

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**1995 No. 2705**

**The Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995**

**Part II**

**The Jobseeker's Allowance**

*Denial of jobseeker's allowance*

**[<sup>F1</sup>Higher-level sanctions**

**21.**—[<sup>F2</sup>(1) The amount of an award of a jobseeker's allowance is to be reduced in accordance with this Article in the event of a failure by the claimant which is sanctionable under this Article.

(2) It is a failure sanctionable under this Article if a claimant—

- (a) through misconduct loses employment as an employed earner;
- (b) without a good reason voluntarily leaves such employment;
- (c) without a good reason refuses or fails to apply for, or accept if offered, a situation in any employment which an employment officer has informed him is vacant or about to become vacant;
- (d) without a good reason neglects to avail himself of a reasonable opportunity of employment;
- (e) without a good reason fails to participate in any scheme within Article 19A(1) which is prescribed for the purposes of this Article.

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (2)(b), in such circumstances as may be prescribed, including in particular where a person has been dismissed by his employer by reason of redundancy within the meaning of Article 174(1) of the Employment Rights (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 after volunteering or agreeing to be so dismissed, a person who might otherwise be treated as having left his employment voluntarily is to be treated as not having left voluntarily.

(4) Regulations are to provide for—

- (a) the amount of a reduction under this Article;
- (b) the period for which such a reduction has effect, not exceeding 18 months in relation to any failure sanctionable under this Article.

(5) Regulations under paragraph (4)(b) may in particular provide for the period of a reduction to depend on either or both of the following—

- (a) the number of failures by the claimant sanctionable under this Article;
- (b) the period between such failures.

(6) Regulations may provide—

- (a) for cases in which no reduction is to be made under this Article;
- (b) for a reduction under this Article made in relation to an award that is terminated to be applied to any new award made within a prescribed period of the termination.

---

**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to The Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

(7) During any period for which the amount of a joint-claim jobseeker's allowance is reduced under this Article by virtue of a failure by one of the claimants which is sanctionable under this Article, the allowance is payable to the other member of the couple.]]

- |  |
|--|
| <p><b>F1</b> Arts. 21-21C substituted (1.6.2016 for specified purposes, 27.9.2017 in so far as not already in force) for art. 21 by <a href="#">The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/2006)</a>, arts. 2(2), <b>52(1)</b>; <a href="#">S.R. 2016/234</a>, art. 2(2)(a)(i); <a href="#">S.R. 2017/190</a>, art. 3(1)(2)(c)</p> <p><b>F2</b> Arts. 21-21C repealed (27.9.2017 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 <a href="#">The Welfare Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/2006)</a>, art. 2(2), <b>Sch. 12 Pt. 4</b>; <a href="#">S.R. 2017/190</a>, art. 9 (with arts. 10-25)</p> |
|--|

**Changes to legislation:**

There are outstanding changes not yet made by the legislation.gov.uk editorial team to The Jobseekers (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- power to am. (prosp.) by [1998 c. 47 s.87](#)
- art. 21(5)(b)(ii) words substituted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 26\(3\)\(d\)](#)
- art. 21(6)(b)(d) excluded by [S.I. 1997/932 reg. 5](#)
- art.21(6)(b)(d) excluded by [S.I. 1997/932 reg.5](#)
- art. 21(6)(c) words substituted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 26\(3\)\(d\)](#)
- art. 21(10)(a) repealed by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 4 Pt. 3](#)
- art. 21(10)(b) words substituted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 26\(3\)\(d\)](#)

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

- Order modified by [S.R. 2019/211 art. 2\(2\)\(c\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Affecting Order revoked (19.12.2020) without ever being in force by S.R. 2020/347, arts. 1(1), 2)
- Order modified by [S.R. 2024/21 art.002\(2\)\(c\)](#)

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

- Sch. 1 para. 14(1) Sch. 1 para. 14 renumbered as Sch. 1 para. 14(1) by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 23\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 2(4) added by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 23\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 14(2) inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 23\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 14A and cross heading inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 23\(6\)](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 8ZA inserted by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) art. 66\(4\)](#)
- art. 3(1A) substituted for art. 3(2)-(2D) by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- art. 3(2)(za) inserted by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) art. 66\(2\)](#)
- art. 3(3A) inserted by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) art. 66\(3\)](#)
- art. 3A3B inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(3\)](#)
- art. 3A(6) repealed by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 4 Pt. 1](#)
- art. 5(1A) inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 11\(3\)](#)
- art. 11(4A) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 25\(1\)](#) by [S.I. 2015/2006 \(N.I.\) Sch. 7 para. 14\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- art. 11(4A) inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) s. 25\(1\)](#)
- art. 13A-13C and cross-heading inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 3](#)
- art. 16(2A) inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 16\(4\)](#)
- art. 17(1)(1A) substituted for art. 17(1) by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 17\(2\)](#)
- art. 17A(1A) inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 18\(2\)](#)
- art. 17B inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 19](#)
- art. 20A20B and cross-heading inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 4](#)
- art. 20C20D inserted by [2010 c. 13 \(N.I.\) Sch. 1 para. 5](#)