

## What's in this Booklet

This booklet gives the rates of payment for the various payments provided by the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs. It also contains the percentage rates of pay-related social insurance (PRSI) contributions for employees, employers and for self-employed people.

Tugann an leabhrán seo liosta dos na ráta íocaíochtaí éagsúla a chuireann an Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialacha, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh ar fáil. Chomh maith leis sin taispeánann sé na rátaí árachais sóisialaigh pá-choibhneasa (ÁSPC) a bhaineann le fostaithe, fostóirí agus daoine atá féin-fhostaithe.

Detailed Information Leaflets on all the Department's schemes are available free of charge from:

- **your local Social Welfare Office**  
or from:
- **Information Service**  
Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs  
Áras Mhic Dhiarmada  
Store Street  
Dublin 1.  
Tel: (01) 8748444

Rates of Payment	Payable:
— From the Department —————→	from <b>May 1999</b>
— PRSI Contributions —————→	from <b>6 April 1999</b>
— Payments from Health Boards —————→	for <b>1999</b>

Please note that the tables contained in this booklet for some of the means - tested payments are not exhaustive and the relevant rate should be checked with the section of the Department dealing with that payment.

Payments available from the Health Boards are shown on pages 26 and 27. For more information on these services, you should contact:

- **your local Health Board Office**  
or
- **Department of Health and Children**  
Hawkins House  
Hawkins Street  
Dublin 2.  
Tel: (01) 6714711

# contents

## Pay-Related Social Insurance

General Information	1
PRSI - Free Allowance for Employees	1
Recipients of Widow's and Widower's Pension/One-Parent Family Payment	1
Earnings Thresholds for PRSI	1
Contributions for Self-Employed People	2
Voluntary Contributions	2
PRSI Contribution Rates:	
— Class A	3
— Classes J, E	4
— Classes B, C	5
— Classes D, H	6
— Classes K, M	7
— Classes S, P	8

## Unemployment Payments

Unemployment Benefit	9
Unemployment Assistance	9
Part-time Job Incentive Scheme	9

## Family Income Support Payments

Child Benefit	10
Maternity Benefit	10
Adoptive Benefit	10
Health & Safety Benefit	10
Family Income Supplement	11
Supplementary Welfare Allowance	11
Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance	11
Carer's Allowance	12
Widow's and Widower's (Non-Contributory) Pension	13
Deserted Wife's Allowance	13
Prisoner's Wife's Allowance	13
One-Parent Family Payment	14
Widow's and Widower's (Contributory) Pension	15
Deserted Wife's Benefit	15
Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension	15

## Employment Supports

Farm Assist	16
Back to Education Allowance	16
Back to Work Allowance (Employees)	16
Back to Work Enterprise Allowance	16

## Payments for Ill or Incapacitated People

Disability Benefit (to be known as Sickness Benefit)	17
Invalidity Pension (to be known as Disability Pension)	17
Disability Allowance	18
Blind Person's Pension	19

## Occupational Injuries Benefits Payments

Injury Benefit	20
Unemployability Supplement	20
Disablement Benefit	20
Medical Care Scheme	20
Constant Attendance Allowance	21
Death Benefits (Survivor's Benefits)	21

## Payments for Retired or Elderly People

Retirement Pension	22
Old Age (Contributory) Pension	22
Pre-Retirement Allowance	22
Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension	23

## Extra Benefits

Butter Vouchers	24
Fuel Allowance	24
Smokeless Fuel Allowance	24
Free Electricity Allowance	24
Free Natural Gas Allowance	24
Free Bottled Gas Refill Allowance	25
Free Television Licence	25
Free Telephone Rental Allowance	25
Back to School Clothing & Footwear Allowance	25
Bereavement Grant	25

## Payments from Health Boards

Blind Welfare Allowance	26
Infectious Diseases Maintenance Allowance	26
Other Allowances and Grants	26
Charges in Public Hospitals	27
Income Guidelines for Medical Card	27
Drugs Payment Scheme	27

Appendix 1	28
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## Useful Addresses

Head Offices of the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs	29
Offices Administering Health Services	30

## Pay-Related Social Insurance (PRSI)

The rates of PRSI from 6 April, 1999 given in the following tables include the Social Insurance Contribution and the Health Contribution (2%) but DO NOT include the 0.25% FÁS Apprenticeship Training Levy payable by certain designated employers (see **SW 14** for details).

