

Financial Supports to assist you to take up work

REVENUE JOB ASSIST (RJA)

This scheme provides additional tax-free allowances (including a Child Tax Allowance) for people who are returning to work and in receipt of qualifying social welfare payments. Under this scheme you must be employed for a minimum of 30 hours per week and the job should be capable of lasting for at least 12 months. You may qualify for this scheme if you are in receipt of a Jobseeker's payment for 12 months. If you qualify for RJA you will retain your Medical Card for 3 years and you may also be eligible for FIS. For further information visit: www.revenue.ie.

Work Experience

The **NATIONAL INTERNSHIP SCHEME (JobBridge)** provides 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. People on a One-Parent Family Payment or Disability Allowance may also qualify for this scheme.

If you are selected to take up an internship you will keep your social welfare payment and will get an extra €50 per week. 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.

WORK PLACEMENT PROGRAMME is a 9 month work experience programme for unemployed people. Under this programme there are two different options, graduate placement and non graduate placement. For further information contact the INOU.

WORKLINK is an employment network that assists unemployed people to successfully transition into full employment. WorkLink provides professional mentoring and support directly to Jobseeker's through Jobseeker groups and organisations.

Start your own business

There are two types of Enterprise Allowance which may allow you to retain a Social Welfare Payment / Secondary Benefits and start your own business.

BACK TO WORK ENTERPRISE ALLOWANCE (BTWEA)

You must be unemployed and be in receipt of Jobseeker's Allowance (JA) or Jobseeker's Benefit (JB) for 12 months. If you are on JB you must have an underlying entitlement to JA. Your start-up business must also have been approved in advance by a Facilitator or Enterprise Officer. You may also qualify for BTWEA if you are in receipt of other types of Social Welfare payments, including a One Parent Family Payment.

Payment on BTWEA: The amount of time you can participate on the BTWEA is 2 years. You will receive 100% of your Social Welfare payment for the first year, and 75% for the second year.

Applying for BTWEA: You will need to complete the application form BTW 2 (available from www.welfare.ie) and send it to The Enterprise Officer in your local Partnership / Local Development Company. If you do not live in a Partnership area you should send your application to the Facilitator in your local Social Welfare office.


SHORT-TERM ENTERPRISE ALLOWANCE

You will only qualify for the Short-Term Enterprise Allowance if you are in receipt of Jobseeker's Benefit. The Allowance will be paid for a maximum of 1 year. It will end when your entitlement to Jobseeker's Benefit (JB) ends. If you are already on JB, you will only receive the Short-Term Enterprise Allowance for the remaining time you have left on JB. For further information contact the INOU or your local Social Welfare Office.



Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed

For further information contact the INOU.

 01 856 0088



welfareinfo@inou.ie



redundancy@inou.ie

websites: www.inou.ie

www.redundancy.ie

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Looking for Work

This leaflet identifies a wide range of services, supports, advice and tips to help you with your jobseeking.

Where to look for work

- ❑ **NETWORKING:** It is difficult to get a job in the current economic climate so it is very important that you stay connected to as many different people through as wide a range of sources as possible such as: industry contacts; word-of-mouth; voluntary work; social networking websites; ex-work colleagues; family and friends.
- **Industry contacts:** People who are working will often hear of job vacancies that might never be advertised to the public. Keep in contact with ex-colleagues.
- **Word of mouth:** A network of contacts such as family, friends that you interact with on a regular basis, will increase your opportunities to find work. Tell them exactly what type of work you are looking for.
- **Voluntary work** is a good way to keep active, keep in a routine, learn new skills, get involved in your local community and in some cases can lead to paid work. Visit: www.volunteer.ie.
- **Social networking websites:** There are a range of websites that can assist you in your job search. [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com) is a business orientated social networking website that can be used for networking or as a job seeking tool.
- ❑ **INOUE JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS PAGE:** This page on the INOU website shows the latest jobs being created that are tracked through the media. Visit: www.inou.ie/jobsboard.
- ❑ **NEWSPAPERS / RADIO:** Check local/national media for announcements of job vacancies (e.g. Irish Independent job section, Thursday or The Sun's Get Ireland Working supplement).
- ❑ **TWITTER:** Search for #jobfair – click on the links to view jobs (many not publicly seen elsewhere).
- ❑ **VISIT:** Your local Employment Services office (previously FÁS) or Local Employment Services (LES) office for information on job opportunities.
- ❑ **RECRUITMENT AGENCIES:** can assist you with finding job interviews and job placement. With some agencies you can register to receive **Job Alerts** e.g. www.irishjobs.ie.

