



Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992

1992 CHAPTER 4

[^{F1}PART XIII

INCAPACITY FOR WORK

[^{F1}171A Test of incapacity for work.

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, save as otherwise expressly provided, whether a person is capable or incapable of work shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of this Part of this Act.
- (2) Regulations may make provision as to—
 - (a) the information or evidence required for the purpose of determining whether a person is capable or incapable of work, and
 - (b) the manner in which that information or evidence is to be provided,and may provide that if a person without good cause fails to provide that information or evidence, or to do so in the manner required, he shall be treated as capable of work.

[In subsection (2)(a) above the reference to such information or evidence as is there
^{F2}(2A) mentioned includes information or evidence capable of being used for assisting or encouraging the person in question to obtain work or enhance his prospects of obtaining it.]
- (3) Regulations may provide that in any case where [^{F3}it falls to be determined] whether a person is capable of work—
 - (a) he may be called to attend for such medical examination as may be required in accordance with regulations, and
 - (b) if he fails without good cause to attend for or submit himself to such examination, he shall be treated as capable of work.
- (4) Regulations may prescribe for the purposes of this section—

Changes to legislation: Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, Section 171A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 June 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

- (a) matters which are or are not to be taken into account in determining whether a person does or does not have good cause for any act or omission, or
- (b) circumstances in which a person is or is not to be regarded as having or not having good cause for any act or omission.

[All information supplied in pursuance of this section shall be taken for all purposes^{F4}(5) to be information relating to social security.]]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Pt. 12A inserted (18.11.1994 for specified purposes, 13.4.1995 in so far as not already in force) by [Social Security \(Incapacity for Work\) Act 1994 \(c. 18\)](#), **ss. 5, 16(3)** (with **ss. 4, 7**); S.I. 1994/2926, art. 2(2), Sch. Pt. 2 (with [The Social Security \(Incapacity Benefit\) \(Transitional\) Regulations 1995 \(S.I. 1995/310\)](#), regs. 1(1), 11, 17, 29)
- F2** S. 171A(2A) inserted (11.11.1999 for specified purposes, 13.12.1999 in so far as not already in force) by [Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 \(c. 30\)](#), s. 89(5)(c), **Sch. 8 para. 23(2)**; S.I. 1999/3309, art. 2(2)(b)
- F3** Words in s. 171A(3) substituted (11.11.1999 for specified purposes, 3.4.2000 in so far as not already in force) by [Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 \(c. 30\)](#), s. 89(5)(c), **Sch. 8 para. 23(3)**; S.I. 1999/3309, art. 2(2)(a)
- F4** S. 171A(5) inserted (11.11.1999 for specified purposes, 13.12.1999 in so far as not already in force) by [Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 \(c. 30\)](#), s. 89(5)(c), **Sch. 8 para. 23(4)**; S.I. 1999/3309, art. 2(2)(b)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** Ss. 171A(2)(3)(4) restricted (18.11.1994 for specified purposes, 13.4.1995 in so far as not already in force) by [Social Security \(Incapacity for Work\) Act 1994 \(c. 18\)](#), **ss. 6(3)(a), 16(3)**; S.I. 1994/2926, art. 2(2), Sch. Pt. 2

Changes to legislation:

Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992, Section 171A is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 21 June 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 :

- s. 171A-171G repealed by [2007 c. 5 Sch. 3 para. 9\(12\)Sch. 8](#)

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

- Act applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2010/875 reg. 16Sch. 2](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S.I. 2010/875 revoked (27.8.2010) before coming into force by S.I. 2010/1906, regs. 1(2), 2)
- Act restricted by [S.I. 1995/471 art. 32\(4\)](#)

