



Jobseekers Act 1995

1995 CHAPTER 18

PART I **E+W+S**

THE JOBSEEKER'S ALLOWANCE

[^{F1} Jobseeking][^{F1} Work-related requirements]

^{F19} The jobseeker's agreement. **E+W+S**

- ^{F2}(1) An agreement which is entered into by a claimant and an employment officer and which complies with the prescribed requirements in force at the time when the agreement is made is referred to in this Act as “a jobseeker's agreement”.
- (2) A jobseeker's agreement shall have effect only for the purposes of section 1.
- (3) A jobseeker's agreement shall be in writing and be signed by both parties.
- ^{F3}(3A) The agreement may be in electronic form and signed by means of an electronic signature (within the meaning given in section 7(2) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000).]
- (4) A copy of the agreement shall be given to the claimant.
- (5) An employment officer shall not enter into a jobseeker's agreement with a claimant unless, in the officer's opinion, the conditions mentioned in section 1(2)(a) and (c) would be satisfied with respect to the claimant if he were to comply with, or be treated as complying with, the proposed agreement.
- (6) The employment officer may, and if asked to do so by the claimant shall forthwith, refer a proposed jobseeker's agreement to [^{F4}the Secretary of State] for him to determine—
- (a) whether, if the claimant concerned were to comply with the proposed agreement, he would satisfy—
- the condition mentioned in section 1(2)(a), or
 - the condition mentioned in section 1(2)(c); and

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- (b) whether it is reasonable to expect the claimant to have to comply with the proposed agreement.
- (7) ^{F5}On a reference under subsection (6) the Secretary of State]—
- (a) shall, so far as practicable, dispose of it in accordance with this section before the end of the period of 14 days from the date of the reference;
- (b) may give such directions, with respect to the terms on which the employment officer is to enter into a jobseeker’s agreement with the claimant, as ^{F6}the Secretary of State] considers appropriate;
- (c) may direct that, if such conditions as he considers appropriate are satisfied, the proposed jobseeker’s agreement is to be treated (if entered into) as having effect on such date, before it would otherwise have effect, as may be specified in the direction.
- (8) Regulations may provide—
- (a) for such matters as may be prescribed to be taken into account by ^{F7}the Secretary of State] in giving a direction under subsection (7)(c); and
- (b) for such persons as may be prescribed to be notified of—
- (i) any determination of ^{F7}the Secretary of State] under this section;
- (ii) any direction given by an adjudication officer under this section.
- ^{F8}(9) Any determination of an adjudication officer under this section shall be binding.]
- (10) Regulations may provide that, in prescribed circumstances, a claimant is to be treated as having satisfied the condition mentioned in section 1(2)(b).
- (11) Regulations may provide that, in prescribed circumstances, a jobseeker’s agreement is to be treated as having effect on a date, to be determined in accordance with the regulations, before it would otherwise have effect.
- (12) Except in such circumstances as may be prescribed, a jobseeker’s agreement entered into by a claimant shall cease to have effect on the coming to an end of an award of a jobseeker’s allowance made to him ^{F9}or to a joint-claim couple of which he is a member.].
- (13) In this section and section 10 “employment officer” means an officer of the Secretary of State or such other person as may be designated for the purposes of this section by an order made by the Secretary of State.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 6-6L substituted for ss. 6-10 (25.2.2013 for specified purposes, 29.4.2013 for specified purposes and subsequently on the days on which and for the purposes for which "the amending provisions" are brought into force by secondary legislation) by [Welfare Reform Act 2012 \(c. 5\), ss. 49\(3\), 150\(3\); S.I. 2013/358, art. 2\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 11; S.I. 2013/983, art. 7\(1\)\(b\) \(with art. 7\(2\)\)](#) (as amended: (1.7.2013) by [S.I. 2013/1511, art. 6](#))
- F2** Ss. 6-6L substituted for ss. 6-10 (25.2.2013 for specified purposes) by [Welfare Reform Act 2012 \(c. 5\), ss. 49\(3\), 150\(3\); S.I. 2013/358, art. 2\(1\), Sch. 1 para. 11](#)
- F3** S. 9(3A) inserted (1.2.2012) by [The Social Security \(Electronic Communications\) Order 2011 \(S.I. 2011/1498\), art. 2\(2\)](#)
- F4** Words in s. 9(6) substituted (18.10.1999 for specified purposes and otherwise *prosp.*) by [1998 c. 14, ss. 86\(1\), 87\(2\), Sch. 7 para. 136\(1\); S.I. 1999/2860, art. 2\(c\), Sch. 1](#) (subject to transitional provisions in [Schs. 16-18](#)) (as amended (25.11.1999) by [S.I. 1999/3178, art. 3\(20\), Sch. 20 paras. 1\(a\), 2\(a\)](#))

