



Jobseekers Act 1995

1995 CHAPTER 18

PART I

THE JOBSEEKER'S ALLOWANCE

[^{F1} Jobseeking][^{F1} Work-related requirements]

^{F17} **Actively seeking employment.**

- ^{F2}(1) For the purposes of this Act, a person is actively seeking employment in any week if he takes in that week such steps as he can reasonably be expected to have to take in order to have the best prospects of securing employment.
- (2) Regulations may make provision—
- with respect to steps which it is reasonable, for the purposes of subsection (1), for a person to be expected to have to take in any week;
 - as to circumstances (for example, his skills, qualifications, abilities and physical or mental limitations) which, in particular, are to be taken into account in determining whether, in relation to any steps taken by a person, the requirements of subsection (1) are satisfied in any week.
- (3) Regulations may make provision for acts of a person which would otherwise be relevant for purposes of this section to be disregarded in such circumstances (including circumstances constituted by, or connected with, his behaviour or appearance) as may be prescribed.
- (4) Regulations may prescribe circumstances in which, for the purposes of this Act, a person is to be treated as actively seeking employment.
- (5) Regulations under subsection (4) may, in particular, provide for a person who is actively seeking employment—
- only in his usual occupation,
 - only at a level of remuneration not lower than that which he is accustomed to receive, or

Changes to legislation: *Jobseekers Act 1995, Section 7 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- (c) only in his usual occupation and at a level of remuneration not lower than that which he is accustomed to receive,
to be treated, for the permitted period determined in his case for the purposes of section 6(5), as actively seeking employment during that period.
- (6) Regulations may provide for this section, and any regulations made under it, to have effect in relation to a person who has reached the age of 16 but not the age of 18 as if “employment” included “training”.
- (7) Where it has been determined [^{F3}(“the first determination”)] that a person is to be treated, for the purposes of this Act, as actively seeking employment in any week, the question whether he is actively seeking employment in that week may subsequently be determined [^{F4}under section 9 or 10 of the Social Security Act 1998].
- (8) For the purposes of this section—
“employment” means employed earner’s employment or, in prescribed circumstances—
(a) self-employed earner’s employment; or
(b) employed earner’s employment and self-employed earner’s employment; and
“employed earner’s employment” and “self-employed earner’s employment” have the same meaning as in the Benefits Act.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Ss. 6-6L substituted for ss. 6-10 (25.2.2013 for specified purposes, 29.4.2013 for specified purposes and subsequently on the days on which and for the purposes for which "the amending provisions" are brought into force by secondary legislation) by [Welfare Reform Act 2012 \(c. 5\)](#), **ss. 49(3)**, 150(3); [S.I. 2013/358](#), **art. 2(1)**, **Sch. 1 para. 11**; [S.I. 2013/983](#), **art. 7(1)(b)** (with **art. 7(2)**) (as amended: (1.7.2013) by [S.I. 2013/1511](#), **art. 6**)
- F2** Ss. 6-6L substituted for ss. 6-10 (25.2.2013 for specified purposes) by [Welfare Reform Act 2012 \(c. 5\)](#), **ss. 49(3)**, 150(3); [S.I. 2013/358](#), **art. 2(1)**, **Sch. 1 para. 11**
- F3** Words in s. 7(7) repealed (18.10.1999 for specified purposes and otherwise *prosp.*) by [1998 c. 14](#), **ss. 86**, 87(2), **Sch. 7 para. 135(a)**, **Sch. 8**; [S.I. 1999/2860](#), **art. 2(c)**, **Sch. 1** (subject to transitional provisions in **Schs. 16-18**) (as amended (25.11.1999) by [S.I. 1999/3178](#), **art. 3(20)**, **Sch. 20 paras. 1(a)**, **2(a)**)
- F4** Words in s. 7(7) substituted (18.10.1999 for specified purposes and otherwise *prosp.*) by [1998 c. 14](#), **ss. 86(1)**, 87(2), **Sch. 7 para. 135(b)**; [S.I. 1999/2860](#), **art. 2(c)**, **Sch. 1** (subject to transitional provisions in **Schs. 16-18**) (as amended (25.11.1999) by [S.I. 1999/3178](#), **art. 3(20)**, **Sch. 20 paras. 1(a)**, **2(a)**)

Commencement Information

- I1** S. 7 wholly in force at 7.10.1996; s. 7 not in force at Royal Assent, see s. 41(2); s. 7(2)(3)(4)(5)(6)(8) in force (12.12.1995) for the purpose of authorising the making of regulations by [S.I. 1995/3228](#), **art. 2(b)**, **Sch.**; s. 7 in force (7.10.1996) in so far as not already in force by [S.I. 1996/2208](#), **art. 2(b)**

Changes to legislation:

Jobseekers Act 1995, Section 7 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2010/875 reg. 16Sch. 2](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Amending S.I. revoked (27.8.2010) by SI 2010/1906, reg. 2 without ever being in force.)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 1(1A) substituted for s. 1(2)-(2D) by [2009 c. 24 s. 4\(2\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 4(2)(a) repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(3), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 1(2)(za) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 61\(2\)](#)
- s. 1(3A) inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 61\(3\)](#)
- s. 2(3C)(e) and word repealed by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 14 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 3(1A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 10\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force)
- s. 3(1A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 10\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force)
- s. 3(1A)(a) word repealed by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 7 Pt. 1](#)
- s. 9(4A) amendment to earlier affecting provision 2009 c. 24 s. 31(1) by [2012 c. 5 Sch. 7 para. 15\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 9(4A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 31\(1\)](#)
- s. 9(4A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 31\(1\)](#)
- s. 14(2A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 15\(4\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 15(1)(1A) substituted for s. 15(1) by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 16\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 15(1)(1A) substituted for s. 15(1) by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 16\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 15A(1A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 17\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 15B inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 18](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 18A18B inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 4](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 18C18D inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 5](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 20C20D inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 25\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 25 repealed (22.10.2012) by 2012 c. 5, Sch. 14 Pt. 3; S.I. 2012/2530, art. 2(2)(g) without ever being in force.)
- s. 20C20D inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 25\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. S. 25 repealed (22.10.2012) by 2012 c. 5, Sch. 14 Pt. 3; S.I. 2012/2530, art. 2(2)(g) without ever being in force.)

- s. 20C(7) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 19\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- s. 20D(6)(b) and word omitted by [2012 c. 10 Sch. 24 para. 13](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 14B inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 30\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 14(2) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 23\(5\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- Sch. 1 para. 14A inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 1 para. 23\(6\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 1 repealed (8.5.2012) by 2012 c. 5, s. 150(2)(k), Sch. 14 Pt. 2 without ever being in force.)
- Sch. 1 para. 14B inserted by [2009 c. 24 s. 30\(1\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 8ZA inserted by [2012 c. 5 s. 61\(4\)](#)