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Factsheet for case **IE-2020-11/782**

COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment

Factsheet generated on 28 April 2020, 16:06

Country	Ireland, applies nationwide
Time period	Open ended, started on 13 March 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Income protection beyond short-time work – Income support for unemployed
Case created	25 April 2020

Background Information

The Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment is an emergency payment of €350 per week introduced by the Government for a 12 week period and intended to compensate those workers whose employers cannot retain them on their payroll. The payment will also be made to people who are self-employed but whose trade has temporarily ceased.

You are eligible to apply for the Pandemic Unemployment Payment if
 You were in employment or self-employment immediately before Friday 13 March, and
 You have been temporarily laid-off from work or asked to stay at home from work, and
 Your employer is not in a position to retain you on their payroll, and
 You are not in receipt of any employment income and
 Are between 18 and 66 years of age

Content of measure

The COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment is a payment of €350 per week. It is available to employees and the self-employed who have lost their job on (or after) March 13 due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic.

The COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment will be in place for the duration of the crisis.

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You have been temporarily laid-off from work or asked to stay at home from work, and
Your employer is not in a position to retain you on their payroll, and
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Use of measure

On 14 April the Irish Times reported: There are now 533,000 people receiving the Government's special Covid-19 unemployment payment of €350 a week.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government Social insurance	Self-employed Unemployed	National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	Consulted
Form of involvement	Direct consultation

The €350 a week Covid-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment can also be claimed by self-employed people affected by the crisis and this was welcomed by the Small Firms Association director Sven Spollen-Behrens who said this was important as self-employed people were “experiencing a significant loss of income”.

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 24 March 2020: Covid-19 financial measures will help economy bounce back says Ibec (www.irishtimes.com)
- 14 April 2020: Irish Times - Some 533,000 receiving Covid-19 unemployment payment (www.irishtimes.com)
- 25 April 2020: Gov.ie (www.gov.ie)