

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**2013 No. 376**

**The Universal Credit Regulations 2013**

**PART 1**

**INTRODUCTION**

*The Benefit Unit*

**When a person is responsible for a child or qualifying young person**

4.—(1) Whether a person is responsible for a child or qualifying young person for the purposes of Part 1 of the Act and these Regulations is determined as follows.

(2) A person is responsible for a child or qualifying young person who normally lives with them.

(3) But a person is not responsible for a qualifying young person if the two of them are living as a couple.

(4) Where a child or qualifying young person normally lives with two or more persons who are not a couple, only one of them is to be treated as responsible and that is the person who has the main responsibility.

(5) The persons mentioned in paragraph (4) may jointly nominate which of them has the main responsibility but the Secretary of State may determine that question—

(a) in default of agreement; or

(b) if a nomination or change of nomination does not, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, reflect the arrangements between those persons.

(6) [<sup>F1</sup>Subject to regulation 4A,] a child or qualifying young person is to be treated as not being the responsibility of any person during any period when the child or qualifying young person is—

(a) looked after by a local authority; or

(b) a prisoner,

<sup>F2</sup> . . .

(7) Where a child or qualifying young person is temporarily absent from a person's household the person ceases to be responsible for the child or qualifying young person if—

(a) the absence is expected to exceed, or does exceed, 6 months; or

(b) the absence is from Great Britain and is expected to exceed, or does exceed, one month unless it is in circumstances where an absence of a person for longer than one month would be disregarded for the purposes of regulation 11(2) or (3) (medical treatment or convalescence or death of close relative etc.).

---

**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the  
The Universal Credit Regulations 2013, Section 4. (See end of Document for details)

---

**Textual Amendments**

- F1** Words in reg. 4(6) inserted (29.7.2013) by [The Social Security \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1508\)](#), regs. 1(2)(a), **3(3)(a)**
- F2** Words in reg. 4(6) omitted (29.7.2013) by virtue of [The Social Security \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2013 \(S.I. 2013/1508\)](#), regs. 1(2)(a), **3(3)(b)**

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Universal Credit Regulations 2013, Section 4.