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DRAFT STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2015 No.**

**The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015**

**PART 2**

**Universal credit**

**CHAPTER 1**

**Entitlement and awards**

*Entitlement*

**Basic conditions**

- 9.—(1) For the purposes of Article 8, a person meets the basic conditions who—
- (a) is at least 18 years old,
  - (b) has not reached the qualifying age for state pension credit,
  - (c) is in Northern Ireland,
  - (d) is not receiving education, and
  - (e) has accepted a claimant commitment.
- (2) Regulations may provide for exceptions to the requirement to meet any of the basic conditions (and, for joint claimants, may provide for an exception for one or both).
- (3) For the basic condition in paragraph (1)(a) regulations may specify a different minimum age for prescribed cases.
- (4) For the basic condition in paragraph (1)(b) the qualifying age for state pension credit is that referred to in section 1(6) of the State Pension Credit Act (Northern Ireland) 2002.
- (5) For the basic condition in paragraph (1)(c) regulations may—
- (a) specify circumstances in which a person is to be treated as being or not being in Northern Ireland;
  - (b) specify circumstances in which temporary absence from Northern Ireland is disregarded;
  - (c) modify the application of this Part in relation to a person not in Northern Ireland who is by virtue of sub-paragraph (b) entitled to universal credit.
- (6) For the basic condition in paragraph (1)(d) regulations may—
- (a) specify what “receiving education” means;
  - (b) specify circumstances in which a person is to be treated as receiving or not receiving education.
- (7) For the basic condition in paragraph (1)(e) regulations may specify circumstances in which a person is to be treated as having accepted or not accepted a claimant commitment.