

**INOU Welfare Rights  
Information Services**

# **Discussion Forum**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2023**

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## **Full-time Work & GSW**

**Exploring issues, and reviewing options,  
for Jobseeker's who are not fit for /  
capable of full-time Employment**

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# Genuinely Seeking Work



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# Schemes

## Main Categories / Schemes

The main payment categories of payment for consideration can be sorted by Jobseeker's Schemes and non-Jobseeker's Schemes.

Jobseeker's Schemes	Non-Jobseekers Schemes
Jobseeker's Allowance	Disability Allowance
Jobseeker's Benefit	One Parent Family Payment
Jobseeker's Benefit (Self-Employed)	Invalidity Pension
Jobseeker's Allowance Transition	Carer's Allowance / Benefit



## GSW Conditionality

Genuinely Seeking Work (GSW) conditionality applies to most, but not all Jobseeker's payments. It does not apply to any other DSP payments

GSW applies	GSW does not apply
Jobseeker's Allowance	Disability Allowance
Jobseeker's Benefit	Invalidity Pension
Jobseeker's Benefit (Self-Employed)	Carer's Allowance / Benefit
	Jobseeker's Allowance Transition



# Genuinely Seeking Work

Genuinely Seeking Work (GSW) applies to JA, JB and JBSE. It is one of the key criteria for qualification for a Jobseeker's payment, even though JB and JBSE are based on Social Insurance Contributions (PRSI).

GSW requires that a person is seeking full-time employment in that they cannot :

- choose to take-up part-time employment only or instead of / in preference to seeking / taking up full-time work
- restrict efforts to look for full-time employment based on education / training / part-time work / caring / family duties etc.

GSW does not apply to other Social Welfare payments, where the person has the choice to look for work – either full-time part time without 'control' or GSW engagement by the DSP.

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# GSW Issues

## Person not fit for full-time work:

- Physical disability / injury - disability
- Mental Health Issues - disability
- Clinical Medical Diagnosis - disability
- Drug / Alcohol Dependency Issues

## Self-declared not available for work:

- Returning to Education / Completing Education only (personal decision)
- Only wants / available for part-time work (various reasons)
- Caring duties – young children
- Caring duties – sick / disabled / elderly person

## Self-declared not available for certain types of work:

- Based on previous experience / type of work only
- Based on level of education only
- Not willing to train / re-train
- Not willing to travel / start again / other

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# Example: Mary

Mary is single and has been on Jobseeker's Allowance for 4 years. She lives in private rented accommodation, on HAP, and has a medical card.

She has been engaged with by DSP / Intreo in the last few weeks in relation to looking for work and her efforts to Genuinely Seek Work.

Mary suffers from stress, anxiety and depression. She is in receipt of prescription medication and attends her doctor, but has not been referred to DA by her doctor.

She has attended counselling and hospital in the past but no longer attends.

Mary has retail and office experience, but feels she is unable to work in those environments full-time because of stress and anxiety.

Her doctor has advised / provided a letter that she is unfit for full-time work and could only work up to 30 hours per week in suitable employment.

Mary is not sure if she should / can continue with her JA claim or if she should / could apply for Disability Allowance.

She is concerned that her Jobseeker's Allowance payment could be stopped and that she will not qualify for Disability Allowance or any other payment.

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# Example: John

John was employed as a truck driver for over 20 years. He has a partner, not working / not on social welfare, and two dependent children.

He suffered a back injury at home which resulted in a restriction on his ability to drive and engage in heavy manual labour. Scans and X-rays have confirmed the injury and the degenerative nature of the injury.

John was on Illness Benefit for 2 years. Before his IB claim finished he received a letter from the IB section advising that on review of his IB claim, the IB section was of the opinion that he will not qualify for Invalidity Pension.

John's doctor confirmed that he is unfit to drive / engage in heavy manual work and is only fit for light part-time work. John has no retail / sales / IT skills and does not see this as an option for him – either retraining or employment.

John applied for Invalidity Pension but was refused, he sought a review and appeal but both were unsuccessful. His SWA has stopped after the unsuccessful appeal.

John applied for a Jobseeker's payment, when he informed DSP / Intreo he was only looking for / fit for part-time work his Jobseeker's application was refused on GSW.

He is not sure what payment or options are open to him.

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# Other Payment Options



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# Other payment options?

## **Jobseeker's payment – SWA Basic payment (short or long-term)**

- Means Test / Work – Income Options
- Ongoing Status / Evaluation

## **Jobseeker's payment – Disability Allowance - *(not optional to JA)***

- Medical Qualification
- Means Test / Work – Income Options

## **Jobseeker's payment – Invalidity Pension**

- Medical Qualification / Work – Income Options
- PRSI Contributions

## **Jobseeker's payment – Carer's Payment (Carer's Allowance / Carer's Benefit)**

- Level of Care needed
- Means Test (CA) / PRSI (CB) / Work – Income Options



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# Questions?



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