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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2009 No. 52**

**HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES**

**The Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges  
(Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009**

*Made* - - - - *16th February 2009*

*Coming into operation* *9th March 2009*

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety<sup>(1)</sup> makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 45, 98, 106 and 107(6) of, and paragraphs 1(b) and 1B of Schedule 15 to, the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972<sup>(2)</sup> and with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel in so far as they relate to the remission of charges, and in conjunction with the Department of Finance and Personnel in so far as they relate to travelling expenses.

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 and shall come into operation on 9th March 2009.

(2) In these Regulations—

“the principal Regulations” means the Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004<sup>(3)</sup>.

**Amendment of regulation 13 of the principal Regulations**

2. At the end of regulation 13 of the principal Regulations add the following paragraph—

“(6) Where the claimant is a member of a polygamous marriage, the resources and requirements of members of that marriage must be calculated in the same manner as those of the claimant and they must be taken into account as if they were the resources and requirements of the claimant, except that the applicable amount shall be calculated in accordance with regulation 18 of the Income Support Regulations.”

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(1) See S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1) Article 3(6)

(2) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14); relevant amending Instruments are S.I. 1988/594 (N.I. 2) Article 14 and S.I. 1991/194 (N.I. 1) Article 34 and Part II of Schedule 5 and S.R. 1999 No. 11

(3) S.R. 2004 No. 91; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 2004 Nos. 156 and 162, S.R. 2005 Nos. 107 and 386, S.R. 2006 Nos. 136, 190, and 333, S.R. 2007 Nos. 264 and 437 and S.R. 2008 Nos. 39, 292 and 391

**Amendment of Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations, Table A**

3. In Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations (modifications of the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987(4)), Table A—

- (a) in column (2) of the entry relating to regulation 40 (calculation of income other than earnings), insert at the end—

“After paragraph (5) insert the following paragraphs—

“(6) Where—

- (a) the claimant is a member of a couple or a polygamous marriage;
- (b) the claimant or the claimant’s partner (or either or any of them if the claimant has more than one partner) is receiving a contributory employment and support allowance; and
- (c) that benefit has been reduced under regulation 63 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations(5),

that reduction shall not affect the amount of benefit that is to be taken into account.

(7) Where—

- (a) the claimant is a single claimant or a lone parent;
- (b) the claimant is receiving a contributory employment and support allowance; and
- (c) that benefit has been reduced under regulation 63 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations,

that reduction shall not affect the amount of benefit that is to be taken into account.””

- (b) in column (2) of the entry relating to Schedule 8 (sums to be disregarded in the calculation of earnings), after the second entry for paragraph 4 insert —

“After paragraph 4 insert—

“4A.—(1) Income is disregarded under this sub-paragraph where —

- (a) the claimant is undertaking work which falls within the categories in regulation 45(2) to (4) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations;
- (b) the partner of a claimant is in receipt of employment and support allowance and is undertaking work which falls within the categories in paragraphs (2) to (4) of regulation 45 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations but paragraph (c) is not applicable; or
- (c) both a claimant and the partner of the claimant are in receipt of employment and support allowance and both are undertaking work which falls within the categories in regulation 45(2) to (4) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations.

(2) Where sub-paragraph (1)(a) or (b) applies, income is disregarded to the same extent as it would be disregarded under paragraphs 5 and 6 of Schedule 7 to the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations.

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(4) [S.R. 1987 No. 459](#)

(5) See the definition of “the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations” in regulation 2(1) of [S.R. 1987 No. 459](#) as inserted by regulation 12(2)(d) of [S.R. 2008 No. 286](#)

(3) Where sub-paragraph (1)(c) applies, the aggregate income of the claimant and the partner is disregarded to the same extent as it would be disregarded under paragraphs 5 and 6 of that Schedule in the case of an individual.

(4) The other disregards in paragraphs 4 to 9 are not applicable where income is disregarded under this paragraph.

(5) In this paragraph “employment and support allowance” means an employment and support allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act(6).””

#### **Amendment of Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations, Table B**

4. In Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations (modifications of the Income Support (General) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1987), in Table B—

(a) in column (2) after the first entry relating to regulation 18(1) (polygamous marriages), insert the following entry—

“For regulation 18 (1)(a) and (b) substitute—

“(a) where each member of the marriage is aged less than 60—

(i) the amount applicable to the claimant plus the amount applicable to one of the other members of the marriage determined in accordance with sub-paragraph (5) of paragraph 1 of Schedule 2; and

(ii) an amount equal to the difference between the amounts specified in sub-paragraphs (5) and (1) of paragraph 1 of that Schedule in respect of each of the members of the marriage who were not taken into account in determining the amount under (i) above;

(b) where any member of the marriage is aged 60 or more—

(i) the amount applicable to the claimant plus the amount applicable to one of the other members of the marriage determined in accordance with sub-paragraph (6) of paragraph 1 of Schedule 2; and

(ii) an amount equal to the difference between the amounts specified in sub-paragraphs (6) and (2) of paragraph 1 of that Schedule in respect of each of the members of the marriage who were not taken into account in determining the amount under (i) above.””

(b) in column (2) of the entry relating to Schedule 2—

(i) after the second entry insert—

“After paragraph 1 (personal allowances) insert—

“**1ZA.**—(1) A single claimant or lone parent aged less than 25 who—

(a) is entitled to an ESA component; or

(b) is incapable of work and has been incapable of work for a continuous period of not less than 28 weeks which begins no earlier than 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008,

has a personal allowance equal to the amount of the personal allowance which would apply if that person were not less than 25 years old.

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(6) See the definition of “the Welfare Reform Act” in regulation 2(1) of [S.R. 1987 No. 459](#) as inserted by regulation 12(2)(b) of [S.R. 2008 No. 286](#)

(2) In sub-paragraph (1) “ESA component” means a support component or a work-related activity component within the meaning of section 4 of the Welfare Reform Act.””

