

**2004 No. 1043**

**SOCIAL SECURITY**

**The Employment Zones (Amendment) Regulations 2004**

*Made* - - - - *1st April 2004*

*Laid before Parliament* *5th April 2004*

*Coming into force* - - *26th April 2004*

The Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 60(1) to (3) and (9) and 83(4) and (6) of the Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999(a) and section 19 of the Jobseekers Act 1995(b), and all other powers enabling him in that behalf, and after agreement by the Social Security Advisory Committee that proposals in respect of these Regulations should not be referred to it (c), hereby makes the following Regulations:

**Citation and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Employment Zones (Amendment) Regulations 2004 and shall come into force on 26th April 2004.

**Amendments to the Employment Zones Regulations 2003**

2. The Employment Zones Regulations 2003(d) shall be amended in accordance with the following provisions—

- (a) in regulation 1(2) after the words “these Regulations” insert “, except where the context otherwise requires”;
- (b) in regulation 1(3) after the words “or otherwise” insert the word “than”;
- (c) in regulation 2(1)(c) for the words “or these Regulations in the previous twelve months but left that programme before completing the programme” substitute “, these Regulations or the Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004(e) in the previous twelve months but did not complete the programme.”;
- (d) in regulation 2(2) for the word “proceeding” substitute the word “preceding”;
- (e) in regulation 2(2)(c) for the words “in the previous 12 months but left that programme before completing the programme” substitute “pursuant to these Regulations or the Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004 in the previous twelve months but did not complete the programme.”;

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(a) 1999 c.30; subsection (9) is an interpretation provision cited for the meaning given to the words “employment” and “prescribed”.

(b) 1995 c.18.

(c) See sections 170 and 173(1)(b) of the Social Security Administration Act 1992; section 84(1) of and Schedule 12 Part II (paragraphs 79 and 81(a)) to the Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 added that Act to the list of “relevant enactments” in respect of which regulations must normally be referred to the Committee.

(d) S.I. 2003/2438.

(e) S.I.2004/934

(f) after regulation 6 insert the following regulations—

**“Cessation**

7.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), where a person to whom a direction given under regulation 2 or 3 would otherwise apply informs the Secretary of State of a change of address that results in that person no longer being ordinarily resident within an employment zone or, in the case of a person to whom regulation 3 applies, his address for payment of his jobseeker’s allowance is no longer within an employment zone, then—

- (a) any sanction incurred by that person under sections 19 or 20A of the Jobseekers Act 1995<sup>(a)</sup> as a result of his refusing or failing to participate in, or giving up a place on an employment zone programme shall end; and
- (b) subject to paragraph (2), these Regulations shall cease to apply to that person.

(2) Where that person asks to complete an employment zone programme in which he is participating, regulations 4 and 5 of these Regulations shall continue to apply until he ceases to participate in that programme but he shall not incur a sanction under section 19 or 20A of the Jobseekers Act 1995 if, for whatever reason, he subsequently refuses or fails to participate in, or gives up his place on that programme.

**Revocation and Saving**

8.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Employment Zone Regulations 2000<sup>(b)</sup> are hereby revoked.

(2) In the case of a claimant to whom notice to attend an initial interview has been sent in accordance with regulation 5 of the Employment Zones Regulations 2000 before 26th April 2004, those Regulations shall continue to apply until the claimant has completed the employment zone programme or is notified by an employment officer that he is no longer required to participate in an employment zone programme subject to the Employment Zones Regulations 2000.”.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions.

1st April 2004

*P Hollis*  
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State,  
Department for Work and Pensions

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<sup>(a)</sup> 1995 c.18.

<sup>(b)</sup> S.I. 2000/721 as amended by S.I. 2000/1279; S.I. 2000/1305; S.I. 2001/261; S.I. 2001/1865 and S.I. 2001/2521.

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

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

These Regulations amend the Employment Zones Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2438) (“the 2003 Regulations”) which make provision for jobseeker’s allowance claimants to participate in an employment zone programme established by the Secretary of State in areas of Great Britain known as “employment zones” to assist jobseekers to obtain sustainable employment.

Regulation 1 provides for citation and for commencement.

Regulation 2 provides for amendments to the 2003 Regulations, to accommodate changes consequential upon the Employment Zones (Allocation to Contractors) Pilot Regulations 2004 (S.I.2004/934) and to insert regulations 7 and 8 into the 2003 Regulations. Where a person informs the Secretary of State that he no longer lives within an employment zone the inserted regulation 7(1) provides that the 2003 Regulations will cease to apply and any sanctions imposed as a result of a person failing to participate in an employment zone programme will end. Where such a person asks to complete an employment zone programme that he has already begun, inserted regulation 7(2) provides that regulation 4 (stages of employment zone programme) and regulation 5 (modification of the requirements of the Jobseekers Act 1995) of the 2003 Regulations will continue to apply whilst that person is participating in the programme. However, if he subsequently ends his participation in that programme, he will not be subject to a benefit sanction. The inserted regulation 8 revokes the Employment Zones Regulations 2000 (S.I. 2000/721) from 26th April 2004 except in the case of a claimant to whom a notice to attend an initial interview for the purpose of participating in an employment zone programme has been sent before 26th April 2004. In this case those Regulations will continue to apply until the claimant has completed the programme or is notified by an employment officer that he is no longer required to participate in the programme.

A full regulatory impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as it has no impact on the costs of business.

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