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- F5** Words in s. 9(7) substituted (18.10.1999 for specified purposes and otherwise *prosp.*) by 1998 c. 14, ss. 86(1), 87(2), **Sch. 7 para. 136(2)(a)**; S.I. 1999/2860, art. 2(c), Sch. 1 (subject to transitional provisions in **Schs. 16-18**) (as amended (25.11.1999) by S.I. 1999/3178, art. 3(20), Sch. 20 paras. 1(a), **2(a)**)
- F6** Words in s. 9(7)(b) substituted (18.10.1999 for specified purposes and otherwise *prosp.*) by 1998 c. 14, ss. 86(1), 87(2), **Sch. 7 para. 136(2)(b)**; S.I. 1999/2860, art. 2(c), Sch. 1 (subject to transitional provisions in **Schs. 16-18**) (as amended (25.11.1999) by S.I. 1999/3178, art. 3(20), Sch. 20 paras. 1(a), **2(a)**)
- F7** Words in s. 9(8) substituted (18.10.1999 for specified purposes and otherwise *prosp.*) by 1998 c. 14, ss. 86(1), 87(2), **Sch. 7 para. 136(3)**; S.I. 1999/2860, art. 2(c), Sch. 1 (subject to transitional provisions in **Schs. 16-18**) (as amended (25.11.1999) by S.I. 1999/3178, art. 3(20), Sch. 20 paras. 1(a), **2(a)**)
- F8** S. 9(9) repealed (18.10.1999 for specified purposes and otherwise *prosp.*) by 1998 c. 14, ss. 86, 87(2), Sch. 7 para. 136(4), **Sch. 8**; S.I. 1999/2860, art. 2(c), Sch. 1 (subject to transitional provisions in **Schs. 16-18**) (as amended (25.11.1999) by S.I. 1999/3178, art. 3(20), Sch. 20 paras. 1(a), **2(a)**)
- F9** Words in s. 9(12) inserted (19.3.2001) by 1999 c. 30, s. 59, **Sch. 7 para. 8**; S.I. 2000/2958, **art. 2(2)**

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 9 wholly in force at 7.10.1996; s. 9 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 41(2); s. 9(13) in force (12.12.1995) by S.I. 1995/3228, **art. 2(a)**; s. 9(1)(8)(10)(11)(12) in force (12.12.1995) for the purpose of authorising the making of regulations by S.I. 1995/3228, **art. 2(b)**, **Sch.**; s. 9 in force (7.10.1996) in so far as not already in force by S.I. 1996/2208, **art. 2(b)**

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 9 amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 32(3) by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 7 para. 16\(3\)](#)
- s. 9 amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 32(3) by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 7 para. 16\(3\)](#)
- s. 9 substituted by [2012 c. 5 s. 44\(3\)](#)
- s. 9 substituted by [2012 c. 5 s. 44\(3\)](#)
- s. 9(1) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 s. 32\(3\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 32(3) repealed (29.4.2013 for specified purposes and subsequently on the days on which and for the purposes for which "the amending provisions" are brought into force by secondary legislation) by Welfare Reform Act 2012 (c. 5), s. 150(3), Sch. 14 Pt. 4; S.I. 2013/983, art. 7(1)(e) (with art. 7(2)) (as amended: (1.7.2013) by S.I. 2013/1511, art. 6))
- s. 9(2) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 13\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 9(5) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 s. 32\(3\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 32(3) repealed (29.4.2013 for specified purposes and subsequently on the days on which and for the purposes for which "the amending provisions" are brought into force by secondary legislation) by Welfare Reform Act 2012 (c. 5), s. 150(3), Sch. 14 Pt. 4; S.I. 2013/983, art. 7(1)(e) (with art. 7(2)) (as amended: (1.7.2013) by S.I. 2013/1511, art. 6))
- s. 9(5) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 13\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 9(10) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 13\(d\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 9(13) repealed by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 3](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Repealing entry in Sch. 7 Pt. 3 repealed (22.10.2012) by 2012 c. 5, Sch. 14 Pt. 3; S.I. 2012/2530, art. 2(2)(g) without ever being in force.)

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. Amending S.I. revoked (27.8.2010) by SI 2010/1906, reg. 2 without ever being in force.)

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

- s. 1(1A) substituted for s. 1(2)-(2D) by [2009 c. 24 s. 4\(2\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 4(2)(a) repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(3), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 1(2)(za) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 61\(2\)](#)
- s. 1(3A) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 61\(3\)](#)
- s. 2(3C)(e) and word repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 3(1A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 10\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force)

- s. 3(1A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 10\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force)
- s. 3(1A)(a) word repealed by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 9(4A) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 31(1) by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 7 para. 15\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 9(4A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 31\(1\)](#)
- s. 9(4A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 31\(1\)](#)
- s. 14(2A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 15\(4\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 15(1)(1A) substituted for s. 15(1) by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 16\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 15(1)(1A) substituted for s. 15(1) by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 16\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 15A(1A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 17\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 15B inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 18](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 18A18B inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 4](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 18C18D inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 5](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 20C20D inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 25\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 25 repealed (22.10.2012) by 2012 c. 5, Sch. 14 Pt. 3; S.I. 2012/2530, art. 2(2)(g) without ever being in force.)
- s. 20C20D inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 25\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 25 repealed (22.10.2012) by 2012 c. 5, Sch. 14 Pt. 3; S.I. 2012/2530, art. 2(2)(g) without ever being in force.)
- s. 20C(7) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 19\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 20D(6)(b) and word omitted by [2012 c. 10 Sch. 24 para. 13](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 14B inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 30\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 14(2) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 23\(5\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- Sch. 1 para. 14A inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 23\(6\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- Sch. 1 para. 14B inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 30\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 8ZA inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 61\(4\)](#)