
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2021 No. 82

The Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order (Northern Ireland) 2021

PART 1

INTRODUCTION

Citation, commencement and effect

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Social Security Benefits Up-rating Order (Northern Ireland) 2021, and subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), shall come into operation for the purposes of—

- (a) this Article and Articles 2 and 7 on 1st April 2021;
- (b) Article 3—
 - (i) in so far as it relates to any increase to which Article 7(9)(b) applies, on 1st April 2021, and
 - (ii) for all other purposes on 12th April 2021;
- (c) Articles 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19 and 20, on 12th April 2021;
- (d) Article 8, in so far as it relates to a particular beneficiary, on the first day of the first benefit week to commence for that beneficiary on or after 1st April 2021, and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph “benefit week” has the same meaning as in regulation 2(1) of the Computation of Earnings Regulations;
- (e) Article 9, on 6th April 2021;
- (f) Article 10, on 4th April 2021, except for the purpose of determining the rate of maternity allowance in accordance with section 35A(1) of the Contributions and Benefits Act⁽¹⁾ (appropriate weekly rate of maternity allowance under section 35), for which purpose it shall come into operation on 12th April 2021;
- (g) Article 11, on 4th April 2021;
- (h) Articles 17 and 18, on 15th April 2021;
- (i) Articles 21, 22 and 23, in so far as they relate to a particular beneficiary, on the first day of the first benefit week to commence for that beneficiary on or after 12th April 2021, and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph “benefit week” has the same meaning as in the Income Support Regulations;
- (j) Articles 24 and 25, in relation to a case where rent is payable at intervals of a week or any multiple thereof, on 5th April 2021, and in relation to any other case, on 1st April 2021;
- (k) Articles 26, 27 and 28, in so far as it relates to a particular beneficiary, on the first day of the first benefit week to commence for that beneficiary on or after 12th April 2021,

⁽¹⁾ Section 35A was inserted by Article 50(3) of the Welfare Reform and Pensions (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/3147 (N.I.11)) and amended by regulation 2(4) of S.R. 2014 No. 102 and subsection (1) was substituted by section 4(1)(a) of the Social Security Act (Northern Ireland) 2002 (c. 10 (N.I.))

and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph “benefit week” has the same meaning as in the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations 1996;

- (l) Article 29, in so far as it relates to a particular beneficiary, on the first day of the first benefit week to commence for that beneficiary on or after 12th April 2021, and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph “benefit week” has the same meaning as in the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations 2016;
- (m) Article 30, in so far as it relates to a particular beneficiary, on the first day of the first benefit week to commence for that beneficiary on or after 12th April 2021, and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph “benefit week” has the same meaning as in the State Pension Credit Regulations;
- (n) Article 31, in so far as it relates to a particular beneficiary, on the first day of the first week to commence for that beneficiary on or after 12th April 2021, and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph “benefit week” has the same meaning as in the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008;
- (o) Article 32, in so far as it relates to a particular beneficiary, on the first day of the first benefit week to commence for that beneficiary on or after 12th April 2021, and for the purposes of this sub-paragraph “benefit week” has the same meaning as in the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2016;
- (p) Article 33, in so far as it relates to a particular beneficiary, on the first day of the first assessment period to commence for that beneficiary on or after 12th April 2021, and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph “assessment period” has the same meaning as in Article 12(2) of the Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015(2); and
- (q) Article 34, on 10th May 2021.

(2) In so far as Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 29 and 32 relate to a beneficiary in favour of whom an award of universal credit is in force, those Articles shall come into operation for the purposes of determining the beneficiary’s unearned income in relation to that award on the same day as Article 33 comes into operation for that beneficiary.

(3) The changes made in the sums specified for rates or amounts of benefits in—

- (a) Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13 and 14; and
- (b) Article 26(b), in so far as that sum is relevant for the purposes of establishing whether the rate of any benefit is not to be increased in respect of an adult dependant because the earnings of the dependant exceed a specified amount,

shall take effect for each case on the date specified in relation to that case in Article 7.