



Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed

March 2010

Training options for unemployed people

This leaflet outlines ways in which you can take up training opportunities and retain your Social Welfare Payment



Key Providers

FÁS – the National Training and Employment Authority, is organised as a network of regional and local offices nationwide which includes 20 Training Centres. FÁS provide Part-Time, Full-Time, daytime, evening and online courses. An Employment Services Officer is available to offer advice on training courses, employment opportunities and other options which may lead to employment. You may be entitled to certain allowances while you are on a FÁS training course. Most FÁS courses are certified with FETAC awards or other certificates.

Skillnets enables groups of companies within the private sector to set up training networks. Training delivery is industry driven. The majority of training courses will be open to people on a Jobseeker's Allowance or Jobseeker's Benefit payment or self-employed people who have ceased trading.

www.skillnets.ie

01 207 9630

There are also a wide range of statutory, private and community based organisations providing training around the country. These include: Teagasc (Agriculture), Fáilte Ireland (Tourism and Hospitality), Bord Iascaigh Mhara (Fisheries), Centres for the Unemployed, Family Resource Centres and Community Development Projects.

Training Options

FÁS courses – range of options include: ● Full-Time ● Part-Time ● Online ● Blended Learning includes both online/e-based support and on-site training ● Daytime ● Evening

i Priority on Daytime courses are for people who are unemployed.

FÁS SPECIFIC SKILL TRAINING COURSES – These daytime and evening courses are aimed at people who wish to acquire new skills or up-date existing ones. Courses include office/computer, electronics, business, construction, personal services, pre-employment/job clubs and many others. The duration of courses can vary, but typically last 4-6 months.

i To apply: register at a FÁS Training Office. An interview will determine the most relevant training for you.

LOCAL TRAINING INITIATIVES (LTI) provide participants with full-time work experience and training. Participants receive a FÁS training allowance. All training on LTI leads to FETAC certification. Participants must be unemployed and over 16 years of age. There are no formal educational requirements. LTI cover a wide range of areas including heritage, tourism and sports. For further information contact your local FÁS Office.

TRAINING ALLOWANCES (Full-Time / Part-Time)

15 – 16 years old	17 years old	18 and Over
€79.90 / €46.00	€99.80 / €57.45	€196.00 / €112.80

MEAL ALLOWANCE

Course Participant Status	Rate €
Full-Time	€0.80 per day
Part-Time	€0.40 per day

Please Note: Meal allowances only apply for lunch in locations where FÁS canteen facilities are not available.

ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCE – Maximum Rate

€/Day	€/Week
€13.98	€69.90

Please Note: If a course participant is in receipt of an accommodation allowance, travel allowances are not payable.

TRAVEL ALLOWANCE MAXIMUM RATES (per mile)

3 – 5	5 – 10	10 – 20	20 – 30	30 – 40	40 – 50
€4.60	€11.90	€17.60	€21.60	€27.70	€32.60

Please Note: You can only receive either a travel or accommodation allowance. Not both.

CHILDCARE ALLOWANCES for full-time course participants

Child (under 16 years)	Maximum Contribution per Week
Not School Going	€63.50
Attending Primary School	€31.25
Attending Secondary School	No Contribution

Part-time course participant (Child under 16 years)

Not School Going	€38.00 per week
Attending Primary School	No Contribution
Attending Secondary School	No Contribution

Hand icon In order to receive a FÁS Training Allowance it is necessary to be in receipt of a qualifying social welfare payment.

Training Options


YOUTHREACH offers a flexible programme of education, vocational training and work experience for 15 to 20 year olds who have left school early without any formal qualifications. These courses are generally full-time and last from 1 to 2 years although they can be flexible, depending on the individuals needs. The length of the course depends on both the starting point of the individual and the level of certification the person wishes to attain. A training allowance is paid to trainees, depending on age. The Youthreach programme is delivered through Centres for Education, Community Training Centres and Justice Workshops. A parallel programme to Youthreach for Travellers is delivered in Senior Traveller Training Centres. For further information:



 www.youthreach.ie  01-402 0427

COMMUNITY TRAINING CENTRES (CTCs) are independent community-based organisations funded by FÁS. They look after the training and employment needs of early school leavers, primarily aged between 16 and 21. For further information contact your local FÁS Office.

TRAINEESHIP PROGRAMMES are occupational skills development programmes which combine formal training and work experience with a host employer. The types of traineeship courses are: Technical and Operative; Personal Service Occupations; Administration and Business; Agri-business; Information Technology; Sales and also Leisure and Sport. For further information contact FÁS.

An **APPRENTICESHIP** combines work experience and training to enable a person to become a qualified trade/craftsperson. An employer provides a person with on the job training and work experience. The person will also receive off the job training in a local FÁS training centre or educational college.


 **Contact your local FÁS office for information on a wide range of training programmes.**

 www.fas.ie  01 607 0500

Training / Work Experience

WORK PLACEMENT PROGRAMME is a 9 month work experience programme for unemployed people. Under this programme there are two different options, graduate placement (WPP1) and non graduate placement (WPP2). You may keep your payment and entitlements while on this programme if you have been in receipt of a Jobseeker's or other Social Welfare payment for more than 3 months. The programme can provide valuable work experience. For further information contact your local FÁS office.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT (CE) schemes provide training and work experience, primarily to long-term unemployed people and those on both Disability and One Parent Family Payments. Those on CE work an average of 19.5 hours per week (or 39 hours per fortnight). CE is divided into 2 options; a CE Part-Time Integration Option and a CE Part-Time Option. Both options have different eligibility rules and conditions. For further information contact your local FÁS Office or the INOU.

 If you are on a Disability or One Parent Family Payment you may be able to keep a part or all of your payment and receive a CE payment.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT RATES OF PAYMENT

Personal Allowance	€216.00
Qualified Adult Dependant	€130.10
Each Qualified Child (Full Rate)	€29.80
Each Qualified Child (Half Rate)	€14.90

Useful Websites

www.fas.ie

www.fetac.ie

www.fit.ie

www.qualifax.ie

www.courses.ie

www.jobs.ie



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For further information contact the INOU

 01 856 0088

 welfareinfo@inou.ie

 www.inou.ie

Choosing the best option

The decision to return to training is a major one. The following is a number of key points to consider:

Interest – finding out what you are interested in / what skills you have and what you like doing are very important when considering what type of training course you may want to take up. Websites such as www.careersportal.ie provide a range of tests which may help to discover your training/career interests.

Progression – Where will this training lead to, what type of employment do I want and is there likely to be jobs from the training I do or will it lead to further training or education. Adult Guidance Counsellors offer career guidance and are located in Local Employment Services (LES) offices.

Grants and Finance – A range of funding / grants are in place to help you access training. FÁS provide training and other types of allowances for most of their training courses. There may also be training grants available from local businesses such as credit unions and banks. Talk to someone in your local FÁS, Congress Centre or Citizens Information Centre for further information and to discuss your options.

Flexibility – The duration, location and type (e.g. full-time / part-time) of training courses as well as your availability are vital questions that need to be answered before you begin your search.

Accreditation – The National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) is used to classify and compare qualifications which may help when choosing a course. Visit www.nfq.ie for further information.

Research Options – The Internet is a valuable resource for finding training programmes in your locality. Useful websites include: www.qualifax.ie, www.jobs.ie and www.courses.ie

Networking – Friends/family may have first-hand experience of particular training courses or know of someone who has. Internet forums offer an opportunity to talk online with people who may have done similar training to what you are interested in. www.qualifax.ie and www.boards.ie provide a range of different fora.