

**2004 No. 16**

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

**The Social Security (Child Maintenance Premium)  
(Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004**

*Made - - - - - 19th January 2004*

*Coming into operation in accordance with regulation 1(2)  
and (3)*

The Department for Social Development, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 122(1)(a) and (d), 132(3) and (4)(b) and 171(3) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(a) and Articles 14(1) and (4)(b) and 36(2) of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(b) and now vested in it(c), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

**1.**—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Child Maintenance Premium) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 and shall come into operation in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) This regulation and regulation 4 shall come into operation on 16th February 2004.

(3) Regulations 2 and 3 shall come into operation—

(a) in relation to any particular case in respect of which type of case section 22 of the Act(d) has before 16th February 2004 come into operation, on 16th February 2004;

(b) where sub-paragraph (a) does not apply, in relation to any particular case, on the date on which section 22 of the Act comes into operation in relation to that type of case;

(c) in relation to a person who, on or after 16th February 2004—

(i) makes a claim for income support or an income-based jobseeker's allowance, and

(ii) on or after the date of that claim receives any payment of child maintenance made voluntarily,

on 16th February 2004; or

(d) in relation to a person who—

(i) on 16th February 2004 is entitled to income support or an income-based jobseeker's allowance, and

(ii) on or after 16th February 2004 receives any payment of child maintenance made voluntarily and that payment is the first payment of child maintenance received by that person while he is entitled to income support or an income-based jobseeker's allowance,

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(a) 1992 c. 7

(b) S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15); Article 36(2) was amended by paragraph 55 of Schedule 3 to the Social Security Contributions (Transfer of Functions, etc.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/671)

(c) See Article 8(b) of S.R. 1999 No. 481

(d) See Article 6 of S.R. 2003 No. 53 (C. 4), as substituted by Article 2 of S.R. 2003 No. 92 (C. 7)

on 16th February 2004 if a payment referred to in head (ii) is made on that day, or on the day on which such a payment is received where it is received after 16th February 2004.

(4) In this regulation –

“the Act” means the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act (Northern Ireland) 2000(a);

“the Order” means the Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1991(b);

“child maintenance” shall have the same meaning as that prescribed for the purposes of section 72A of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992(c);

“an income-based jobseeker’s allowance” has the meaning given by Article 3(4) of the Jobseeker’s (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(d);

“payment of child maintenance made voluntarily” means any payment of child maintenance other than such a payment made—

- (a) under a court order;
- (b) under a maintenance assessment made under the Order prior to its amendment by the Act or under a maintenance calculation made under the Order after its amendment by the Act;
- (c) under an agreement for maintenance;
- (d) in accordance with Article 28J of the Order(e) (voluntary payments); or
- (e) by the Department in lieu of child maintenance, including any payment made by the Department under section 26 of the Act (temporary compensation payment scheme).

(5) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(f) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Assembly.

### **Amendment of the Income Support (General) Regulations**

**2.** For paragraph 69 of Schedule 9 to the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(g) (sums to be disregarded in the calculation of income other than earnings) there shall be substituted the following paragraph—

“69.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), any payment of child maintenance where the child or young person in respect of whom the payment is made is a member of the claimant’s family except where the person making the payment is the claimant or the claimant’s partner.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), where more than one payment of child maintenance –

- (a) in respect of more than one child or young person; or
- (b) made by more than one person in respect of a child or young person,

falls to be taken into account in any week, all such payments shall be aggregated and treated as if they were a single payment.