Jobseeking services

- ❑ **EMPLOYMENT SERVICES / EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES** (formerly FÁS) have transferred to the Department of Social Protection. Employment Services supports Jobseekers to find work. It operates nationally through 63 local employment services offices and the LES.
- ❑ **LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (LES)** provide intensive support for people who are unemployed for more than 3 months. A mediator can develop a jobseeking plan that will help you find the type of job you want. Mediators may have contacts with local employers.
- ❑ **JOB CLUBS** provide support to jobseekers in preparing CVs, improving interview techniques or identifying possible jobs. Job Clubs operate courses for up to 5 weeks. Job Club facilities may be available until you find a suitable job.
- ❑ **SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICES** may have Jobs Facilitators who can help you by providing assistance in accessing employment opportunities, developing progression plans, promoting available schemes / work incentives and encouraging the use of support services.
- ❑ **LOCAL CONGRESS CENTRES** may provide help with jobseeking e.g.: photocopying and CVs.

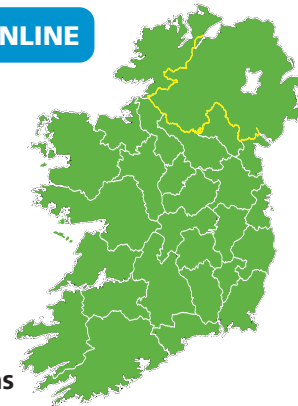
Find your local services ONLINE



www.inou.ie

Services include:

- Social Welfare Offices
- Local Employment Services
- INOU Member Organisations
- Citizen Information Centres
- Money, Advice & Budgeting Services



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SECONDARY BENEFITS are benefits that you may be entitled to as a result of being in receipt of a jobseeker's payment. You may be able to retain all or part of certain secondary benefits if you take up work. These include:

- Rental Accommodation Scheme
- Rent / Mortgage Interest Supplement
- Medical Card / Doctor only Visit Card
- Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance
- Differential Rent
- Fuel Allowance

FAMILY INCOME SUPPLEMENT (FIS) is a weekly payment designed to assist people with families who are working in low paid jobs by providing an additional tax-free payment.

To be entitled to FIS you must:

- be working for at least 19 hours a week or 38 hours every fortnight and not getting Jobseeker's Benefit or Jobseeker's Allowance. Your spouse, civil partner or co-inhabitant's hours can be added to your hours to make up 19 hours.
- Expect to be employed for at least 3 months
- Have at least one child who is under 18 or 18 – 22 and in full time education and who is normally living with you and supported by you.
- Satisfy a Means Test

How to apply for FIS – Include with your application form (available from your local Social Welfare office or download from www.welfare.ie):

- 2 recent payslips
- A copy of your Certificate of Tax Credits for the current tax year
- Your latest P60

Send your completed FIS application form to: Family Income Supplement (FIS) Section, Department of Social Protection, Social Welfare Services Office, Government Buildings, Ballinalee Road, Longford.

PART-TIME JOB INCENTIVE SCHEME (PTJIS)

This scheme allows people who have been getting Jobseeker's Allowance for 15 months or more to take up part-time work and receive payment on this scheme instead of the Jobseeker's Allowance. In order to qualify for the scheme, the person must be in receipt of a higher JA payment than the appropriate PTJIS payment and be working less than 24 hours a week.