

Job Centre Plus

Job Centre Plus is a universal service, this means they will help anyone on benefits to find work or move closer to being in work. They have offices in most large towns and you can find your nearest one by putting in your postcode on the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) website [here](#).

In recent years the Job Centres have changed what help they offer and the way they support you. A new *Personal Support Package* offers tailored employment support. You will be given a named Work Coach who is your go to person at the Job Centre. Together you will develop a personal work plan which will help you move closer to work.

Work coaches can ask other staff at the Job Centre to help you, such as the Disability Employment Advisers, who have links with disability confident local employers or, the Small Business Advisers, who can advise on Self-Employment or smaller employers.

Work Coaches can help you and a potential employer apply to the [Access to Work Fund](#). This is funding to help you do your work and is available if you have a paid job and you're disabled or have a health condition. This includes if you are self-employed; an apprentice; on a work trial or work experience; or an intern. Funding can cover a wide range of things including: transport, equipment, job coach or supporter, interpreters, counselling, awareness training for colleagues, Notetakers, or software. There is separate information about getting help whilst on a Supported Apprenticeship/Internship or Traineeship ([Access to Work Fund](#)).

The Work Coach can access training and skills development and specialist programmes including the [Work and Health Programme](#) (delivered by [Pluss](#) in West Sussex), [Self-Employment](#) or starting your own business advise and [Specialist Employability Support](#) (delivered by [Kennedy Scott](#) in West Sussex) who give more longer term specialist support.

The Job Centre would welcome visits from groups or individuals wanting to find out or become familiar with the offices and services on offer and especially if this helps people feel familiar and comfortable. Work Coaches are happy to work with family and friend carers or paid carers if this is the choice of the person looking for a job and will help them.