

# Pathways to Work

Supporting Jobseekers



# Pathways to Work

“The department will engage with and provide supports (such as education, training, work placement and job searching assistance ) to each unemployed person to increase their prospects of securing a job”

Referral to Pathways To Work is through an approved DSP payment for Jobseekers benefit (JB) or Jobseekers Allowance (JA)

# What is the Process?

- One-stop-shop to access services and plan your return to work:
  - Case Officers provide support and guidance to help you find work which is suited to your needs, skills and aptitudes and supports to achieve this.
  - Develop a Personal Progression Plan
- Rights and responsibilities (mutual obligations)

# Jobseeker Payments - conditions

- You must be available for and genuinely seeking full-time work. If not, your claim may be disallowed.
- You may be disqualified from payment for up to 9 weeks if you fail or neglect to avail yourself of any reasonable opportunity of obtaining suitable employment.
- You may be fully disqualified if you refuse a specific offer of suitable employment.

# Jobseeker Payments – conditions continued ...

Under new arrangements you must:

- Agree to participate in a course of training considered appropriate to your training needs and personal circumstances
- Avail of any reasonable offer of training
- Adhere to actions agreed in your Personal Progression Plan

**Or your jobseekers payment may be reduced**

# One-to-One Interview with a Case Officer

- Opportunity to discuss skills, strengths and support needs
- Assist you to explore job options
- Consider other options such as:
  - Training
  - Community Employment
  - Education
  - Apprenticeship/Traineeship
  - Training Grants TESH / TATS (explained later)
  - WPP and Internship
- Develop your Personal Progression Plan

# Jobseeker Services

## OFFICER ASSISTED SERVICES:

- Career guidance and job-seeking support
- Advice on employment incentives and supports
- FÁS Training programmes
- Information on other vocational training options
- Job Clubs
- Referral to the Local Employment Services (LES)

# Jobseeker Self-Service Supports

- Computerised Guidance System (Career Directions)
- Jobs Ireland – access to Job Vacancies by Internet & Free phone **1800 611 116**
- Employment Service Offices - Touch Screen Kiosk, Job Vacancies, Work Placement Opportunities and Training Courses
- Daily newspapers - Job Adverts



# FÁS Training Programmes

- In Centre Day Training
  - 8.30 am to 3.45 pm Mon to Thurs (1.30 pm on Fri)
- Evening Courses
  - 6.30 to 9.30pm some courses on Sat or Fri pm
- Blended Learning
  - Blend of on-line course material + training centre workshops
- eCollege
  - All course delivered on-line with phone or e-mail support
- Community Training
  - Local Training Initiatives (LTIs) and Community Training Centres (CTC's)

# Community Employment

- 19.5 hours a week
- One year on DSP payment to apply
- €208 CE payment (variable with dependants)
- 1 year duration 3 years in maximum
- Maintain secondary Benefits
- CE Schemes within local communities

# Education Support Options

- For persons on Jobseekers Benefit or Allowance who wish to pursue an approved 2nd or 3rd level education course
- 18 years if out of education for more than 2 years
- Must be 21 years or over
- There are 2 strands to the scheme
- Second Level Option
- Third Level Option

# Other Education and Training

- Local VEC (Literacy courses, Early school-leavers courses, etc.)
- VTOS (Vocational Training Opportunities Schemes)
- PLC courses (Post Leaving Cert)
- Skillnets (<http://www.skillnets.ie>)
- Springboard / Bluebrick.ie
- Partnership companies

# Technical Employment Support Grant

- To help remove barriers preventing entry / re-entry into the labour market
- Identified during the course of a guidance interview
- A grant towards the cost of training that is not currently available in your locality from a national provider within a reasonable time period
- Grant limit for such training applies
- Training must be certified – aligned to National Framework of Qualifications or FETAC accredited or relevant industry standard

# Technical Assistance and Training Grant Scheme

- Grants can be awarded for the following:
  - Business set-up costs for people in receipt of an Enterprise Allowance
  - Essential training not available through national provider or other agencies

