
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1997 No. 983

SOCIAL SECURITY

**The Jobseeker's Allowance (Project
Work Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1997**

Made - - - - *10th March 1997*

Coming into force - - *26th May 1997*

Whereas a draft of these Regulations was laid before Parliament in accordance with section 37(2) of the Jobseekers Act 1995(1) and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament;

Now, therefore, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 19(2), (8)(b) and (10)(c), 29(1), (3) and (6)(a), 35(1)(2) and 36(2) of the Jobseekers Act 1995, and of all other powers enabling her in that behalf, and after agreement by the Social Security Advisory Committee that proposals in respect of these Regulations should not be referred to it(3) and whereas these Regulations are made with a view to ascertaining whether their provisions will, or will be likely to, encourage persons to obtain work or will, or will be likely to, facilitate the obtaining by persons of work, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and duration

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Jobseeker's Allowance (Project Work Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1997 and shall come into force on 26th May 1997.

(2) These Regulations shall cease to have effect on 25th May 1998, unless revoked with effect from an earlier date.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“the Act” means the Jobseekers Act 1995;

“appropriate office” means an office of the Department for Education and Employment which is identified in the Schedule to these Regulations and which a relevant person is required

(1) 1995 c. 18.

(2) Section 35(1) is an interpretation provision and is cited because of the meaning ascribed to the words “prescribed” and “regulations”.

(3) See section 170 and section 173(1)(b) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992, 1992 c. 5; paragraph 67 of Schedule 2 to the Jobseekers Act 1995 added that Act to the list of “relevant enactments” in respect of which regulations must normally be referred to the Committee.

to attend in accordance with a notice under regulation 23 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations;

"benefit" means income support, unemployment benefit or jobseeker's allowance or any earnings credited to a person in accordance with regulations made under section 22(5) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992(4) or section 13(4) of the Social Security Act 1975(5) and "receiving benefit" means receiving benefit which that person has claimed and received as an unemployed person or in accordance with Part I of the Act;

"employment interview" means in relation to a relevant person, an interview in respect of which he has received a notice under regulation 23 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations requiring him to attend an interview to discuss his prospects of work;

"employment officer" means a person who is an employment officer for the purposes of section 19 of the Act;

"the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations" means the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996(6);

"made a claim for jobseeker's allowance" includes treated as having made a claim for the allowance and treated as having an award of the allowance in accordance with regulations 5, 6 or 7 of the Jobseeker's Allowance (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 1996(7);

"Project Work" means the programme provided in pursuance of arrangements made by the Secretary of State under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973(8) known as Project Work and which consists of a programme of work experience and job search help lasting for any individual for an aggregate of 13 weeks;

"relevant person" means a person to whom regulation 3 applies;

"week" means any period of 7 consecutive days.

- (2) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, a reference
- (a) to a numbered regulation is to the regulation in these Regulations bearing that number;
 - (b) in a regulation to a numbered paragraph is to the paragraph in that regulation bearing that number; and
 - (c) in a paragraph to a lettered or numbered sub-paragraph is to the sub-paragraph in that paragraph bearing that letter or number.

Application

- 3.—(1) These Regulations shall apply to any person who
- (a) receives, or has received, a notice under regulation 23 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations requiring him to attend an employment interview to take place on or after 24th February 1997 at an appropriate office and is, or was, aged 18 or over but under 51 as at the date upon which he receives or received that notice and
 - (b) has made a claim for jobseeker's allowance as at the date upon which he receives or received the notice referred to in sub-paragraph (a) and has, or had been, receiving benefit for a period of two years as at that date—
 - (i) without any period of interruption, or

(4) 1992 c. 4.

(5) 1975 c. 14.

(6) S.I. 1996/207, as amended by the Jobseeker's Allowance (Amendment) Regulations 1996, S.I. 1996/1516, the Jobseeker's Allowance and Income Support (General) Amendment Regulations 1996, S.I. 1996/1517 and the Social Security and Child Support (Jobseeker's Allowance) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 1996, S.I. 1996/2538.

(7) S.I. 1996/2567.

(8) 1973 c. 10; section 2 was amended by section 25 of the Employment Act 1988 (c. 19).

- (ii) with a period of interruption which did not exceed 28 days, or
- (iii) with a number of periods of interruption, none of which exceeded 28 days.

(2) Any period of interruption which did not exceed 28 days shall be taken into account in calculating the period of two years referred to in paragraph (1).

