
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the provisions governing the time limits applicable to making a claim for a Sure Start Maternity Grant.

The Social Fund Maternity and Funeral Expenses (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 (S.R. 2005 No. 506) make provision for the payment of Sure Start Maternity Grants. The Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987 (S.R. 1987 No. 465) (“the Claims and Payments Regulations”) set out the time limits for making a claim for a Sure Start Maternity Grant.

Regulation 2 of these Regulations amends Schedule 4 to the Claims and Payments Regulations to extend the period in which claims can be made from 3 months to 6 months after the occurrence of the relevant event giving rise to a claimant becoming responsible for a child.

These Regulations make in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision 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 (1992 c. 8 (N.I.)), are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.