(3) No more than £10 shall be disregarded in respect of each week to which any payment of child maintenance is attributed in accordance with regulations 28, 29, 31 and 32(h)

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(a) 2000 c. 4 (N.I.)  
(b) S.I. 1991/2628 (N.I. 23)  
(c) 1992 c. 8; section 72A was inserted by Article 18 of the Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 (S.I. 1995/2702 (N.I. 13))  
(d) The definition of “an income-based jobseeker’s allowance” was amended by paragraph 3(4)(a) of Schedule 7 to the Welfare Reform and Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/3147 (N.I. 11))  
(e) Article 28J was inserted by section 19(1) of the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act (Northern Ireland) 2000  
(f) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)  
(g) S.R. 1987 No. 459; paragraph 69 is added by regulation 2(1)(b) of S.R. 2001 No. 25  
(h) Regulation 28 was amended by S.R. 1991 No. 338; regulation 29 was amended by S.R. 1988 No. 431, S.R. 1989 No. 365, S.R. 1990 No. 131, S.R. 1997 No. 22, S.R. 1998 No. 81, S.R. 1999 No. 381 and S.R. 2000 Nos. 74 and 241; regulation 31 was amended by S.R. 1988 Nos. 146 and 318, S.R. 1995 No. 67, S.R. 1996 No. 199, S.R. 2000 No. 74 and S.R. 2003 No. 338; regulation 32 was amended by S.R. 1988 Nos. 146 and 318, S.R. 1989 No. 365, S.R. 1995 No. 67, S.R. 1996 No. 199, S.R. 1997 No. 22 and S.R. 2000 No. 241

(calculation of income) or regulations 60B to 60D(a) (treatment of child support maintenance).

(4) In this paragraph “child maintenance” shall have the same meaning as that prescribed for the purposes of section 72A of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (payment of benefit where maintenance payments collected by Department) and shall include any payment made by the Department in lieu of such maintenance.”.

### **Amendment of the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations**

**3.** For paragraph 66 of Schedule 6 to the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996(b) (sums to be disregarded in the calculation of income other than earnings) there shall be substituted the following paragraph—

“66.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), any payment of child maintenance where the child or young person in respect of whom the payment is made is a member of the claimant’s family except where the person making the payment is the claimant or the claimant’s partner.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), where more than one payment of child maintenance—

- (a) in respect of more than one child or young person; or
- (b) made by more than one person in respect of a child or young person,

falls to be taken into account in any week, all such payments shall be aggregated and treated as if they were a single payment.

(3) No more than £10 shall be disregarded in respect of each week to which any payment of child maintenance is attributed in accordance with regulations 93, 94, 96 and 97(c) (calculation of income) or regulations 126, 128 and 129(d) (treatment of child support maintenance).

(4) In this paragraph “child maintenance” shall have the same meaning as that prescribed for the purposes of section 72A of the Administration Act (payment of benefit where maintenance payments collected by Department) and shall include any payment made by the Department in lieu of such maintenance.”.

### **Amendment of the Social Security (Child Maintenance Premium and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations**

**4.**—(1) The Social Security (Child Maintenance Premium and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2001(e) shall be amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) For regulation 1 (citation, commencement and interpretation) there shall be substituted the following regulation—

“**1.**—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Child Maintenance Premium and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2001 and shall come into operation—

- (a) in relation to any particular case, on the date on which section 22 of the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act (Northern Ireland) 2000 comes into operation in relation to that type of case (“the commencement date”);
- (b) in relation to a person who, on or after 16th February 2004—
  - (i) makes a claim for income support or an income-based jobseeker’s allowance, and

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(a) Regulations 60B to 60D were inserted by S.R. 1993 No. 167 and were amended by S.R. 1996 Nos. 202 and 405 and S.R. 2001 No. 29

(b) S.R. 1996 No. 198; paragraph 66 is added by regulation 2(2)(b) of S.R. 2001 No. 25

(c) Regulation 93 was amended by S.R. 2000 No. 350; regulation 94 was amended by S.R. 1997 No. 22, S.R. 1998 No. 81, S.R. 1999 No. 428 (C. 32) and S.R. 2000 No. 350; regulation 96 was amended by S.R. 2000 No. 74 and S.R. 2003 No. 338; regulation 97 was amended by S.R. 1997 Nos. 22 and 130

(d) Regulation 128 was amended by S.R. 2001 No. 29; regulation 129 was amended by S.R. 1996 No. 503

