the Regulations and it is left up to DWP decision makers to look at each course individually. They will be led by what the college / University calls the course. But Open University courses are always classed as part-time.

---

## Explanations

### Compatibility with work-related requirements

This condition acts as a catch-all to ensure that students (who are not otherwise eligible to claim UC) can only claim UC if their course is compatible with their work-related requirements. Claimants will need to consider how many hours are required by the course and whether this fits with the (expected) work-related requirements in their claimant commitment. It is possible that their course could count as work preparation - they should discuss this with their Work Coach.

### Disabled students

To claim UC as a 'disabled student', a claimant needs to have ALREADY been found to have a Limited Capability for Work BEFORE their course started, AND be receiving PIP/ADP, DLA/CDP, AFIP, CAA or AA. This means that they must be already claiming UC and have been found to have a LCW, or be on IR-ESA, Contributory ESA, or New-Style ESA (in the main phase) when they make a new claim for UC.

Therefore most students who would be found to have a LCW but have not yet had such a determination, will be unable to claim. Students in this position should seek advice. Further information on the website.