

Supported Employment Grants and Incentives

Employers information



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There are a number of grants and incentives available to employers who employ people with disabilities. Below is an outline of some of the Government's current schemes. Your local supported employment agency can offer more information on employer grants and incentives.

Wage Subsidy Scheme (WSS)

The WSS provides financial incentives to employers for an employee with a disability who works more than 20 hours per week.

There is a general subsidy of 20 per cent for an employee. The subsidy increases by 10 per cent for three to six employees to a maximum of 50 per cent for more than 23 employees.

Where 30 or more employees with disabilities are employed, employers can also get a grant of €30,000 to employ an employment assistant officer.

Disability Awareness Support Scheme

DASS assists with disability awareness training. Disability awareness training can help employers, their manager and employees to increase and adapt to diversity in the workplace.

Funding of up to 90 per cent of development costs is available in the first year and up to 80 per cent in subsequent years with an annual limit of €20,000.

Development must be carried out by an organisation approved by the Department of Social Protection.

Reasonable accommodations

Employers are obliged to take reasonable, appropriate measures to accommodate employees with disabilities.

There are four different supports available from the Department of Social Protection under the umbrella name of the Reasonable Accommodation Fund.

1. Employee Retention Grant Scheme

ERGS is for employers if their employee develops a disability. The grant helps to identify

reasonable accommodations and training needed to retain the employee. Some 90 per cent of assessment and implementation of accommodations is funded, although maximum limits do apply.

2. Workplace Equipment Adaption Grant

The WEAG (up to €6,350) is for adapting equipment in the workplace to accommodate an employee with a disability.

3. Job interview/induction interpreter grant

JIG covers the use of an interpreter for up to three hours for employees with hearing or speech impairments.

4. Personal Reader Grant

PRGS is available to visually impaired people who need a personal reader to help them with job related reading.

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JobsPlus

JobsPlus is a new employer incentive which encourages and rewards employers who offer jobs to people who are long-term unemployed. This incentive replaces the Revenue Job Assist and Employer Job Exemption Scheme.

The level of payment under this scheme is increased for the recruitment of those out of work for more than two years.

There are two levels of payment.

A payment of €7,500 is made over two years to the employer for each person recruited who has been unemployed for more than 12 but less than 24 months.

A payment of €10,000 is made to the employer for each person recruited who has been unemployed for more than 24 months.

The incentive is payable monthly.

Find out more about supported employment for employers

The IASE and your local supported employment agency will be able to give you more information on these schemes and a full overview of grants and incentives. Contact us today!

www.iase.ie

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