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Ireland: Redundant employees entitlement to public support

🛗 Last modified: 10 December, 2021

Native name: Social welfare consolidation act 2005; S.I. No. 440/2014 - Social welfare

(consolidated claims, payments and control) (amendment) (No. 4)

(Prescribed employment schemes) regulations 2014; S.I. No. 441/2014 - Social welfare (consolidated supplementary welfare allowance) (amendment) (No. 4) (Prescribed employment schemes) regulations 2014; Social welfare,

pensions and civil registration act 2018

English name: Social welfare consolidation act 2005; S.I. No. 440/2014 - Social welfare

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pensions and civil registration act 2018

Article

Social welfare consolidation 2005 act: Chapter 12, sections 62-68; all of S.I. 440/2014 and S.I. 441/2014; Social welfare, pensions and civil registration act 2018 articles no. 8-10-11

Description

Intreo is a reformed jobseeker public service that makes stronger links between unemployment benefit receipt and job activation. The service offers improved case management of jobseekers.

Employees who have become redundant are entitled to unemployment benefit and support, such as jobseeking assistance and learning and upskilling, subject to the following conditions:

- he or she is under pensionable age on the day for which the benefit is claimed;
- he or she proves unemployment in the prescribed manner;
- he or she satisfies the contribution conditions as set in the Social welfare consolidation act 2005 (as amended), and
- other than in the case of a person engaged in casual employment, he or she has sustained a substantial loss of employment in any period of 6 consecutive days.

The redundant employee must have at least one year of state qualifying contributions made. A person seeking unemployment benefit must re-apply/re-qualify for such benefit after 156 days in receipt of the benefit.

If a benefit seekers is aged under 55 and received a redundancy payment of more than €50,000, he or she is disqualified from claiming jobseeker's benefit for a certain period of time. Any period of disqualification is subtracted from the total jobseeker's benefit entitlement. The disqualification periods are:

€50,000.01 - €55,000	1 week
€55,000.01 - €60,000	2 weeks
€60,000.01 - €65,000	3 weeks
€65,000.01 - €70,000	4 weeks
€70,000.01 - €75,000	5 weeks

€75,000.01 - €80,000	6 weeks
€80,000.01 - €85,000	7 weeks
€85,000.01 - €90,000	8 weeks
€90,000.01 and over	9 weeks

Jobseeker's Benefit rates, as of July 2021, are:

Average weekly earnings	Personal rate	Increase for a qualified adult	Increase for a qualified child	
Less than €150	€91.10	€87.20 rate)	Child aged under 12	
€150 - €219.99	€131.00		€38 (full rate), €19 (half rate)	
€220 - €299.99	€159.00		Child aged 12 and over €45 (full rate), €22.50	
€300 or more	€203.00	€134.70	(half rate)	

In 2019 Jobseeker's Benefit was made available to self-employed workers. The rates for self-employed workers, as of July 2021, are:

Average weekly earnings	Personal rate	Increase for a qualified adult	Increase for a qualified child
€300 or more	€203	€134.70	€38 for a child aged under 12 years
€220 - €299.99	€159		
€150 - €219.99	€131	€87.20 €45 for a child or over	€45 for a child aged 12 years or over
less than €150	€91.10		

Jobseeker's Benefit is available for a 9-month duration for self-employed persons with more than 260 social insurance contributions, and for a 6-month period for self-employed persons with fewer than 260 contributions. Self-employed persons are also able to access the temporary COVID-19 pandemic unemployment payment.

Comments

The inclusion of self-employed persons to access Jobseekers' Benefit (and the temporary COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment) is recognition of the significant number of self-employed persons in Ireland (around 15%) and that, given the vulnerability of having reduced work, or out of work completely, there is a need to encompass this cohort of workers who have made social insurance contributions but who could not avail of the social protection safety net.

Cost covered by

National government

Involved actors other than national government

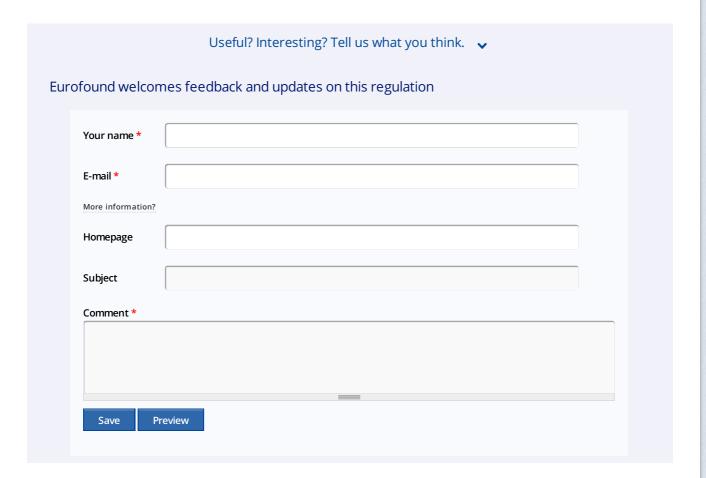
Public employment service

Thresholds

No, applicable in all circumstances

Sources

- Social welfare consolidation act 2005
- S.I. No. 440/2014 Social welfare (consolidated claims, payments and control) (amendment) (No. 4) (prescribed employment schemes) regulations 2014.
- S.I. No. 441/2014 Social welfare (consolidated supplementary welfare allowance) (amendment) (No. 4) (prescribed employment schemes) regulations 2014.
- Social welfare, pensions and civil registration act 2018
- Intreo services
- Citizens information service: Jobseeker's Benefit
- Citizens Information Service: Jobseeker's Benefit (self-employed)



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Contact us

Eurofound, Wyattville Road, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin, D18 KP65, Ireland

Phone: (00) 353 1 2043100

E-Mail: information@eurofound.europa.eu

Press: media@eurofound.europa.eu



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