

PRESS RELEASE

27th February 2009

NEW HEALTH IN PREGNANCY GRANT

- All pregnant women to receive £190 Maternity Grant
- Not means tested
- Available to women with an expected due date of on or after 6th April 2009

Good news for pregnant women. The Government have announced a new one-off, tax-free payment from H M Revenue & Customs (HMRC) for mums-to-be with an expected due date of on or after 6th April 2009.

To receive the one-off payment of £190 for each pregnancy, they need to get a claim form from their doctor or midwife and then send it WITHIN 31 days to HMRC. This grant is not means tested and it will not affect tax credits or any other benefit. The grant will be paid directly into their bank or building society account.

This grant may not be available if they are not ordinarily resident or have a right to reside in the UK, or if they are subject to immigration control. More information can be obtained via the midwife or doctor or go to the website www.campaigns.direct.gov.uk/money4mum2be/

The rules regarding maternity benefits in general are complicated; women who are working are recommended to speak to their Human Resources department for advice, or to visit www.adviceguide.org.uk/index/life/benefits/benefits_for_families_and_children.htm

Further information can be obtained by visiting a free Antenatal Exhibition on Sunday 8th March at the Church of Christ the Cornerstone, 300 Saxon Gate West, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 2ES. The Exhibition runs from 2pm to 4.30pm. Contact Valerie Gommon www.3shiresmidwife.co.uk or MK 511247 for more details.