The employee's portion of the social insurance contribution is paid on the reckonable earnings up to a ceiling of £25,400. The employer's portion continues to be payable on the reckonable earnings of each employee up to £35,000.

The 2% Health Contribution is payable by the employee on ALL reckonable earnings under Classes A1, AX, J1, B1, C1, D1, H1, K1 and S1.

### PRSI-Free Allowance for Employees

From 6 April, 1999, the weekly (non-cumulative) PRSI-Free Allowance of £100 applies to the employees' social insurance contribution in Classes A, E and H. The allowance for people in Classes B, C, D and S is £20 per week. This allowance does not apply to the Health Contribution and it does not affect the employer deduction.

### Recipients of Widow's/Widower's Pension/One-Parent Family Payment

Men and women receiving a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension or One-Parent Family Payment are exempt from paying the 2% Health Contribution. Medical Card holders are also exempt from this contribution.

### Earnings Thresholds for PRSI

In general PRSI deductions are decided by the nature of the employment and the amount of the employees gross reckonable earnings in any week. The following earnings thresholds apply to Class A (employees in industrial, commercial and service-type employment under a contract of service and new entrants to the Public Service) except where otherwise indicated.

- **Up to £29.99 (from ALL employments)**  
PRSI payable at Class J0, regardless of hours worked.
- **£30.00 — £217.00 (individual employments)**  
The exemption from payment of the 2% Health Contribution applies to employees in ALL classes with earnings of £217 or less and PRSI is payable at Class A0, B0, etc..
- **£217.01 — £280.00 (individual employments)**  
This earnings threshold applies to Classes AX or AW\* (\*medical card holders, people in receipt of a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment, or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance).



Note: In all other classes when earnings exceed £217 per week PRSI is payable at Classes B1/B2, C1/C2, D1/D2, H1/H2, J1/J2, K1/M or S1/S2.

- In excess of £280.00 (individual employments)  
Employees in Class A who earn £280.01 or more in any week pay PRSI at Class A1 or A2\* (\*medical card holders, people in receipt of a Social Welfare Widow's or Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment, or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance).

### Contributions for Self-Employed People

Self-employed people, with a total income of £2,500 or more in the tax year, are liable to pay Class S social insurance contributions. These contributions are payable on gross income less allowable superannuation and capital allowances. The arrangements for paying self-employed contributions are:

- those who pay their tax direct to the Collector-General will pay their Social Insurance Contributions and Health Contribution with their income tax. They will be liable for a Social Insurance Contribution of 5% of income exceeding £1,040 up to a ceiling of £25,400 or £215, whichever is greater, in addition to the Health Contribution where applicable;
- those paying PAYE tax will have their contributions deducted from their income by their employers;
- those who have been told by an Inspector of Taxes that they need not make a return of income, are liable to pay a flat rate contribution of £124 a year to the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs. (These contributions can be paid by instalments.);
- those whose principle means of livelihood comes from share fishing and who have been classified as self-employed may opt to pay an additional contribution for certain benefits under Class P. They will pay a contribution of 5% of income (up to £25,400) or £215 whichever is the greater, in addition to the PRSI being paid under Class S.

### Voluntary Contributions

If you cease to be covered by compulsory PRSI, either as an employee or as a self-employed person, and you are under age 66, you may opt to become insured on a voluntary basis, provided you satisfy certain conditions. See *information leaflet SW 8* for details. There are three rates of Voluntary Contributions:

<b>High Rate</b>	6.6%	for people who paid PRSI at Classes A, E and H
<b>Low Rate</b>	2.6%	for people who paid PRSI at Classes B, C and D
		If your income was less than £4,750 in the 1998/99 tax year, you must pay a minimum Voluntary Contribution as a % of £4,750.
<b>Special Rate</b>		for people previously insured at Class S, there is a flat rate Voluntary Contribution of £215.

High Rate	Low Rate	Special Rate	Benefits Covered
✓			Retirement Pension
✓		✓	Old Age (Contributory) Pension
✓	✓	✓	Widow's and Widower's (Contributory) Pension
✓	✓	✓	Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
✓	✓	✓	Bereavement Grant.