# Work Placement Programme

- On-the-job experiential learning programme
- Unpaid and Voluntary
- Placement up to 9 months duration
- Open to unemployed people
  - Two Streams – Graduate and non-graduate
  - Does not impact on payment of Social Welfare entitlements but you must apply for Jobseekers Allowance if no longer entitled to Jobseekers Benefit

# JobBridge National Internship Scheme

- Internship with a company for either 6 or 9 months
- Aims to assist in break the unemployment cycle for unemployed jobseekers who are unable to get a job:
  - No relevant experience
  - New entrants to the labour market
  - Completed education or training
  - Experienced but wishing to learn new skills
- Must be currently on the Live Register
- And have been in receipt of JB, JA or signing for Credits for a total of 3 months or more in the last 6 months. Eligibility recently expanded to include One-parent-family and recipients of Disability Allowance
- €50 top-up paid in addition to current DSP entitlement
- For information and current posts go to [www.jobbridge.ie](http://www.jobbridge.ie)



# Part-time/Casual Employment

## Jobseekers Benefit

- Work up to 3 days per week
- Rate of payment is based on number of days worked
- Can also work week-on / week-off

# Part-time/Casual Employment

## **Jobseekers Allowance**

- Work up to 3 days per week
- Rate of payment is means tested and based on
  - a) Number of days worked
  - b) Weekly income from employment
- Rate is also affected by other sources of income such as Spouse/Partner working
- Part-time Job Incentive Scheme available if working less than 24 hours per week

# Family Income Supplement (FIS)

- Family Income Supplement (FIS) is a weekly tax-free payment for families, including one-parent families at work on low pay
- You may qualify if you:
  - Work at least 19 hours every week
  - Satisfy the income limit conditions
  - Have at least 1 child who normally lives with you or is financially supported by you

# Self-employment Support Services – 2 Schemes

## 1) Short-Term Enterprise Allowance

- To qualify you must:
  - be entitled to Jobseeker's Benefit
  - have 104 paid PRSI contributionor
  - qualify for statutory redundancy
- You will be paid the equivalent of your weekly Social Protection payment until your entitlement to Jobseekers Benefit expires.

# Self-employment Support Services – 2 Schemes

## 2) Back to Work Enterprise Allowance

- To qualify you must:
  - be 12 months signing **and**
  - have an entitlement to Jobseekers Allowance
- The scheme will last for 2 years and you will receive:
  - 100% **of your current payment** in year 1
  - 75% in year 2.

# Other Employment Supports

- Employer Job (PRSI) Exemption Scheme
  - Employers exempted from their share of PRSI for 18 months when they take on an additional member of staff.
  - Person must have been unemployed and signing for 6 months or more.
  - Job must be new and additional, be for at least 30 hours a week and last for at least six months.

# Supplementary Welfare Allowance

- If you are entitled to JA / JB you may be entitled to payments under SWA e.g.:
  - Rent Supplement
  - Mortgage Interest Supplement
  - Exceptional Needs Payment
  - Urgent Needs Payment

# Further Information

- [www.intreo.ie](http://www.intreo.ie) Intreo One-Stop-Shop
- [www.welfare.ie](http://www.welfare.ie) Dept of Social Protection
- [www.fas.ie](http://www.fas.ie) FÁS and Jobs Ireland
- [www.jobbridge.ie](http://www.jobbridge.ie) JobBridge National Internship
- [www.bluebrick.ie](http://www.bluebrick.ie) Springboard, ICT Skills, education
- [www.mabs.ie](http://www.mabs.ie) Money Advice and Budgeting Service
- [www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie) Health Service Executive (HSE)
- [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie) Citizen Information Board
- [www.deti.ie](http://www.deti.ie) Dept of Enterprise Trade & Innovation
- [www.revenue.ie](http://www.revenue.ie) Revenue Commissioners
- [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie) Department of Education and SKILLS
- [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie) Access to all Government services



# Summary

- Employment Supports
- Rights and Responsibilities

# Next Steps

- One-to-one interviews dates and times will be allocated
- If you have a CV please bring with you to your interview and complete the registration form
- Collect copy of this presentation

# Questions

- Is there anything you wish to have clarified?
- If personal, you can discuss at your one-to-one interview

**Thank you**

