

Back to Work Allowance

- Paid on reducing scale over 3 year period.
- On DA, BPP or IP for at least 15 months (over 50 years 12 months) or Illness Benefit for at least 3 years. (Seasonal work does not qualify).
- Minimum 20 hours per week.
- At least minimum wage.
- Retain a percentage of social welfare payment
Year 1 – 75% of benefits
Year 2 – 50% of benefits
Year 3 - 25% of benefits
- Retain Medical Card for 3 years.
- May retain secondary benefits including reduced rent allowance subject to income limit.

Contact List

Employment Support Service:

Department of Social & Family Affairs
P.O. Box 3840, Dublin 2
T: 01 7943165

Exemptions to Work:

Disability Allowance / Invalidity Pension,
Social Welfare Office, Balinalee Road, Co. Longford
T: 043 45211 or 01 874 8444

Disability / Illness Benefit:

Disability / Illness Benefit Section,
Aras Mhic Dhiarmada, Store Street, Dublin 1
T: 01 679 7777

Blind Persons Pension:

Pension Services,
College Road, Sligo
T: 071 91 69800 or 01 874 8444.

Irish Association of Supported Employment

National Office

No 3 Broadhaven House
Lower Barrack Street, Belmullet, Co Mayo

Contact: Sarah Togher

T: 097 82894 F: 097 82895

E: iase@iol.ie W: www.iase.ie

Regional Contacts 2008/2009

Eastern Branch

Dublin, Wicklow

Contact: Alan Petire T: 01 4603760

Midlands Branch

Kildare, Laois, Longford, Offaly, Westmeath.

Contact: Tony Reilly T: 057 9323901

North East Branch

Cavan, Louth, Meath, Monaghan

Contact: Helen Grant T: 042 9328441

North West Branch

Donegal, Leitrim, Sligo

Contact: Francis Ferry T: 074 912 8872

Southern Branch

Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary

Contact: David Ryan T: 061 493095

Western Branch

Clare, Galway, Roscommon, Mayo

Contact: Deirdre Ball T: 065 6844007

South East Branch

Wexford, Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow

Contact: Israel Carroll T: 056 7772549

*IASE Benefits Leaflets were produced in
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Disclaimer

Every effort is made to ensure the
information is accurate at the time of publication.

Job Seekers 2008

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Benefit Name	Who is eligible?	Number of hours a person can work and retain all benefit.	Amount earned before benefit is reduced.	PAYE + PRSI	Secondary Benefits	Example:
Disability Allowance €197.80 per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paid in recognition of difficulty obtaining employment due to long term illness / Disability. • Means tested. • Full D.A. restored if employment ceases. 	No limit , but work must be classed rehabilitative and Social Welfare notified of intention to take up rehabilitative employment	There is no deduction on earnings up to €120 per week. All earnings above €120.00 up to €350 per week are deducted from D.A. at a rate of .50 cents in the Euro. Anything above €350 per week is deducted from D. A. at rate of Euro for Euro. Subject to maximum permitted earnings of €420 per week	This payment is not taxable but earnings from rehabilitative employment are subject to usual PRSI and income tax deductions.	You ARE entitled to free travel. You MAY be entitled to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent Allowance • Free Electricity • Free TV License • Fuel Allowance • Living Alone Allowance • Medical Card 	20 hours per week on €8.65 per hour minimum wage. Before any tax deductions for someone claiming single persons rate of Social Welfare Payment. Earnings = €173.00 Reduced D.A. = €171.30 Total = €344.30 The example deducts €26.50 from D.A as any earnings above Disregard of €120 per week up to €350 per week are deducted at a rate of .50 cent in the Euro.
Illness Benefit <i>(Formally Disability Benefit)</i> €197.80 per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to work due to illness / Disability. • Sufficient PRSI contributions. • Payable for up to 1 year initially, longer if sufficient PRSI contributions have been paid. 	Approved Rehabilitative work up to maximum of 20 hours per week. Exemption to work subject to periodic renewal. Generally, would need to be on benefit for at least 1 year before seeking an exemption.	No income limit on earnings.	This payment, and earnings from rehabilitative employment are subject to income tax.	You MAY be entitled to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent Allowance • Medical Card 	Earnings = €173.00 Illness Benefit = €197.80 Total = €370.80
Invalidity Pension €203.30 per week <i>(under 65)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanently unable to work due to illness / Disability. • Must have sufficient PRSI contributions. • Generally claimed after at least 1 year on Illness Benefit. 	Approved Rehabilitative work up to maximum of 20 hours per week. Exemption to work subject to periodic renewal. Generally, would need to be on benefit for at least 1 year before seeking an exemption	No income limit on earnings.	This payment, and earnings from rehabilitative employment, are subject to income tax.	You ARE entitled to free travel. You MAY be entitled to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent Allowance • Free Electricity • Free TV Licence • Fuel Allowance • Living Alone Allowance • Medical Card 	Earnings = €173.00 Invalidity Pension = €203.30 Total = €376.30
Blind Persons Pension €197.80 per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visually Impaired. • Means tested. • Full Blind Persons. Pension restored if employment ceases. 	No limit. But work must be classed rehabilitative and Social Welfare notified of intention to take up rehabilitative employment.	There is no deduction on earnings up to €120 per week. All earnings above €120 up to €350 per week are deducted from B.P.P at rate of .50 cents in the Euro. Anything above the €350 per week is deducted from B.P.P. at a rate of Euro for Euro. Subject to maximum permitted earnings of €425.10 per week.	This payment, and earnings from rehabilitative employment, are subject to income tax but you are entitled to extra tax credits.	You ARE entitled to free travel. You MAY be entitled to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent Allowance • Free Electricity • Free TV License • Fuel Allowance • Living Alone Allowance • Medical Card 	Earnings = €173.00 Reduced D.A. = €171.30 Total = €344.30 The example deducts €26.50 from B.P.P. as any earnings above. Disregard of €120 per week up to €350 per week are deducted at a rate of .50 cent in the Euro.

Wage Subsidy Scheme

The Wage Subsidy Scheme provides financial incentives to employers, outside the public sector, to employ disabled people who work more than 20 hours per week. Subsidies available through this scheme are structured under 3 separate strands and employers can benefit under one or all, simultaneously. Employers employing a person(s) with a disability where there is a shortfall in productivity between 50% and 80% of normal work performances. This shortfall will be determined by the employer and employee and agreed with FÁS Officer. A person employed through the Wage Subsidy Scheme must surrender their Social Welfare Payment on commencement of employment or apply for the Back to Work Allowance if eligible. A person on the Wage Subsidy Scheme is subject to the same conditions of employment as other employees. These conditions include PRSI contributions, annual leave, tax deductions and the going rate for the job.