## Private Sector Employments

EE : Employee ER : Employer

Class A			CUMULATIVE EARNINGS CEILINGS					
Weekly Earnings Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly earnings	Up to and including £25,400			From £25,400.01 to £35,000		
			EE %	ER %	Total %	EE %	ER %	Total %
£30 - £217	A0	First £100 Balance	Nil	*8.50	8.50	Nil	*8.50	8.50
			4.50	*8.50	13.00	Nil	*8.50	8.50
£217.01 - £280	AX	First £100 Balance	2.00	*8.50	10.50	2.00	*8.50	10.50
			6.50	*8.50	15.00	2.00	*8.50	10.50
	**AW	First £100 Balance	Nil	*8.50	8.50	Nil	*8.50	8.50
			4.50	*8.50	13.00	Nil	*8.50	8.50
In excess of £280	A1	First £100 Balance	2.00	*12.00	14.00	2.00	*12.00	14.00
			6.50	*12.00	18.50	2.00	*12.00	14.00
	**A2	First £100 Balance	Nil	*12.00	12.00	Nil	*12.00	12.00
			4.50	*12.00	16.50	Nil	*12.00	12.00
Community Employment Participants ONLY	A9	ER	on full allowance					0.50
		EE	on allowance OVER £100					4.50

\* An additional 0.25% FÁS Apprenticeship Training Levy may be payable.

\*\* Class AW or A2 applies to Medical Card Holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's/Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.

## People within Class A

People in industrial, commercial and service-type employment who are employed under a contract of service with reckonable earnings of £30 or more per week from all employments, Civil and Public Servants recruited from 6 April, 1995.

## Class A Benefits

- Unemployment Benefit
- Disability Benefit
- Maternity Benefit
- Adoptive Benefit
- Health and Safety Benefit
- Invalidity Pension
- Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Old Age (Contributory) Pension
- Retirement Pension
- Bereavement Grant
- Treatment Benefit
- Occupational Injuries Benefit.

## Private Sector Employments

EE : Employee ER : Employer

Class J			CUMULATIVE EARNINGS CEILINGS					
Weekly Earnings Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly earnings	Up to and including £25,400			From £25,400.01 to £35,000		
			EE %	ER %	Total %	EE %	ER %	Total %
Up to £217	<b>J0</b>	All	Nil	*0.50	0.50	Nil	*0.50	0.50
In excess of £217	<b>J1</b>	All	2.00	*0.50	2.50	2.00	*0.50	2.50
	<b>**J2</b>	All	Nil	*0.50	0.50	Nil	*0.50	0.50

\* An additional 0.25% FÁS Apprenticeship Training Levy may be payable.

\*\*Class J2 applies to Medical Card Holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's/ Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.

## People within Class J

The Class J contribution normally relates to people with reckonable earnings of less than £30 per week (from ALL employments). However, a small number of employees are insurable at Class J irrespective of earnings e.g. employees over age 66, people in subsidiary employment etc. - see **PRSI 3**.

## Class J Benefits

- Occupational Injuries Benefit.

Class E			CUMULATIVE EARNINGS CEILINGS					
Weekly Earnings Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly earnings	Up to and including £25,400			From £25,400.01 to £35,000		
			EE %	ER %	Total %	EE %	ER %	Total %
Up to £217	<b>E0</b>	First £100	Nil	8.12	8.12	Nil	8.12	8.12
		Balance	3.83	8.12	11.95	Nil	8.12	8.12
In excess of £217	<b>E1</b>	First £100	Nil	8.12	8.12	Nil	8.12	8.12
	<b>**E2</b>	Balance	3.83	8.12	11.95	Nil	8.12	8.12

\*\*Class E2 applies to Medical Card Holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's/ Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.

## People within Class E

Ministers of Religion employed by the Church of Ireland Representative Body. PRSI is remitted under the Special Collection System and the rates quoted do not include the Health Contribution. This contribution should be paid directly to the Revenue Commissioners when paying income tax.

## Class E Benefits

- Disability Benefit
- Maternity Benefit
- Adoptive Benefit
- Health and Safety Benefit
- Invalidity Pension
- Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Old Age (Contributory) Pension
- Retirement Pension
- Bereavement Grant
- Treatment Benefit.

## Public Sector Employments

EE : Employee ER : Employer

Class B			CUMULATIVE EARNINGS CEILINGS					
Weekly Earnings Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly earnings	Up to and including £25,400			From £25,400.01 to £35,000		
			EE %	ER %	Total %	EE %	ER %	Total %
Up to £217	B0	First £20 Balance	Nil	2.01	2.01	Nil	2.01	2.01
			0.90	2.01	2.91	Nil	2.01	2.01
In excess of £217	B1	First £20 Balance	2.00	2.01	4.01	2.00	2.01	4.01
			2.90	2.01	4.91	2.00	2.01	4.01
	**B2	First £20 Balance	Nil	2.01	2.01	Nil	2.01	2.01
			0.90	2.01	2.91	Nil	2.01	2.01

\*\*Class B2 applies to Medical Card Holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's/Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.

