



Budget 2026

INOU Factsheet

Maximum weekly rate (from January 2026)	Personal rate	Increase for a Qualified Adult (IQA)	Increase for a Qualified Child under 12	Increased for a Qualified Child aged 12+
Social insurance payments	€	€	€	€
State Pension (Contributory)				
- Personal rate – Under 80	299.30	See IQA below	58.00	78.00
- Personal Rate - Aged 80 and over	309.30	See IQA below	58.00	78.00
- Increase for Qualified Adult – Under 66		199.40		
- Increase for Qualified Adult – 66 and over		268.40		
Bereaved Partner's/Surviving Civil Partner (Con) Pension/Deserted Wife's Benefit				
- Under 66	259.50		58.00	78.00
- Aged 66 and under 80	299.30		58.00	78.00
- Aged 80 and over	309.30		58.00	78.00
Invalidity Pension	259.50	185.40	58.00	78.00
Carer's Benefit	271.00		58.00	78.00
Disablement Benefit	285.00		58.00	78.00
Jobseeker's / Illness / Injury Benefit	254.00	168.60	58.00	78.00

Content and Data courtesy of Department of Social Protection – www.gov.ie/welfare

INOU Budget 2026 FactSheet

Maximum weekly rate (from January 2026)	Personal rate	Increase for a Qualified Adult (IQA)	Increase for a Qualified Child under 12	Increased for a Qualified Child aged 12+
Maternity / Paternity / Adoptive / Parent's Benefit	299.00			
Death Benefit				
- Under 66	284.50		58.00	78.00
- Aged 66 and under 80	303.70		58.00	78.00
- Aged 80 and over	313.70		58.00	78.00
Social assistance payments	€	€	€	€
State Pension (Non-Contributory)				
- Aged 66 and under 80	288.00		58.00	78.00
- Aged 80 and over	298.00		58.00	78.00
- Increase for Qualified Adult – Under 66		190.20		
Carer's Allowance				
- Under 66	270.00		58.00	78.00
- Aged 66 and over	308.00		58.00	78.00
Disability Allowance / Blind Pension	254.00	168.60	58.00	78.00
Bereaved Partner's/Surviving Civil Partner (Con) Pension	254.00		58.00	78.00
One-Parent Family Payment / Deserted Wife's Allowance	254.00		58.00	78.00
Farm Assist	254.00	168.60	58.00	78.00
Jobseeker's Allowance				
- Under 25	163.70	163.70	58.00	78.00
- Aged 25 and over	254.00	168.60	58.00	78.00
Content and Data courtesy of Department of Social Protection – www.gov.ie/welfare				

INOUE Budget 2026 FactSheet

Maximum weekly rate (from January 2026)	Personal rate	Increase for a Qualified Adult (IQA)	Increase for a Qualified Child under 12	Increased for a Qualified Child aged 12+
Supplementary Welfare Allowance				
- Under 25 living independently	252.00	162.00	58.00	78.00
- Under 25 not living independently	163.70	163.70		
- Aged 25 and over	252.00	162.00	58.00	78.00

Jobseeker's Pay-Related Benefit (JPRB)	
Weekly payment	Paid for
60% of earnings up to a maximum of €450	First 3 months (13 weeks)
55% of earnings up to a maximum of €375	Next 3 months (13 weeks)
50% of earnings up to a maximum €300 payment	Last 3 months (13 weeks)

The minimum weekly payment is €125.

Child Benefit	2026 Monthly Rate
For each child	€140
Twins	Paid at one and a half times the normal monthly rate for each child
All other multiple births	Paid at double the normal monthly rate for each child

Employment Programmes
- An increase of €5 per week from January 2026 for those participating in the Community Employment Programme, Rural Social Scheme and Tús. A €10 increase per week for Job Initiative.

