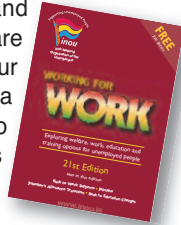


## Supports to assist you into work

Outlined below is a short description of some supports that might help you to get back into work. Many Social Welfare payments allow you to work part-time and continue to receive some of your Social Welfare payment. More information is available in our book *Working For Work* which is a comprehensive book on entitlements, back to work, education and training options. This book is available to download from the INOU website: [www.inou.ie](http://www.inou.ie)



### THE FASTTRACK SYSTEM

The Department of Social Protection operates a fast-track system for Jobseekers who take up work for a short period: up to 8 weeks max. The Fast Track system allows you to sign back on to your claim without the need to go through the process of being a new claimant. The system ensures that your original Jobseeker's payment is re-instated without delay.

### FAMILY INCOME SUPPLEMENT (FIS)

This is a weekly tax-free payment for families, including one-parent families, at work on low pay. There are a range of qualifying criteria for this payment (see our *Working For Work* book) but you must have at least one qualified child who normally lives with you or is part of a family supported by you. A qualified child is any child under age 18 or aged 18 to 22 if in full-time education.

## NEW IN BUDGET 2015

### BACK TO WORK FAMILY DIVIDEND

For one-parent families and long term jobseeker families with children who find or return to work, they will be able to retain the Qualified Child Increase of €29.80 per child, per week, for 12 months and then 50% of the rate for a second year. This applies to employment and self-employment. This Dividend will be in addition to eligibility for Family Income Supplement (FIS) and will not affect the level of FIS payment.

### SECONDARY BENEFITS

If you are unemployed for 12 months or more you may keep your Medical Card for up to 3 years, in certain circumstances, when you get a job (See our *Working For Work* book for more information).

## Supports to assist you into work

### THE PART TIME JOB INCENTIVE SCHEME (PTJI)

The PTJI allows you to work part-time (under 24 hours a week) and get a Part-time Job Allowance instead of your Jobseeker's Allowance payment. The allowance will be paid regardless of the money you earn in your job. However, your wages will be taxable in the usual way.

**JobsPlus** JobsPlus is an employer incentive which encourages and rewards employers who offer employment opportunities to the long term unemployed. There are two levels of payment paid to an employer: €7,500 or €10,000. The amount an employer receives will depend on how long an eligible person has been on a Jobseeker's Allowance, Jobseeker's Benefit payment or signing for credits. The INOU have had feedback from unemployed people to suggest that being eligible for JobsPlus may make the difference between getting back into employment and should be something to highlight at an interview. To check your eligibility for JobsPlus visit: [www.jobsplus.ie](http://www.jobsplus.ie)

### ENTERPRISE ALLOWANCES

If you are getting a Jobseekers payment and thinking about starting a business, you may qualify for an Enterprise Allowance. There are two types of allowance, the Back to Work Enterprise Allowance (BTWEA) and the Short Term Enterprise Allowance (STEA). Talk to an Enterprise Officer in your Local Partnerships / Local Development Companies for more information or visit: [www.ildn.ie](http://www.ildn.ie)

### BENEFIT OF WORK READY RECKONER

The Department of Social Protection have developed a new tool to support Jobseekers returning to work. The Ready Reckoner is a user-friendly tool for those in receipt of a Jobseeker's payment. It gives an indication of the difference between your potential in-work and your current out-of-work payments based on the information provided by you. Visit [www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie) website to use the Ready Reckoner

For further information contact the INOU

01 856 0088



welfare@inou.ie



redundancy@inou.ie

websites: [www.inou.ie](http://www.inou.ie) [www.redundancy.ie](http://www.redundancy.ie)



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Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed

# Looking for Work

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

[www.inou.ie](http://www.inou.ie)

December 2014  
FREE

## I am looking for work – Where can I find help?

There are a range of services and supports available to help you with your jobseeking efforts and improve your chances of finding work. Some of these key services and supports are outlined in this leaflet.



**INTREO** provides a one-stop shop for employment services and income supports with a range of personalised supports to unemployed people in receipt of a jobseekers payment. This includes information on all income supports schemes, programmes and incentives to help you back into work; guidance on employment and training opportunities and information on job vacancies. To find your local Intreo Centre visit our online map at [www.inou.ie](http://www.inou.ie) or on the Department of Social Protection's website [www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie).



**LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (LES)** staff can provide you with support in a number of ways: through guidance interviews; providing information; in helping you develop a career plan and in identifying job opportunities. They can also assist you in identifying training and educational supports to help you enter / re-enter employment. Some services provide weekly jobseeker support networks, organise networking events with employers and email weekly job alerts. The LES is delivered, under a contract arrangement, on behalf of the Department of Social Protection. For more information visit [www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie)



**LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS / LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES** offer a range of supports for people looking to start a business. Enterprise Officers can advise you on enterprise allowances. For more information visit: [www.ildn.ie](http://www.ildn.ie)



**JOB CLUBS** provide support to jobseekers such as support with preparing CV's, improving interview skills and identifying possible job opportunities. The Job Club service is delivered through workshops and individual 'one-to-one' support sessions. Job Clubs are delivered, under a contract arrangement, on behalf of the Department of Social Protection. For more information visit [www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie)



**CONGRESS CENTRES NETWORK** can support you with your jobseeking efforts by helping you prepare a C.V. or with mock interviews and with other resources such as photocopying, typing up assignments, thesis etc, Business Support for start ups, FETAC accredited courses, Local Training Initiatives, Information Provision and Advocacy, employment through Community Employment schemes and Community Services Programmes. For more information visit: [www.ictu.ie/ccn/](http://www.ictu.ie/ccn/)



**LOCAL RESOURCE CENTRES** are a range of independent organisations including Family Resource Centres that offer different services to help unemployed people find work. They can help you with welfare rights queries, filling in application forms / preparing a C.V. or cover letters, information on local job vacancies and accessing the internet and daily newspapers. Some centres may also run Job Clubs. Visit: [www.familyresource.ie](http://www.familyresource.ie) or the Find your local services map on [www.inou.ie](http://www.inou.ie)

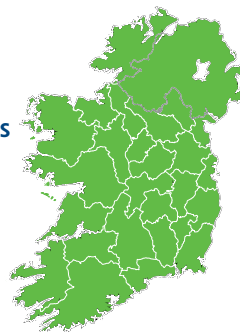


**WORKLINK** is an employment network that assists unemployed people to successfully transition into full employment. Worklink provides professional mentoring and support directly to Jobseekers through Jobseeker groups and organisations. For more information visit: [www.worklink.ie](http://www.worklink.ie) or Phone 01 291 6603

### Find your local services ONLINE

web [www.inou.ie](http://www.inou.ie)

- Intreo / Social Welfare Offices
- Local Employment Services
- INOU Member Organisations
- Local Resource Centres



## Online resources

### Jobseeker Support Websites

There are a range of support sites online which offer you information on jobs and help to improve your job seeking. These include:



**Jobs Ireland** is an online resource for Jobseeker's. You can find information on full-time and part-time work opportunities, work experience programmes and schemes such as Community Employment and JobBridge. Jobs Ireland can be accessed easily and in a number of ways:- visit: [www.jobsireland.ie](http://www.jobsireland.ie) Freephone 1800 611 116 Download: the free jobseekers app.



**Jobseeker Pack** This 'must have' pack for Jobseekers explains in plain English the services and supports available to you in your search for work, with tips on how to fill out an application form, prepare a CV and covering letter, finding a job through social media or developing good job interview skills. The pack is available from your local Intreo Centre or to download from [www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie)



### West Cork Job Supports

offer information, tools, links, exchanges and resources that can help you with your job search visit: [www.westcorkjobsupport.com](http://www.westcorkjobsupport.com)



**LinkedIn** is a business orientated social networking website that can be used for networking or as a job seeking tool. Taking your professional network online, it gives you access to people and possible job opportunities. Visit: [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com)



### Twitter #allaboutjobs #jobfairy

Checkout #allaboutjobs and the website: [www.merrionstreet.ie/en/allaboutjobs](http://www.merrionstreet.ie/en/allaboutjobs) for

information on jobs, statistics and job news. Also at twitter: #Jobfairy – many of the jobs advertised will not be publicly seen elsewhere. Visit : [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) to see other twitter tags which may be of interest to you: #INOUIreland and #welfare\_ie



**INOU Jobs Watch page** This page shows the latest jobs being created which are tracked through the local and national media.

Visit: [www.inou.ie/jobsboard](http://www.inou.ie/jobsboard)