(e) S.R. 2001 No. 25, to which there is an amendment not relevant to these regulations

- (ii) on or after the date of that claim receives any payment of child maintenance made voluntarily,  
on 16th February 2004; or
- (c) in relation to a person who—
  - (i) on 16th February 2004 is entitled to income support or an income-based jobseeker's allowance, and
  - (ii) on or after 16th February 2004 receives any payment of child maintenance made voluntarily and that payment is the first payment of child maintenance received by that person while he is entitled to income support or an income-based jobseeker's allowance,  
on 16th February 2004 if a payment referred to in head (ii) is made on that day, or on the day on which such a payment is received where it is received after 16th February 2004.

(2) In this regulation—

“the Act” means the Child Support, Pensions and Social Security Act (Northern Ireland) 2000;

“the Order” means the Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1991;

“child maintenance” shall have the same meaning as that prescribed for the purposes of section 72A of the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992;

“an income-based jobseeker's allowance” has the meaning given by Article 3(4) of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995;

“payment of child maintenance made voluntarily” means any payment of child maintenance other than such a payment made—

- (a) under a court order;
- (b) under a maintenance assessment made under the Order prior to its amendment by the Act or under a maintenance calculation made under the Order after its amendment by the Act;
- (c) under an agreement for maintenance;
- (d) in accordance with Article 28J of the Order (voluntary payments); or
- (e) by the Department in lieu of child maintenance, including any payment made by the Department under section 26 of the Act (temporary compensation payment scheme).

(3) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Assembly.”

(3) In regulation 2 (child maintenance: income support and jobseeker's allowance) paragraphs (1)(b) and (2)(b) shall be omitted.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department for Social Development on 19th January 2004.

(L.S.)

*John O'Neill*  
Senior Officer of the Department for Social Development

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations amend the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987 (“the Income Support Regulations”), the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996 (“the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations”) and the Social Security (Child Maintenance Premium and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2001 (“the Child Maintenance Premium Regulations”).

Regulation 1 makes provision for citation, commencement and interpretation.

Regulations 2 and 3 amend, respectively, the Income Support Regulations and the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations to –

make it clear that when more than one payment of child maintenance is made in respect of more than one child or young person, or by more than one person in respect of a child or young person, all such payments which are to be taken into account in any week shall be aggregated and treated as a single payment of child maintenance; and

ensure that when payments of child maintenance are made otherwise than weekly the child maintenance premium disregard is applied to each weekly amount of child maintenance paid.

Regulation 4(2) substitutes regulation 1 of the Child Maintenance Premium Regulations to ensure that those Regulations apply –

in respect of a person who, on or after 16th February 2004, makes a claim for income support or an income-based jobseeker’s allowance and on or after that date receives a payment of child maintenance made voluntarily, from 16th February 2004; or

in respect of a person who, on 16th February 2004, is entitled to income support or an income-based jobseeker’s allowance and on or after that date first receives a payment of child maintenance made voluntarily while he is entitled to that benefit, from 16th February 2004 if the first such payment of child maintenance is received on that date, or from the day on which the first such payment of child maintenance is received if it is received after that date.

Regulation 4(3) makes omissions in consequence of the amendments made by these Regulations.

These Regulations make in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision contained in Regulations made by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in relation to Great Britain and accordingly, by virtue of section 149(3) of, and paragraph 10 of Schedule 5 to, the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992, are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.

A regulatory impact assessment has not been produced for this rule as it has no impact on the costs of business.

Printed in the UK by The  
Stationery Office Limited  
under the authority and  
superintendence of Carol  
Tullo, Controller of  
Her Majesty's Stationery  
Office being the Government  
Printer for Northern Ireland and  
the Officer appointed to print the  
Acts of the Northern Ireland Assembly  
Dd. N1355. C2. 1/04. Gp. 130. 14567.



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£2.00

Published by The Stationery Office Limited

ISBN 0-337-95363-5



9 780337 953637