Sanction

4.—(1) In relation to a person to whom paragraph (2) applies, “employment programme” in section 19 of the Act means, in addition to the programmes listed in regulation 75 of the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations, Project Work.

(2) This paragraph applies to any person to whom regulation 3 applies and who has been given or sent a notice in writing by an employment officer advising him that if he fails to participate in Project Work his benefit could cease to be payable or could be payable at a lower rate.

(3) In relation to a person to whom paragraph (2) applies, for sub-paragraph (ii) of paragraph (a) of regulation 69 of the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations there shall be substituted the following—

“(ii) either—

- (aa) where the determination mentioned in (i) above does not relate to Project Work, on a previous occasion the jobseeker’s allowance was determined not to be payable to him in circumstances falling within section 19(5), or
- (bb) where the determination mentioned in (i) above relates to Project Work, on a previous occasion the jobseeker’s allowance was determined not to be payable to him in circumstances falling within section 19(5) that relate to project work, and”.

Good Cause

5. Without prejudice to any other circumstances in which a person may be regarded as having good cause for any act or omission for the purposes of section 19(5)(b) of the Act, and in addition to the circumstances listed in regulation 73 of the Jobseeker’s Allowance Regulations, a person to whom regulation 4(2) applies is to be regarded as having good cause for any act or omission in relation to Project Work for the purposes of section 19(5)(b) where

- (a) there is no place available for him on Project Work or
- (b) he has already participated in Project Work for one continuous period of 13 weeks or two or more periods amounting in total to 13 weeks.

10th March 1997

Eric Forth
Minister of State,
Department for Education and Employment

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

SCHEDULE

Regulation 2(1)

<i>Region</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Appropriate Offices</i>
London and South East	East London	Barking ESJ
		Cityside ESJ
		Dagenham ESJ
		East Ham ESJ
		East Ham Central ESJ
		Hornchurch ESJ
		Isle of Dogs ESJ
		Plaistow ESJ
		Poplar ESJ
		Romford ESJ
	North East London	Stratford ESJ
		Hackney A ESJ
		Hackney B ESJ
		Ilford ESJ
		Seven Kings ESJ
		Leyton ESJ
		Loughton ESJ
		Leytonstone ESJ
		Shoreditch ESJ
		Victoria Park ESJ
Brighton	Walthamstow ESJ	
	Brighton (Pavilion) ESJ	
	Brighton (Phoenix) ESJ	
	Brighton (Regent) ESJ	
	Hove ESJ	

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<i>Region</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Appropriate Offices</i>
		Lewes ESJ
	Harlow	Newhaven ESJ Bishops Stortford ESJ Harlow ESJ
	Stevenage	Hertford ESJ Hatfield ESJ Stevenage ESJ
	Portsmouth	Waltham Cross ESJ Welwyn Garden City ESJ Havant ESJ Portsmouth (Central) ESJ Portsmouth (North) ESJ
East Midlands and Eastern	North Norfolk	Cosham ESJ Norwich (Kiln House) ESJ Dereham ESJ
	South Norfolk and Waveney	Wymondham ESJ
	Cambridgeshire	Peterborough ESJ March ESJ
	South Derbyshire	Belper ESJ Derby (Wardwick) ESJ Derby (Forester) ESJ Derby (Normanton) ESJ Derby (St Peter's) ESJ Heanor, ESJ Ilkeston, ESJ
	Leicester city	Long Eaton, ESJ Leicester (Aquis House) ESJ Leicester (Charles St) ESJ

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<i>Region</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Appropriate Offices</i>
		Leicester (Eldon St) ESJ
		Leicester (Highcross St) ESJ
		Wigston ESJ
	Greater Nottinghamshire	Arnold ESJ
		Bulwell ESJ
		Hucknall ESJ
		Beeston ESJ
		Netherfield ESJ
		Nottingham (Castle Boulevard) ESJ
		Nottingham (Watercourt) ESJ
South West	Avon Outer	Bath ESJ
		Midsomer Norton ESJ
	Bristol Central	Bristol Central ESJ
		Bedminster ESJ
		Bishopsworth ESJ
		Easton ESJ
		Filton, ESJ
		Knowle ESJ
		Westbury-on-Trym ESJ
		Shirehampton ESJ
	Avon Outer	Keynsham ESJ
		Kingswood ESJ
		Yate ESJ
		Clevedon ESJ
		Weston Super Mare ESJ
West Midlands	Sandwell	Cradley Heath ESJ
		Oldbury ESJ