(ii) for the entry relating to paragraph 11 (disability premium), substitute—

“For paragraph 11(1) substitute the following entries—

“**11.**—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the condition is that—

- (a) where the claimant is a person aged less than 60 who is a single claimant or a lone parent, an additional condition specified in paragraph 12 is satisfied; or
- (b) where the claimant has a partner and both the claimant and the partner are aged less than 60, an additional condition specified in paragraph 11A(1) or 12 is satisfied by at least one of them; or
- (c) where the claimant is a person aged less than 60 who is a single claimant or a lone parent, an additional condition specified in paragraph 11A(2) is satisfied.”;

After paragraph 11 insert—

“**11A.**—(1) The additional conditions referred to in paragraph 11(1)(b) are—

- (a) the claimant is a member of a couple and a member of that couple has been awarded employment and support allowance which includes an ESA component; or
- (b) the claimant is a member of a couple and a member of that couple has been in receipt of employment and support allowance for 28 weeks, or is incapable of work and has been incapable of work for a continuous period of not less than 28 weeks which starts no earlier than 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

(2) The additional conditions referred to in paragraph 11(1)(c) are—

- (a) the claimant is a single claimant or lone parent who is in receipt of an employment and support allowance which includes a support component;
- (b) the claimant is a single claimant or lone parent who is in receipt of an employment and support allowance which includes a work-related activity component;
- (c) the claimant is a single claimant or lone parent who has been in receipt of employment and support allowance for a period of 28 weeks, or is incapable of work and has been incapable of work for a continuous period of not less than 28 weeks which starts no earlier than 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008;
- (d) the claimant is a—
  - (i) single claimant or lone parent;
  - (ii) severely disabled person within the meaning of paragraph 13(2)(a)(i); and
  - (iii) person who has been in receipt of employment and support allowance for a period of not less than 28 weeks, or is

incapable of work and has been incapable of work for a continuous period of not less than 28 weeks which starts no earlier than 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

(3) In this paragraph—

“employment and support allowance” means an employment and support allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act;

“ESA component” means either a support component or a work related activity component; and

“support component” and “work-related activity component” have the same meanings as in section 4 of that Act.”

(iii) after the entry relating to paragraph 13(2)(a)(ii) and (b)(iii) insert—

“For paragraph 13A(1) (enhanced disability premium)(7) substitute—

“**13A.**—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the conditions are that—

(a) the claimant is aged less than 60 and, where the claimant is a member of a couple, the claimant’s partner is aged less than 60; and

(b) the claimant or, as the case may be, the claimant’s partner is—

(i) in receipt of employment and support allowance which includes a support component; or

(ii) in receipt of the care component of disability living allowance at the highest rate prescribed under section 72(3) of the Contributions and Benefits Act (8) or would be in receipt of that component at that rate but for either a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations made under section 113(2) of that Act or an abatement as a consequence of hospitalisation.”.

After 13A(2) insert—

“(3) In this paragraph “employment and support allowance” means an employment and support allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act and “support component” has the same meaning as in section 4 of that Act.”.

In paragraph 15(4)(a) (weekly amount of disability premium) for the entry in the left column substitute—

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“(a) where the condition in paragraph 11(1)(a) is satisfied or the condition in paragraph 11(1)(c) and an additional condition in paragraph 11A(2) (b) or (c) are satisfied;”

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“(aa) where the condition in paragraph (aa) 11(1)(c) and an additional component in paragraph 13 of

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(7) Paragraph 13A was inserted by regulation 2(c)(ii) of [S.R. 2000 No.367](#)

(8) See the definition of “the Contributions and Benefits Act” in [S.R. 1987 No. 459](#) as inserted by regulation 4(2)(a) of [S.R. 1993 No. 373](#)

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condition in paragraph 11A(2) (a) or (d) are satisfied;

Schedule 4 to the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations;”

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“(b) Where the condition in paragraph 11(1)(b) and an additional condition in paragraph 11A(1) or paragraph 12 are satisfied.””

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Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety on 16th February 2009



*Christine Jendoubi*  
A senior officer of the  
Department of Health, Social Services and  
Public Safety

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel insofar as the foregoing Regulations relate to Travelling Expenses on 16th February 2009



*Mary McIvor*  
A senior officer of the  
Department of Finance and Personnel

The Department of Finance and Personnel hereby approves the foregoing Regulations insofar as they relate to the remission of charges.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 16th February 2009



*Mary McIvor*  
A senior officer of the  
Department of Finance and Personnel

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations further amend the Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (“the principal Regulations”), which provide for remission and payment of certain charges which would otherwise be payable under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 and for payment by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety of travelling expenses incurred in attending a hospital.

Regulation 2 makes provision for the calculation of the resources and requirements of members of polygamous marriages.

In particular, regulation 3 provides that where a person who is in receipt of employment and support allowance has a sanction applied under regulation 63 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008, his entitlement to remission of Health Service charges and the payment of Health Service travel expenses shall be calculated as if the sanction had not been applied. Regulation 3 also provides for specific disregards for those who undertake exempt work under regulation 45 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Regulation 4 provides for those aged under 25 to have included in the calculation of their entitlement to a remission of Health Service charges and the payment of Health Service travel expenses a personal allowance of an amount equal to that for a person aged 25 or over. This will apply to those who are either in receipt of employment and support allowance and have been awarded an employment and support allowance component, or who have been incapable of work for a continuous period of 28 weeks since 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008. Regulation 4 also provides for various premiums to be included in the calculation for entitlement to remission of Health Service charges and the payment of Health Service travel expenses, for those who receive Employment and Support Allowance.