



Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed

November 2011

Training and work experience options for unemployed people

Information to help you bridge the gap between unemployment and work

Introduction

There are range of different training and work experience options available to unemployed people. This leaflet outlines the key information you may need to know.

Training / Work Experience

The **NATIONAL INTERNSHIP SCHEME** (JobBridge) provides voluntary work experience opportunities for unemployed people who have been getting a Jobseeker's payment or signing on for credits for at least 3 months. Participants in the scheme will be offered an internship of between 6 and 9 months with a host organisation.

If you are selected to take up an internship you will keep your social welfare payment and will get an extra €50 per week. All payments of the Internship Allowance will be made by the Department of Social Protection via Electronic Fund Transfer into the intern's bank account.

Before you start looking for an internship, think about:

- What area do you wish to gain experience in?
- What do you want to gain from an internship?
- What location(s) are you available to work in?
- Are you available for 6 or 9 months?

If you meet the qualifying criteria for this scheme and are interested in an internship you can browse advertisements for internships on the website www.jobbridge.ie. You can then apply to the organisation in the method stated in their advertisement. Some advertisements may require a standard short application form (download from www.jobbridge.ie)

Please note – Example: If you are on Jobseeker's Benefit (JB) with 60 days of the entitlement left on your claim you will still have 60 days of entitlement left when their internship is completed if you resume your JB claim.

For further information on this scheme contact:

www.jobbridge.ie 1800 303 515

Training / Work Experience

COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAMME creates employment opportunities for those marginalised, which includes those on jobseekers' payments. The programme supports social enterprises to deliver local services and employ people from disadvantaged groups.

There are over 450 community enterprises across the country. Those employed under this programme can either work for 19.5 hours for €168.67 or 39 hours for €337.35. Some projects may provide an extra payment in addition to the set wage.

For further information contact:

www.pobal.ie 01 511 7000

THE NATIONAL TRAINING AUTHORITY

In January 2012 the National Training Authority (currently FÁS) will be called Solas. The employment and community section of FÁS (which includes Community Employment and Job Placement) will become part of the new National Employment and Entitlements Service under the Department of Social Protection. Currently FÁS is organised as a network of regional and local offices nationwide which includes 20 Training Centres.

WORK PLACEMENT PROGRAMME is a voluntary 9 month work experience programme for unemployed people. Under this programme there are three different options, graduate placement, non graduate placement and public sector placement.

You may keep your payment and entitlements while on this programme if you have been in receipt of a Jobseeker's or other Social Welfare payment for more than 3 months.


For further information contact FÁS or visit their website: www.fas.ie

Training / Work Experience

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT (CE) schemes provide training and work experience, primarily to long-term unemployed people and those on both Disability Payments and One Parent Family Payments.

Those on Community Employment work an average of 19.5 hours per week (or 39 hours per fortnight). Community Employment is divided into 2 options; a Community Employment Part-Time Integration Option and a Community Employment Part-Time Job Option. Both options have different eligibility rules and conditions.

For further information contact your local FÁS Office.

 If you are on a Disability Payment or One Parent Family Payment you may be able to keep a part or all of your payment and receive a CE payment.

TÚS provides work in Community and Voluntary organisations for people who are 12 months or more unemployed (long-term unemployed).

It is important to note that unlike other training / work experience options, the Department of Social Protection will select potential participants.


TÚS will be managed by the Local Integrated Development Companies/Partnerships and by Údarás na Gaeltachta in Gaeltacht areas. This scheme will last 12 months and is 19.5 hours per week. If you receive a letter about TÚS and you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the INOU.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT AND TÚS PAYMENT RATES


Personal Allowance	€208.00
Qualified Adult Dependant	€124.80
Each Qualified Child (Full Rate)	€29.80
Each Qualified Child (Half Rate)	€14.90

Training Options

FÁS courses – range of options include: ● Full-Time ● Part-Time ● Online ● Blended Learning includes both online/e-based support and on-site training ● Daytime ● Evening

 Priority on daytime courses are for people who are unemployed.

FÁS SPECIFIC SKILL TRAINING COURSES – These daytime and evening courses are aimed at people who wish to acquire new skills or update existing ones. Courses include office/computer, electronics, business, construction, personal services, pre-employment/ job clubs and many others. The duration of courses can vary, but typically last 4-6 months.

 To apply: register at a FÁS Training Office. An interview will determine the most relevant training for you.

LOCAL TRAINING INITIATIVES (LTI) provide participants with full-time training and work experience. Participants receive a FÁS training allowance. All training on LTI leads to FETAC certification. Participants must be unemployed and over 16 years of age. There are no formal educational requirements. LTI cover a wide range of areas including heritage, tourism and sports. For further information contact your local FÁS Office.

Training Options

YOUTHREACH offers a flexible programme of education, vocational training and work experience for 15 to 20 year olds who have left school early without any formal qualifications. These courses are generally full-time and last from 1 to 2 years although they can be flexible, depending on the individuals needs. A training allowance is paid to trainees, depending on age. The Youthreach programme is delivered through Centres for Education, Community Training Centres and Justice Workshops. A parallel programme to Youthreach for Travellers is delivered in Senior Traveller Training Centres. For further information contact: 01 402 0427 or www.youthreach.ie

COMMUNITY TRAINING CENTRES (CTCs) are independent community-based organisations. They look after the training and employment needs of early school leavers, primarily aged between 16 and 21. For further information contact your local FÁS Office.

TRAINEESHIP PROGRAMMES are occupational skills development programmes which combine formal training and work experience with a host employer. There are a range of traineeship courses including: technical and operative and information technology. For further information contact FÁS.

THE REDUNDANT APPRENTICE PLACEMENT SCHEME gives redundant apprentices the opportunity to complete phases 3, 5 and 7 of their apprenticeships.

TRAINING ALLOWANCES (Full-Time / Part-Time)

15 – 16 years old	17 years old	18 and Over
€76.65 / €44.10	€95.75 / €55.10	€188.00 / €108.20

TRAVEL ALLOWANCE MAXIMUM RATES

3 - 5 miles	5 - 10 miles	10 - 20 miles	20 - 30 miles	30 - 40 miles	40 - 50 miles
€4.60	€11.90	€17.60	€21.60	€27.70	€32.60

MEAL ALLOWANCE

Course Participant Status	Rate €
Full-Time	€0.80 per day
Part-Time	€0.40 per day

Note: Meal allowances apply where FÁS canteens are not available.

ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCE – Maximum Rate

€/Day	€/Week
€13.98	€69.90

Note: You can only receive either a travel **or** an accommodation allowance. Not both.

Childcare Support for FÁS Learners: FÁS will no longer pay a childcare allowance to learners who need childcare while on a training programme. Free childcare places are available through the new Childcare Employment and Training Support (CETS) Scheme, which is provided and managed by the office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA). For further information contact your local FÁS office.

 In order to receive a FÁS Training Allowance it is necessary to be in receipt of a qualifying social welfare payment.