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<i>Region</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Appropriate Offices</i>
		Smethwick (South Road) ESJ
		Tipton ESJ
		Wednesbury ESJ
		West Bromwich ESJ
Dudley	Dudley ESJ	
	Kingswinford ESJ	
	Halesowen ESJ	
	Stourbridge ESJ	
	Merry Hill ESJ	
	North Staffordshire	Stoke-on-Trent ESJ
		Burslem ESJ
		Cheadle ESJ
		Hanley ESJ
		Kidsgrove ESJ
		Longton ESJ
		Newcastle-under-Lyme ESJ
		Leek ESJ
		Uttoxeter ESJ
Yorkshire and Humberside	Bradford	Bradford (Easterbrook) ESJ
		Bradford (50 Vicar Lane) ESJ
		Shipley ESJ
	Wakefield and Kirklees	Spenn Valley ESJ
		Huddersfield ESJ
	South Humber	Grimsby (Bridge House) ESJ
		Grimsby (Viking House) ESJ
		Immingham ESJ
North West	West Penine	Bury ESJ

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<i>Region</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Appropriate Offices</i>
		Radcliffe ESJ
	Preston	Preston ESJ
		Bamber Bridge ESJ
		Chorley ESJ
		Leyland ESJ
	Bolton	Bolton 1 ESJ
		Bolton 2 ESJ
		Farnworth ESJ
		Westhoughton ESJ
		Horwich ESJ
		Worsley ESJ
	Wigan	Ashton-in-Makerfield ESJ
		Atherton ESJ
		Hindley ESJ
		Wigan (Hallgate) ESJ
		Wigan (King St) ESJ
		Leigh ESJ
	South West Lancashire	St Helens (Barrow House) ESJ
		St Helens (College St) ESJ
Northern	Gateshead and South Tyne	Jarrow ESJ
		South Shields
Scotland	Borders, East and Midlothian	Dalkeith ESJ
		Loanhead ESJ
		Musselburgh ESJ
		Pennicuik ESJ
	Edinburgh	Edinburgh C ESJ
		Edinburgh (High Riggs) ESJ
		Wester Hailes ESJ

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		Leith ESJ
		Portobello ESJ
	Fife	Cowdenbeath ESJ
		Dunfermline ESJ
		Inverkeithing ESJ
Lanarkshire West	Airdrie ESJ	
	Bellshill ESJ	
	Blantyre ESJ	
	Coatbridge ESJ	
	Uddingston ESJ	
	Hamilton ESJ	
	Lanarkshire	Carluke ESJ
		Lanark ESJ
		Larkhall ESJ
		Motherwell ESJ
		Shotts ESJ
		Wishaw ESJ
	Tayside	Dundee (Gellatly St) ESJ
		Dundee (Wellgate) ESJ
Wales	Heads of the Valley & Caerphilly	Bargoed ESJ
		Blackwood ESJ
		Merthyr Tydfil ESJ
		Newbridge ESJ
		Pontlloftyn ESJ
		Treharris ESJ
		Ystrad Mynach ESJ
	Outer Swansea	Cymmer ESJ
		Neath ESJ

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		Port Talbot ESJ
		Glynneath ESJ
		Ystradgynlais ESJ
		Portardawe ESJ
	Inner Swansea	Gorseinon ESJ
		Morrison ESJ
		Swansea ESJ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations apply, with modifications, the pilot scheme established by the Income Support (Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1996 (S.I. 1996/1252) and the Jobseeker's Allowance (Pilot Scheme) Regulations 1996 (S.I. 1996/1307) to persons attending offices in further parts of the country. The scheme relates to persons who have been claiming income support, unemployment benefit or jobseeker's allowance or a combination of benefits and who fulfil the criteria in regulation 3 as to age, the period over which they have been receiving benefit and location of appropriate offices at which they are required to attend (as identified in the Schedule) ("relevant persons").

Regulation 4 has the effect that if a person who is a relevant person for the purpose of these Regulations without good cause refuses or fails to participate in the employment programme known as Project Work or loses his place on Project Work due to misconduct, he will receive a sanction under section 19 of the Jobseekers Act and the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (S.I. 1996/207). The effect of this will be a two week or four week loss or reduction in his jobseeker's allowance.

Regulation 5 adds to the list of circumstances to be regarded as good cause for any act or omission for the purposes of section 19 of the Jobseekers Act.

These Regulations do not impose a charge on businesses.