

---

## STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

### 2015 No. 2006

## The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015

### PART 2 **N.I.**

#### Universal credit

### CHAPTER 2 **N.I.**

#### Claimant responsibilities

#### *Work-related requirements*

#### **Work preparation requirement **N.I.****

**21.**—(1) In this Part a “work preparation requirement” is a requirement that a claimant take particular action specified by the Department for the purpose of making it more likely in the opinion of the Department that the claimant will obtain paid work (or more paid work or better-paid work).

(2) The Department may under paragraph (1) specify the time to be devoted to any particular action.

(3) Action which may be specified under paragraph (1) includes in particular—

- (a) attending a skills assessment;
- (b) improving personal presentation;
- (c) participating in training;
- (d) participating in an employment programme;
- (e) undertaking work experience or a work placement;
- (f) developing a business plan;
- (g) any action prescribed for the purpose in paragraph (1).

(4) In the case of a person with limited capability for work, the action which may be specified under paragraph (1) includes taking part in a work-focused health-related assessment.

(5) In paragraph (4) “work-focused health-related assessment” means an assessment by a health care professional approved by the Department which is carried out for the purpose of assessing—

- (a) the extent to which the person's capability for work may be improved by taking steps in relation to that person's physical or mental condition, and
- (b) such other matters relating to that person's physical or mental condition and the likelihood of that person obtaining or remaining in work or being able to do so as may be prescribed.

(6) In paragraph (5) “health care professional” means—

- (a) a registered medical practitioner,
- (b) a registered nurse,

**Changes to legislation:** *The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015, Section 21 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 July 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (c) an occupational therapist or physiotherapist registered with a regulatory body established by an Order in Council under section 60 of the Health Act 1999, or
- (d) a member of such other profession regulated by a body mentioned in section 25(3) of the National Health Service Reform and Health Care Professions Act 2002 as may be prescribed.

#### Commencement Information

- I1** [Art. 21](#) in operation at 2.5.2016 for specified purposes by [S.R. 2016/215](#), [art. 2\(2\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- I2** [Art. 21](#) in operation at 27.9.2017 for specified purposes by [S.R. 2017/190](#), [art. 4\(3\)-\(6\)](#), [Sch. 1](#) (with [art. 5](#))
- I3** [Art. 21](#) in operation at 15.11.2017 and 13.12.2017 for specified purposes by [S.R. 2017/216](#), [art. 3](#) (with [art. 6](#)) (as amended (15.1.2018) by [S.R. 2018/1](#), art. 7)
- I4** [Art. 21](#) in operation at 17.1.2018 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.R. 2018/1](#), [art. 3](#) (with [art. 6](#))
- I5** [Art. 21](#) in operation at 16.5.2018 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.R. 2018/97](#), [art. 3](#) (with [art. 6](#))
- I6** [Art. 21](#) in force at 5.9.2018 and further specified dates for specified purposes by [S.R. 2018/138](#), [art. 3](#) (with [art. 6](#))
- I7** [Art. 21](#) in force at 1.2.2019 for specified purposes by [S.R. 2019/7](#), [art. 2\(1\)-\(3\)](#) (with [art. 2\(4\)\(11\)](#))
- I8** [Art. 21](#) in operation at 30.3.2022 in so far as not already in operation by [S.R. 2022/132](#), [art. 3](#) (with [arts. 4, 5, Sch.](#))

**Changes to legislation:**

The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015, Section 21 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 July 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.R. 2009/4 by [S.R. 2019/107 art. 2](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.R. 2017/190 by [S.R. 2019/4 art. 5](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.R. 2017/190 by [S.R. 2019/7 art. 3](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing S.R. 2017/216 by [S.R. 2018/1 art. 7](#)
- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SR 2016/46, art. 5(a) by [S.R. 2016/166 art. 3](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Order associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Order (including any effects on those provisions):

- Pts. 25 modified by [S.R. 2019/212 art. 2\(2\)\(g\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk SR 2019/212](#) revoked (19.12.2020) by SR 2020/348, art. 1(2)(2))
- art. 56(1) repealed by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) Sch. 12 Pt. 1](#)