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

- Pt. 8ZA inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 16\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- Pt. 12ZE inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 5](#)
- s. 4(1)(a)(viii) and word inserted by [2023 c. 20 Sch. para. 11\(b\)](#)
- s. 4C(5)(i)(j) repealed by [2007 c. 22 Sch. 4 para. 42\(3\)\(c\)Sch. 7 Pt. 7](#)
- s. 11A(1)(eb) inserted by [2021 c. 26 Sch. 27 para. 12](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). The existing section 11A of Act repealed by paragraph 4(1) of the Schedule to the National Insurance Contributions (Reduction in Rates) Act 2023 (c. 57))
- s. 30B(4)(aa) inserted by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 9 para. 4](#)
- s. 35(1)(e) and word inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 35(3)(za) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 45(2A)(a) words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 2\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 45(2A)(b) substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 2\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 46(5)(6) inserted by [2008 c. 30 Sch. 4 para. 6\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 4 para. 6(3) repealed (1.10.2014) without ever being in force by 2014 c. 19, Sch. 12 para. 96(c); S.I. 2014/2377, art. 2(1)(a)(ii)(3)(c))
- s. 46(5)(a) words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 3](#)
- s. 47(4A) inserted by [2008 c. 30 s. 102\(6\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 102 repealed (1.10.2014) without ever being in force by 2014 c. 19, Sch. 12 para. 96(a); S.I. 2014/2377, art. 2(1)(a)(ii)(3)(c))
- s. 124(1)(ea) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 59\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 124(1)(ga) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 5\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 124(1C) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 59\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 124(6A)(6B) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 5\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 124A inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 59\(3\)](#)
- s. 130C(2)(za) inserted by [2016 asp 19 Sch. 4 para. 5](#)
- s. 138(2A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 17](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- s. 138(2B) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 19\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- s. 140(4)(ca) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 19\(6\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))

- s. 140(4A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 19\(7\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Ss. 16-21 repealed (1.4.2013) by 2012 c. 5, s. 73; S.I. 2012/3090, art. 2(1)(b))
- s. 164(2)(aa) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 164(9)(da) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 171ZA(2)(ba) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 171ZA(3A) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 171ZB(2)(ba) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 171ZB(3A) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 171ZE(2A) inserted by [2014 c. 6 s. 123\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 171ZE(2B) inserted by [2014 c. 6 s. 123\(3\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 171ZL(2)(ba) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(8\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 171ZL(8)(za) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(8\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 171ZEA(2)(ba) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(6\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 171ZEA(3)(za) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 171ZEB(2)(ba) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(7\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 171ZEB(3)(za) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 173A inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(9\)](#)
- s. 176(3A) inserted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 5\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 1 para. 2A applied by [S.I. 1995/310 reg. 18\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 1 para. 6 power to amend conferred by [1992 c. 5 s. 154\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 1 para. 2 repealed by [2007 c. 5 Sch. 8](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 1 para. 2A repealed by [2007 c. 5 Sch. 8](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 5 para. 7 power to amend conferred by [1992 c. 5 s. 154\(2\)\(d\)\(e\)](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 5 para. 12 power to amend conferred by [1992 c. 5 s. 154\(2\)\(d\)\(e\)](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 1 power to amend conferred by [1992 c. 5 s. 150\(3\)\(a\)151](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 2 power to amend conferred by [1992 c. 5 s. 150\(3\)\(a\)151](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 4 power to amend conferred by [1992 c. 5 s. 150\(3\)\(a\)151](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 5 power to amend conferred by [1992 c. 5 s. 150\(3\)\(a\)151](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 3 para. 6 power to amend conferred by [1992 c. 5 s. 150\(3\)\(a\)151](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 4 para. 2 applied by [S.I. 1995/310 reg. 15\(7\)](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 4 para. 1A repealed by [2007 c. 5 Sch. 8](#)
- Sch. 4 Pt. 4 para. 2 repealed by [2007 c. 5 Sch. 8](#)
- Sch. 4B para. 1(1)(a)para. 1(1)(b)(2) words inserted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 6\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 4C inserted by [2008 c. 30 s. 102\(5\)Sch. 3](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 102, Sch. 3 repealed (1.10.2014) without ever being in force by 2014 c. 19, Sch. 12 para. 96(a)(b); S.I. 2014/2377, art. 2(1)(a)(ii)(3)(c))
- Sch. 4C para. 7(2)(c) inserted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 7(3) inserted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(8\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 3 omitted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 7(2)(b) words inserted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(7\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 1 words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 2 words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 5(b) words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 6 words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(5\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 7(1) words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 4C para. 7(1) words substituted by [2011 c. 19 Sch. 3 para. 7\(6\)](#)
- Sch. 11 para. 2(i) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(10\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 11 para. 9 inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 63\(10\)\(b\)](#)