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Factsheet for case **IE-2020-11/783**

Illness benefit for COVID-19 absences

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|--------------|---|
| 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 – Paid sick leave |
| Case created | 25 April 2020 (updated 30 April 2020) |

Background information

This is a boosted illness benefit entitlement for workers absent from work due to self-isolation or COVID-related medical treatment. When a worker is told to self-isolate by a doctor or the HSE due to being a possible source of infection or has been diagnosed with COVID-19 (Coronavirus) by a doctor, they can apply for an enhanced Illness Benefit payment of €350 per week.

To be eligible for this payment a person must be confined to their home or a medical facility.

Content of measure

To receive the enhanced payment, a worker must be self-isolating on the instruction of a doctor or the HSE due to being a possible source of infection or diagnosed with COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and absent from work and confined to home or a medical facility

The personal rate for this payment is €350, as compared with the normal Illness Benefit rate of €203. It was originally set at a rate of €305 but was increased by Government on March 24.

It will be paid for a maximum of 2 weeks where a person is self-isolating due to being a possible source of infection, and for a maximum of 10 weeks if a person has been diagnosed with COVID-19 (Coronavirus). If a person has been certified for less than 10 weeks, they will be paid for the duration of their certificate.

Application can be done online or by post with supporting documentation from an individual worker's doctor.

Use of measure

No information

Actors, target groups and funding

| Actors | Target groups | Funding |
|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| National government | Employees | National funds |

Social partners

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|-------------------------|----------------|
| Role of social partners | No involvement |
| Form of involvement | Not applicable |

No involvement.

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 25 April 2020: Gov.ie (www.gov.ie)