

Employer Services Factsheet – COVID 19

The information contained in this factsheet will signpost you to up-to-date information for employers during COVID-19.

Employer Helpline

The Department for Communities is committed to supporting employers, and as part of our support from Monday 30th March 2020 we will open two dedicated helplines for any employer who needs help to advertise job vacancies or has queries relating to our services for employers.

For help and advice on our services contact 0238 237 6692 or 02890 539 458, alternatively you can email dfc.employerservices@nissa.qsi.gov.uk

Employers Online (NI)

EmployersOnline is a cost free service which enables employers to post job vacancies online.

By registering on www.employersonlineni.com, you can submit vacancies which will be posted on the same day to JobCentreOnline.

Employers can notify and manage their job vacancies online in a quick, easy and convenient way.

As an employer you can enter job specifications, qualifications required, wage details and any other requirements specific to their vacancies, with the ability to manage their account online 24/7.

JCOL reaches a wide audience, advertising current job vacancies throughout Northern Ireland, as well as vacancies in the Republic of Ireland. The site is available for jobseekers 24 hours a day and 7 days a week and currently advertises on average over 2000 vacancies at any one time across 20 different sectors.

Job Centre Online (NI)

This is a free online service which enables jobseeker to search for work at www.jobcentreonline.com

Registering with JobCentre Online allows those looking for a job to apply for vacancies directly to employers by uploading and sending their CV or completed Job Centre Application Form online.

Jobseekers can target their search for jobs in the sector they wish to work and receive email alerts to new jobs notified to the site.

The JCOL platform supports both the posting of vacancies and the submission of available applicants to assist match supply of workforce to meet the labour market demands.

NI Business Info

Free service offered by Invest Northern Ireland, is the official online channel for business advice and guidance in Northern Ireland.

<https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/campaign/coronavirus-updates-support-your-business>

<https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/content/redundancy-options>

Furloughed Workers – Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

Furloughed workers are kept on employer's payroll, rather than being laid off. To qualify for the Job Retention Scheme, employees should not undertake work for employer while furloughed. HMRC will reimburse 80% of furloughed workers wage costs, up to a cap of £2,500 per month.

<https://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/content/coronavirus-support-available-through-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme>

Other Useful Websites

Department for Communities

For up-to-date information from Department for Communities please visit:

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/landing-pages/covid-19-service-updates>

HM Revenue & Customs

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses>

Labour Relations Agency (LRA)

LRA provide an impartial and confidential employment relations service to those engaged in industry, commerce and the public services.

<https://www.lra.org.uk/>

Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce

Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce is committed to customer service and the commercial success of members.

<http://www.northernirelandchamber.com/coronavirus-support-hub/>

The Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)

Offers members a wide range of vital business services including advice, financial expertise and support

<https://www.fsb.org.uk/>

What benefits can I get and how do I claim?



Universal Credit is a payment for people over 18 but under State Pension age who are on a low income or out of work. It includes support for the cost of housing, children and childcare.



<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/universal-credit>



Universal Credit Helpline

Freephone

0800 012 1331

Textphone

0800 012 1441

Contribution Based Benefits

If you have worked and paid enough National Insurance contributions, usually within the last 2 years, you may be able to claim a contribution-based benefit.



New Style Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)

www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/jobseekers-allowance



Jobseeker's Allowance

Freephone

0800 022 4250



New Style Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/employment-and-support-allowance



Employment & Support Allowance

Freephone

0800 085 6318

Make the Call

To make sure you're getting all the benefits, services and supports you're entitled to, contact the Make the Call Benefit Advice Line or visit their website.



<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/campaigns/unclaimed-benefits>



Make the Call Benefit Advice Helpline

Freephone

0800 232 1271