## People within Class B

Permanent and pensionable Civil Servants, Registered Doctors and Dentists employed in the Civil Service and Gardaí, recruited prior to 6 April, 1995.

## Class B Benefits

- Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Limited Occupational Injuries Benefits
- Bereavement Grant.

Class C			CUMULATIVE EARNINGS CEILINGS					
Weekly Earnings Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly earnings	Up to and including £25,400			From £25,400.01 to £35,000		
			EE %	ER %	Total %	EE %	ER %	Total %
Up to £217	C0	First £20 Balance	Nil	1.85	1.85	Nil	1.85	1.85
			0.90	1.85	2.75	Nil	1.85	1.85
In excess of £217	C1	First £20 Balance	2.00	1.85	3.85	2.00	1.85	3.85
			2.90	1.85	4.75	2.00	1.85	3.85
	**C2	First £20 Balance	Nil	1.85	1.85	Nil	1.85	1.85
			0.90	1.85	2.75	Nil	1.85	1.85

\*\*Class C2 applies to Medical Card Holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's/Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.

## People within Class C

Commissioned Army Officers and members of the Army Nursing Service, recruited prior to 6 April, 1995.

## Class C Benefits

- Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Bereavement Grant.

Class D			CUMULATIVE EARNINGS CEILINGS					
Weekly Earnings Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly earnings	Up to and including £25,400			From £25,400.01 to £35,000		
			EE %	ER %	Total %	EE %	ER %	Total %
Up to £217	D0	First £20 Balance	Nil	*2.35	2.35	Nil	*2.35	2.35
			0.90	*2.35	3.25	Nil	*2.35	2.35
In excess of £217	D1	First £20 Balance	2.00	*2.35	4.35	2.00	*2.35	4.35
			2.90	*2.35	5.25	2.00	*2.35	4.35
	**D2	First £20 Balance	Nil	*2.35	2.35	Nil	*2.35	2.35
			0.90	*2.35	3.25	Nil	*2.35	2.35

\* An additional 0.25% FÁS Apprenticeship Training Levy may be payable.

\*\*Class D2 applies to Medical Card Holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's/ Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.

### People within Class D

Permanent and pensionable employees in the public service other than those mentioned in Classes B and C, recruited prior to 6 April, 1995.

### Class D Benefits

- Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Occupational Injuries Benefits
- Bereavement Grant.

Class H			CUMULATIVE EARNINGS CEILINGS					
Weekly Earnings Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly earnings	Up to and including £25,400			From £25,400.01 to £35,000		
			EE %	ER %	Total %	EE %	ER %	Total %
Up to £217	H0	First £100 Balance	Nil	11.30	11.30	Nil	11.30	11.30
			4.40	11.30	15.70	Nil	11.30	11.30
In excess of £217	H1	First £100 Balance	2.00	11.30	13.30	2.00	11.30	13.30
			6.40	11.30	17.70	2.00	11.30	13.30
	**H2	First £100 Balance	Nil	11.30	11.30	Nil	11.30	11.30
			4.40	11.30	15.70	Nil	11.30	11.30

\*\*Class H2 applies to Medical Card Holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's/ Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.

### People within Class H

NCO's and enlisted personnel of the Defence Forces.

### Class H Benefits

- Unemployment Benefit
- Disability Benefit
- Maternity Benefit
- Adoptive Benefit
- Health and Safety Benefit
- Invalidity Pension
- Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Old Age (Contributory) Pension
- Retirement Pension
- Bereavement Grant
- Treatment Benefit.

Only certain benefits are payable during service.

## Occupational Pensions

EE : Employee ER : Employer

Class K			CUMULATIVE INCOME CEILINGS					
Weekly Income Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly income	Up to and including £25,400			Income over £25,400		
			EE %	ER %	Total %	EE %	ER %	Total %
Up to £217	No contribution payable. Record under <b>Class M</b> .		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
In excess of £217		<b>K1</b>	All	2.00	Nil	2.00	2.00	Nil

**People within Class K**

People receiving income which is not subject to social insurance contributions but which is liable for the Health Contribution such as Occupational Pensions, income deriving from positions of certain office holders (for example, Judiciary and State Solicitors) and income of people over age 66 previously liable for Class S.

**Class K Benefits**

- Nil.

