

BrightPay Feature Comparisons

Feature	BrightPay (Desktop) Only	BrightPay (Desktop) + Connect	BrightPay (Cloud)	Thesaurus Payroll Manager
General				
Platform	Windows	Windows	Access from any device using a web browser	Windows
Number of employees	Unlimited Depending on licence type	Unlimited Depending on licence type	Up to 300 employees (per employer, including leavers)	Unlimited Depending on licence type
Number of employers/clients	Unlimited Depending on licence type	Unlimited Depending on licence type	Unlimited	Unlimited Depending on licence type
Number of devices/users	Up to 10 users	Up to 10 users	Unlimited	Up to 10 users
Multiple users on the same employer	✗	✗	✓	✗
See other users and changes in real time	✗	✗	✓	✗
Pricing	Upfront cost Standard or Bureau different tiers per employee numbers and employer numbers	Upfront + monthly cost Pay per tax year (Banded pricing based on number of employers and employees.) Additional monthly cost for using BrightPay Connect based on number of employees	Flexible payment options Pay monthly/annually (Based on the exact number of employers + employees. No additional cost for the Employee/Manager portal) Click here to calculate	Upfront cost Standard or Bureau different tiers per employee numbers and employer numbers
Support				
Free Phone and Email Support	✓	✓	✓	✓
Online help documents and tutorials	✓	✓	✓	✓
Security				
Automatic payroll syncing	✗	✓	✓	✗
Data hosting	✗ You will need to host your payroll data on your own PC or server	✗ You will need to host your payroll data on your own PC or server	✓ No need to worry about data hosting - data is stored on secure servers	✗ You will need to host your payroll data on your own PC or server
Automatic software updates	✗ Software needs to be installed each tax year, with manual upgrades required as the software is updated	✗ Software needs to be installed each tax year, with manual upgrades required as the software is updated	✓ You will always have the latest version of the software without needing to run upgrades	✗ Software needs to be installed each tax year, with manual upgrades required as the software is updated

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Employee Portal				
Employee self-service portal	✗	✓	✓	✗
Employee requests for annual/unpaid leave	✗	✓	✓	✗
Employee requests to update personal details	✗	✓	✓	✗
Employee leave approval	✗	✓	✓	✗
Mobile app for employees	✗	✓	✓	✗
Two-factor authentication for employees	✗	✓	✓	✗
Document upload facility	✗	✓	✓	✗
Employees can view colleagues' leave on the calendar	✗	✓	✓	✗
Employer Portal				
Employer / client portal to access payslips, payroll reports and Revenue payments	✗	✓	✓	Windows
Payroll Entry Requests	✗	✓	✓*	✗
Payroll Approval Requests	✗	✓	✓*	✗
*Batch operations are not yet available in BrightPay cloud's payroll entry and approval features, but this functionality will be introduced soon				
Payslips				
Pay frequencies	Weekly, Fortnightly, 4-Weekly, Monthly	Weekly, Fortnightly, 4-Weekly, Monthly	Weekly, Fortnightly, 4-Weekly, Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly	Weekly and Monthly or Fortnightly and Monthly only
Multiple pay frequencies	✓	✓	✓	Only 2 frequencies
Multiple schedules for the same pay frequency	✗	✗	✓	✗
Unlimited additions & deductions	✓	✓	✓	✗
Custom additions & deductions	✓	✓	✓	✗
Import payments, additions and deductions via CSV file	✓ Import up to 5 pay items	✓ Import up to 5 pay items	✓ Import up to 10 pay items	✓ Import up to 4 pay items
Batch add additions / deductions / notes for multiple employees	✓	✓	✓	✗
Expenses and Benefits	✓	✓	✓	✓
Employer calendar	✓	✓	✓	✓ (Limited)
Custom Leave Options	✓	✓	✓	✗
Finalise individual employee payslips, if required	✓	✓	✓	✗
Re-open and Edit Individual Employee Payslips	✓	✓	✓	✗
Customise Payslips	✓	✓	✓	✗
Multiple Departmental allocation for Employees	✓	✓	✓	✗

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Payment Methods				
Create a bank file	✓	✓	✓	✓
Modulr integration to pay employees	✓	✓	✓	✓
Multiple Employer Bank Accounts	✓	✓	✓	✗
Statutory Pay				
Statutory payments and custom options	✓	✓	✓	✗ (SSP Only)
Payroll Journals				
Direct API integration with accounting software	✓ (Includes integration with BrightBooks, Accounts IQ, Quickbooks (Online), Sage Business Cloud Accounting, Xero)	✓ (Includes integration with BrightBooks, Accounts IQ, Quickbooks (Online), Sage Business Cloud Accounting, Xero)	✓ (Includes integration with BrightBooks, Quickbooks (Online), Sage Business Cloud Accounting, Xero)	✓ (BrightBooks only)
CSV file export for accounting software	✓	✓	✓	✓
Custom CSV file export	✓	✓	✓	✗
PAYE Modernisation				
PSRs	✓	✓	✓	✓
RPNs	✓	✓	✓	✓
Reporting				
Custom report builder	✓	✓	✓	✗
Run a report for custom selected employees	✓	✓	✓	✗
Email Reports directly from the software	✓	✓	✓	✗
Other pre-built reports (e.g. calendar report, annual leave/ Holiday details report)	✓	✓	✓	✓ (Limited)
Bureau Functionality				
Batch Finalising payslips for multiple employers	✗	✗	✓	✗
Colour code individual employers	✓	✓	✓	✗
Bureau Statistics Report	✓	✓	*Coming 2026	✗
Enhanced Reporting Requirements				
Benefits and Expenses for ERR	✓	✓	✓	✓
Submit directly to Revenue	No, but you can send to BrightExpenses that has the integration with Revenue BrightExpenses is free of charge to our payroll customers	No, but you can send to BrightExpenses that has the integration with Revenue BrightExpenses is free of charge to our payroll customers	No, but you can send to BrightExpenses that has the integration with Revenue BrightExpenses is free of charge to our payroll customers	No, but you can send to BrightExpenses that has the integration with Revenue BrightExpenses is free of charge to our payroll customers