

STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2016 No. 270

The Discretionary Support Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016

PART 3

Eligibility

Grant eligibility

12.—(1) Discretionary support may be awarded in the form of a grant where the conditions in paragraph (2) are satisfied.

(2) A grant will only be awarded where—

- (a) the grant is to provide assistance for a claimant or their immediate family to remain or begin living independently in the community; or
- (b) the claimant or their immediate family are prevented from remaining in their home; or
- (c) the grant is to provide assistance in the form of living expenses where the claimant is over the acceptable debt threshold; or
- (d) where the claimant is eligible for a loan for living expenses and cannot afford to make repayment.

[^{F1}(e) the grant is to provide assistance in the form of living expenses where the claimant or any member of their immediate family is diagnosed with COVID-19 or is advised to self-isolate in accordance with guidance published by the Regional Agency for Public Health and Social Well-being.]

(3) For the purposes of paragraph 2, sub-paragraphs [^{F2}(a), (b) and (e)] only one grant may be awarded to a claimant in any rolling 12 month period from the date an award is made except in the event of a disaster.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph 2, sub-paragraphs (c) and (d) only one living expenses grant may be awarded to a claimant in any rolling 12 month period from the date an award is made.

(5) A grant shall not be awarded for any of the items and services specified in Schedule 2.

(6) In this regulation “acceptable debt threshold” means the level of debt determined as acceptable to the Department.

Textual Amendments

F1 Reg. 12(2)(e) added (25.3.2020) by [The Discretionary Support \(Amendment\) \(COVID-19\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2020 \(S.R. 2020/44\)](#), regs. 1, **2(a)**

F2 Words in reg. 12(3) substituted (25.3.2020) by [The Discretionary Support \(Amendment\) \(COVID-19\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2020 \(S.R. 2020/44\)](#), regs. 1, **2(b)**

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Discretionary Support Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2016, Section 12.