**Class M****NO CONTRIBUTION PAYABLE****People within Class M**

The M Class should be used for people with Nil contribution liability (for example, employees under age 16, people within Class K with a Nil liability etc.).

**Class M Benefits**

- In certain circumstances Occupational Injuries Benefits may be payable.

## Self-Employment

S/E : Self-Employed contributor

Class S			CUMULATIVE INCOME CEILINGS	
Weekly Income Thresholds	PRSI Class	How much of weekly income	Up to and including £25,400 S/E %	Income over £25,400 S/E %
Up to £217	<b>S0</b>	First £20 Balance	Nil 5.00	Nil Nil
In excess of £217	<b>S1</b>	First £20 Balance	2.00 7.00	2.00 2.00
	<b>**S2</b>	First £20 Balance	Nil 5.00	Nil Nil

**\*\*Class S2 applies to Medical Card Holders, people getting a Social Welfare Widow's/Widower's Pension, One-Parent Family Payment or Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.**

**People within Class S**

Self-employed people including certain company directors, people in business on their own account and people with income from investments and rents. For instruction regarding application of Class S, - see **PRSI 3**.

**Class S Benefits**

- Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Old Age (Contributory) Pension
- Maternity Benefit
- Adoptive Benefit
- Bereavement Grant.

**Class P (optional)**

	%
First £25,400 of all income	5.00
Income OVER £25,400	Nil

**People within Class P**

Sharefishermen/women who are classified as self-employed and who are already paying PRSI under Class S. This contribution is over and above the PRSI being paid under Class S.

**Class P Benefits**

- Limited Unemployment Benefit
- Limited Disability Benefit
- Treatment Benefit.

# Unemployment Payments

## Unemployment Benefit from 27 May

see booklet SW 65

	Rate per week
PERSONAL RATE	£73.50
<i>Increases:</i>	
— Qualified Adult ▲	£43.20
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate * £13.20
	Half-rate * £6.60

Unemployment Benefit rates are graduated according to earnings as follows:

Average Weekly Earnings	Personal rate	Qualified Adult Increase ▲
— Less than £35	£33.00	£28.00
— £35 and less than £50	£47.40	£28.00
— £50 and less than £70	£57.60	£28.00
— £70 or more	£73.50	£43.20

## Unemployment Assistance from 26 May

see booklet SW 65

	Rate per week SHORT-TERM	Rate per week LONG-TERM
Maximum PERSONAL RATE	£72.00	£73.50
<i>Increases:</i>		
— Qualified Adult ▲	£43.20	£43.20
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate * £13.20	* £13.20
	Half-rate * £6.60	* £6.60

The long-term rate applies to you if you have been getting an unemployment payment for at least 390 days (15 months).

\*An increase of £13.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a full rate increase for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for a full rate increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

## Part-time Job Incentive Scheme from 26 May

	Rate per week
PERSONAL RATE	£46.50
If you are getting an increase for a Qualified Adult	£76.50

The supplement is not affected by your wages from the part-time job.

▲ A reduced rate increase may be payable if your spouse/partner has earnings/income of between £60 and £90 (£105 from October 1999) gross per week, see page 28.

## Family Income Support Payments

### Child Benefit

see leaflet SW 42

	Rate per month	Rate from September
1st & 2nd Child	£31.50	£34.50
3rd and subsequent children	£42.00	£46.00
<b>ALL MULTIPLE BIRTHS:</b>	<b>Special Grants</b>	<b>Rate of Payment</b>
	— Birth	£500
	— At age 4	£500
	— At age 12	£500

**Twins** - Child Benefit is payable at one and a half times (150%) the normal monthly rate for each child.

#### All Other Multiple Births -

Double the normal monthly rate of Child Benefit is payable.

### Maternity Benefit from 31 May

see leaflet SW 11

### Adoptive Benefit from 31 May

see leaflet SW 37

	Rate per week
MAXIMUM rate	£162.80
MINIMUM rate	£86.70

The rate payable is 70% of your earnings in the relevant tax year subject to a reckonable earnings ceiling.

### Health & Safety Benefit from 31 May

see leaflet SW 21

	Rate per week
PERSONAL RATE	£73.50
<i>Increases:</i>	
— Qualified Adult	£43.20
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate *£13.20
	Half-rate *£6.60

\*An increase of £13.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a payment for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

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**Health and Safety Benefit** rates are graduated according to earnings as follows:

Average Weekly Earnings	Personal rate	Qualified Adult Increase
— Less than £35	£33.00	£28.00
— £35 and less than £50	£47.40	£28.00
— £50 and less than £70	£57.60	£28.00
— £70 or more	£73.50	£43.20

## Family Income Supplement from 3 June

see leaflet **SW 22**

To qualify for Family Income Supplement (FIS), your net average weekly family income must be below a certain amount for your family size.