Content and Data courtesy of Department of Social Protection – www.gov.ie/welfare

INOU Budget 2026 FactSheet

Working Family Payment Thresholds	2026 Weekly Income Limit €	
1 Child	765.00	
2 Children	866.00	
3 Children	967.00	
4 Children	1,058.00	
5 Children	1,184.00	
6 Children	1,300.00	
7 Children	1,436.00	
8 Children or more	1,532.00	
Other Social Welfare Payments	2026 Rate €	Frequency
Guardian's Payment (Con/Non-Con)	237.00	Weekly Rate
Fuel Allowance	38.00	Weekly Rate
Living Alone Allowance	22.00	Weekly Rate
Island Allowance (specified offshore islands)	20.00	Weekly Rate
Domiciliary Care Allowance	380.00	Monthly Rate
Carer's Support Grant	2,000.00	Annual Rate
Widowed or Surviving Civil Partner Grant	8,000.00	Once-off payment

Content and Data courtesy of Department of Social Protection – www.gov.ie/welfare

Key Points

Supports for People Seeking Employment

- €10 increase in maximum personal weekly rate of jobseeker's benefit and jobseeker's allowance from January 2026 (proportionate increases for qualified adults and reduced rates).
- People moving from Disability Allowance or Blind Pension to take up work from September 2026 will keep their Fuel Allowance for 5 years.
- People getting Disability Allowance or Blind Pension eligible for Back to Work Family Dividend.
- €5 increase in top-up for Community Employment, Tús and Rural Social Scheme participants to €32.50.
- €10 increase on current payment for Job Initiative participants.

Child Support Payment

- Weekly increase of €16 to €78 for children aged 12 and over (up to €4,056 per annum).
- Weekly increase of €8 to €58 for children under 12 (up to €3,016 per annum).

Carers' Supports

- Increase in the Carer's Allowance income disregard from July 2026:
 - Increase of €375 to €1,000 for a single person.
 - Increase of €750 to €2,000 for a couple.
- The income limit for Carer's Benefit will increase by €375 to €1,000 per week from July 2026.
- €10 increase in the maximum rate of the Carer's Allowance and Carer's Benefit from January 2026 (proportionate increases for reduced rates).
- €20 increase in Domiciliary Care Allowance per month.

Fuel Allowance

- €5 increase from €33 to €38 per week from January 2026 (providing an additional €140 during the annual fuel allowance season).
- Families getting the Working Family Payment will qualify for Fuel Allowance. This will be paid in March 2026 and backdated to January 2026.
- People moving from Disability Allowance or Blind Pension to take up work from September 2026 will keep their Fuel Allowance for 5 years.

Working Family Payment

- €60 increase in weekly income thresholds for all family sizes.
- Families getting the Working Family Payment will qualify for Fuel Allowance.

Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance

- €160 allowance extended to children aged 2 and 3 who are eligible.

Disability Supports

- €10 increase in the maximum personal rate of weekly disability payments from January 2026 (proportionate increases for reduced rates).
- People getting Disability Allowance or Blind Pension will be eligible for Back to Work Family Dividend when taking up employment.
- Wage Subsidy Scheme extended to more people who acquire a disability.
- €1.20 increase in the Wage Subsidy Scheme base rate to €7.50 per hour and introduction of a middle rate of €8.50 from April 2026.

Support for One-Parent Families

- €10 increase in most weekly social welfare payments from January 2026 (proportionate increases for qualified adults and reduced rates).
- Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance extended to children aged 2 and 3.

Content and Data courtesy of Department of Social Protection – www.gov.ie/welfare

- Families getting the Working Family Payment will qualify for Fuel Allowance (backdated to January 2026).
 - €60 increase in weekly income thresholds for Working Family Payment.
-

Supports for Pensioners

- €10 increase in the maximum weekly rate of all state pensions from January 2026 (proportionate increases for qualified adults and reduced rates).

For more information please contact:

INOU Welfare Rights Information Service

Telephone: (01) 856 0088

E-mail: welfare@inou.ie

Website: www.inou.ie

Content and Data courtesy of Department of Social Protection – www.gov.ie/welfare