8 Coke Lane, Dublin 7, Tel: 01 662 9212 Email: <u>info@onefamily.ie</u> www.onefamily.ie



Jobseeker's Allowance

Jobseeker's Allowance is paid by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection (DEASP). You may get Jobseeker's Allowance if you are aged between 18 and 66, unemployed and seeking work. As the Allowance is means-tested your means must be below a certain level to satisfy DEASP regulations.

In order to qualify for Jobseeker's Allowance you must be able to show evidence of genuinely seeking work to the Department. If you get part-time work or casual work up to and including 3 days per week you may still get Jobseeker's Allowance for the other days. If you are self-employed you may also be entitled to Jobseeker's Allowance depending on your income.

- Be unemployed (you must be fully unemployed or unemployed for at least 4 days out of 7)
- Be capable of work
- Be available for and genuinely seeking work

The DEASP may request meetings and participation in employment support schemes, work experience or training. Payments can be reduced if you fail to meet these requests.

If you have been on One Parent Family Payment and the payment is ending due to the age of your youngest child then you may qualify for Jobseeker's Allowance – Transition, if you have a child aged between 7 and 14.

If your youngest child is over the age of 14 and you are either not in work or are working part time (for 3 days a week) then you may be eligible for Jobseeker's Allowance.

Jobseeker's Allowance rates for 2018

Maximum rate for people aged 26 and over		
New and existing claimants	Personal rate	Increase for a qualified child
Maximum rate	€198	€31.80

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Income Disregard

The income disregard for earnings for Jobseeker's Allowance is less than the income disregard for One Parent Family Payment so whereas €110 of earnings are ignored for OFP for Jobseeker's Allowance it is €20 a day for a maximum of 3 days or €60 in total.

Application for the payment can either be made in your local social welfare office or Intreo centre.

Payment of Jobseeker's Allowance may be collected weekly from your local Post Office on provision of valid photographic identification.

If you qualify for Jobseeker's Allowance you may also be entitled to Rent Supplement, Fuel Allowance, Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance and Medical Card.