STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2000 No. 197

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Jobseeker's Allowance (Amendment No. 3) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000

Made--24th May 2000Coming into operation19th June 2000

The Department for Social Development, in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 21(2) and (10)(c) of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995(1) and now vested in it(2), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Jobseeker's Allowance (Amendment No. 3) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000 and shall come into operation on 19th June 2000.

Amendment of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations

2.—(1) The Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996(**3**) shall be amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) to (4).

(2) In regulation 69(1)(b)(4) (prescribed period for purposes of Article 21(2)) after "in any case" there shall be inserted "(other than a case where a jobseeker's allowance is determined not to be payable in circumstances relating to the employment programme known as "Core Gateway" specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(iv)(5))".

(3) In regulation 69(1)(c) after "in any case" there shall be inserted "(other than a case where a jobseeker's allowance is determined not to be payable in circumstances relating to the employment programme known as "Core Gateway" specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(iv))".

(4) In regulation 75(1)(6) (interpretation of Article 21 of the Order and Part V of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations)—

(a) in sub-paragraph (a) after "and" in the first place where that word occurs there shall be added ", except in the case of head (iv),", and

⁽¹⁾ S.I. 1995/2705 (N.I. 15)

⁽²⁾ See Article 8(b) of S.R. 1999 No. 481

⁽³⁾ S.R. 1996 No. 198; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 1997 No. 541, S.R. 1998 No. 182 and S.R. 2000 No. 9

⁽⁴⁾ Regulation 69 was substituted by regulation 2(3) of S.R. 2000 No. 9

⁽⁵⁾ Head (iv) is added by regulation 2(4)(b) of these Regulations

⁽⁶⁾ Regulation 75 was substituted by regulation 8 of S.R. 1997 No. 541 and amended by S.R. 1998 No. 182

(b) after head (iii) there shall be added the following-

"(iv) Core Gateway, being a programme of up to two weeks' duration, consisting of advice and assistance on job search activity and the development of job search skills.".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department for Social Development on 24th May 2000.

L.S.

John O'Neill Senior Officer of the Department for Social Development

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations amend the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996 ("the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations").

In particular, they prescribe the "Core Gateway" course as an employment programme for the purposes of the Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations. The effect of this is that if a person, without good cause, refuses or fails to participate in that programme, or loses his place on it through misconduct, his jobseeker's allowance will not be payable for a prescribed period. These regulations set that period at two weeks, regardless of whether the person has already been sanctioned in the past year or not.

These Regulations make in relation to Northern Ireland only provision corresponding to provision contained in Regulations made by the Secretary of State for Social Security in relation to Great Britain and accordingly, by virtue of section 149(3) of, and paragraph 10 of Schedule 5 to, the Social Security Administration (Northern Ireland) Act 1992 (c. 8), are not subject to the requirement of section 149(2) of that Act for prior reference to the Social Security Advisory Committee.