
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1996 No. 519

**The Social Security (Back to Work Bonus)
(No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1996**

Connecting period

- 4.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) to (4), a connecting period arises where—
- (a) within 12 weeks of a person ceasing to be entitled to a qualifying benefit he attends training, except where the person enters into a contract of service with the provider of the training, and lasts throughout the period of training;
 - (b) within 12 weeks of a person ceasing to be entitled to a qualifying benefit a maternity allowance becomes payable, and lasts throughout the period maternity allowance is payable to the person;
 - (c) a person ceases to be entitled to a qualifying benefit and in respect of the whole or part of the period of 12 weeks immediately following the day he ceases to be entitled, he becomes entitled (“the new entitlement”) to any one of the following benefits—
 - (i) incapacity benefit;
 - (ii) severe disablement allowance, or
 - (iii) invalid care allowance,and the connecting period lasts until the new entitlement ends or until the expiration of a period of 2 years from and including the date in respect of which the new entitlement began, whichever is the earlier;
 - (d) a person ceases to be entitled to one of the benefits mentioned in sub-paragraph (c) and in respect of the whole or part of the period of 12 weeks immediately following the day he ceases to be so entitled, he becomes entitled to the same or another of those benefits, and the connecting period lasts until the end of the period of entitlement to that benefit or until the expiration of the period of 2 years from and including the day in respect of which the new entitlement mentioned in sub-paragraph (c) began, whichever is the earlier, or
 - (e) a person who is treated under paragraph (4) of regulation 3 as having established a period of entitlement to a qualifying benefit under paragraph (5) of that regulation satisfies sub-paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) of this paragraph within 12 weeks of the date which applies in his case in accordance with regulation 3(6), and lasts throughout the period the person satisfies sub-paragraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d).

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1)(d) where 2 periods of incapacity for work within the meaning of section 30C(1) of the Benefits Act(1) are separated by a period of more than 8 weeks, the second of those periods is only a connecting period where, in the weeks between the 2 periods of incapacity for work, the person was entitled to a qualifying benefit which ceased with the onset of the second of those periods of incapacity for work.

(1) Section 30C was inserted by Article 5(1) of the Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (Northern Ireland) Order 1994 (S.I.1994/1898 (N.I. 12))

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

(3) In any relevant period, only one connecting period which arises in accordance with paragraph (1)(c) or (d) shall apply in any particular case, and for this purpose, a “relevant period” is the period which falls between periods of entitlement to a qualifying benefit.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(d) any part of the period of up to 12 weeks mentioned in that sub-paragraph in which the person was not entitled to one of the benefits to which paragraph (1)(c) refers shall be disregarded in determining the period of 2 years.