
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2016 No. 216

The Universal Credit Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

PART 8

CLAIMANT RESPONSIBILITIES

CHAPTER 2

SANCTIONS

Reduction periods

Low-level sanction

101.—(1) This regulation specifies the reduction period for a sanctionable failure under Article 32 of the Order (other sanctions) where—

- (a) the claimant falls within Article 26 (claimants subject to work preparation requirement) or 27 (claimants subject to all work-related requirements) of the Order on the date of that failure; and
- (b) it is a failure to comply with—
 - (i) a work-focused interview requirement under Article 20(1),
 - (ii) a work preparation requirement under Article 21(1),
 - (iii) a work search requirement under Article 22(1)(b) (to take any particular action specified by the Department to obtain paid work etc.), or
 - (iv) a requirement under Article 28(1), (3) or (4) (connected requirements: interviews and verification of compliance).

(2) Where the claimant is aged 18 or over on the date of the sanctionable failure, the reduction period is the total of—

- (a) the number of days beginning with the date of the sanctionable failure and ending with—
 - (i) the day before the date on which the claimant meets a compliance condition specified by the Department,
 - (ii) the day before the date on which the claimant falls within Article 24 of the Order (claimants subject to no work-related requirements),
 - (iii) the day before the date on which the claimant is no longer required to take a particular action specified as a work preparation requirement by the Department under Article 21, or
 - (iv) the date on which the award terminates (other than by reason of the claimant ceasing to be, or becoming, a member of a couple),whichever is soonest, and

- (b) whichever of the following number of days is applicable in the claimant's case—

- (i) 7 days, if paragraphs (ii) and (iii) do not apply,
- (ii) 14 days, if there was another sanctionable failure of a kind mentioned in paragraph (1) in the 364 days preceding the failure in question for which a 7 day reduction period applies, or
- (iii) 28 days, if there was another sanctionable failure of a kind mentioned in paragraph (1) in the 364 days preceding the failure in question for which a 14 day or 28 days reduction period applies.

(3) Where the claimant is aged 16 or 17 years on the date of the sanctionable failure, the reduction period is—

- (a) the number of days beginning with the date of the sanctionable failure and ending with —
 - (i) the day before the date on which the claimant meets a compliance condition specified by the Department,
 - (ii) the day before the date on which the claimant falls within Article 24 of the Order (claimants subject to no work-related requirements),
 - (iii) the day before the date on which the claimant is no longer required to take a particular action specified as a work preparation requirement by the Department under Article 21, or
 - (iv) the date on which the award terminates (other than by reason of the claimant ceasing to be, or becoming, a member of a couple),

whichever is soonest, and

- (b) if there was another sanctionable failure of a kind mentioned in paragraph (1) within 364 days, but not within 13 days, beginning with the date of the current failure, 7 days.