

2002 No. 670

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security (Work-focused Interviews for Lone Parents) Amendment Regulations 2002

Made - - - - - 12th March 2002

Laid before Parliament 15th March 2002

Coming into force 8th April 2002

The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 2A(1), (3)(b) to (f), (4), (5)(a) and (b), (6), (7) and (8), 189(1), (4) to (6) and (7A) and 191 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992(a) and of all other powers enabling him 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(b), hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Work-focused Interviews for Lone Parents) Amendment Regulations 2002 and shall come into force on 8th April 2002.

(2) In these Regulations “the Work-focused Interviews for Lone Parents Regulations” means the Social Security (Work-focused Interviews for Lone Parents) and Miscellaneous Amendments Regulations 2000(c).

Amendment of the Work-focused Interviews for Lone Parents Regulations

2.—(1) The Work-focused Interviews for Lone Parents Regulations shall be amended in accordance with the following paragraphs.

(2) In regulation 1, for paragraph (3)(f) there shall be substituted the following—

“(f) subject to the preceding sub-paragraphs, come into force on 7th April 2003 in respect of lone parents who on that date are entitled to income support and are not responsible for and living in the same household as a child under the age of 5 years and 3 months;

(g) subject to the preceding sub-paragraphs, where a lone parent—

(i) is responsible for and living in the same household as a child who reaches the age of 5 years and 3 months after 7th April 2003; and

(ii) is not on the date that child reaches that age responsible for and living in the same household as a younger child,

come into force in respect of that lone parent on the date that child reaches the age of 5 years and 3 months.”.

(a) 1992 c.5; section 2A was inserted by section 57 of the Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 (c.30); section 191 is an interpretation provision cited because of the meaning given to the word “prescribed”.

(b) See section 173(1)(b) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992.

(c) S.I. 2000/1926 as amended by S.I. 2001/1189 and S.I. 2001/3210.

(3) In regulation 2—

(a) after paragraph (1)(b)(i) there shall be inserted the following heads—

“(ia) is a lone parent to whom paragraph (4) applies, is required to take part in an interview after the expiry of six months from the date on which—

(aa) he took part in an interview under sub-paragraph (a); or

(bb) a determination was made under regulation 6 with effect that he is to be treated as having taken part in such an interview; or

(ib) took part, or failed to take part, or was treated as having taken part, in an interview pursuant to the requirement in head (ia), is required to take part in an interview after the expiry of six months from the date on which—

(i) he took part in that interview;

(ii) he failed to take part in that interview; or

(iii) a determination was made under regulation 6 with effect that he is to be treated as having taken part in that interview; or”;

(b) after paragraph (3) there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

“(4) This paragraph applies to a lone parent who—

(a) makes a claim for income support on or after 8th April 2002; and

(b) has taken part or has been treated as having taken part in an interview under paragraph (1)(a).”.

(4) In regulation 4(a) for the words “5 years and 3 months” there shall be substituted the words “3 years”.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

12th March 2002

Nick Brown
Minister of State
Department for Work and Pensions

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Social Security (Work-focused Interviews for Lone Parents) and Miscellaneous Amendments Regulations 2000 (S.I. 2000/1926). They impose a requirement for additional work-focused interviews on certain lone parents making claims for income support on or after 8th April 2002.

For lone parents claiming income support on or after 8th April 2002, the requirement to participate in work-focused interviews will arise when their youngest child is aged 3 years. Lone parents already claiming income support will be required to take part in work-focused interviews when their youngest child reaches 5 years 3 months. Also, an additional work-focused interview will be required six months after lone parents have taken part, or were treated as having taken part, in an initial interview.

These Regulations do not impose a charge on business.

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