IF YOU HAVE:	and your family income is LESS than:
1 child	£220
2 children	£240
3 children	£260
4 children	£280
5 children	£305
6 children	£325
7 children	£342
8 or more children	£359

The FIS you receive is 60% of the difference between your net family income (that is, gross pay less Tax, Employee PRSI, Health Contribution, Superannuation) and the income limit which applies to your family.



**Note:** A minimum supplement of £5 per week is payable.

## Supplementary Welfare Allowance from 31 May

see booklet **SW 54**

	Rate per week
Maximum PERSONAL RATE	£72.00
<i>Increases:</i>	
— Qualified Adult	£43.20
— EACH Child Dependant	£13.20

## Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance from 4 June

see leaflet **SW 48**

	Rate per week
Rate payable per Orphan	£51.60

**Carer's Allowance** from 3 Junesee leaflet **SW 41**

Where the weekly means as assessed by the Department are:	Where the Carer is caring for:	
	ONE PERSON Rate per week	MORE THAN ONE PERSON Rate per week
Up to £6	£76.50	£114.80
Over £6 and up to £8	£74.50	£112.80
Over £8 and up to £10	£72.50	£110.80
Over £10 and up to £12	£70.50	£108.80
Over £12 and up to £14	£68.50	£106.80
Over £14 and up to £16	£66.50	£104.80
Over £16 and up to £18	£64.50	£102.80
Over £18 and up to £20	£62.50	£100.80
Over £20 and up to £22	£60.50	£98.80
Over £22 and up to £24	£58.50	£96.80
Over £24 and up to £26	£56.50	£94.80
Over £26 and up to £28	£54.50	£92.80
Over £28 and up to £30	£52.50	£90.80
Over £30 and up to £32	£50.50	£88.80
Over £32 and up to £34	£48.50	£86.80
Over £34 and up to £36	£46.50	£84.80
Over £36 and up to £38	£44.50	£82.80
Over £38 and up to £40	£42.50	£80.80
Over £40 and up to £42	£40.50	£78.80
Over £42 and up to £44	£38.50	£76.80
Over £44 and up to £46	£36.50	£74.80
Over £46 and up to £48	£34.50	£72.80
Over £48 and up to £50	£32.50	£70.80
Over £50 and up to £52	£30.50	£68.80
Over £52 and up to £54	£28.50	£66.80
Over £54 and up to £56	£26.50	£64.80
Over £56 and up to £58	£24.50	£62.80
Over £58 and up to £60	£22.50	£60.80
Over £60 and up to £62	£20.50	£58.80
Over £62 and up to £64	£18.50	£56.80
Over £64 and up to £66	£16.50	£54.80
Over £66 and up to £68	£14.50	£52.80
Over £68 and up to £70	£12.50	£50.80
Over £70 and up to £72	£10.50	£48.80
Over £72 and up to £74	£8.50	£46.80
Over £74 and up to £76	£6.50	£44.80
Over £76 and up to £78	£4.50	£42.80
Over £78 and up to £80	£2.50	£40.80
Over £80 and up to £82	Nil	£38.80

*Increases:*

- For Carers aged 66 or over
- EACH Child Dependant

	Rate per week	Rate per week
	£5.00	£7.50
**Full rate	£13.20	
*Half rate	£6.60	

\*\*Payable if you are single, widowed, or separated.

\*Payable if you are living with your spouse/partner.

**Widow's/Widower's****(Non-Contributory) Pension** from 4 June**Deserted Wife's Allowance** from 3 June**Prisoner's Wife's Allowance** from 3 Junesee booklet **SW 26**see leaflet **SW 43****Where the weekly means as****assessed by the Department are:****Under age 66****Rate per week****Aged 66 or over****Rate per week**

Up to £6	£73.50	£78.50
Over £6 and up to £8	£71.50	£76.50
Over £8 and up to £10	£69.50	£74.50
Over £10 and up to £12	£67.50	£72.50
Over £12 and up to £14	£65.50	£70.50
Over £14 and up to £16	£63.50	£68.50
Over £16 and up to £18	£61.50	£66.50
Over £18 and up to £20	£59.50	£64.50
Over £20 and up to £22	£57.50	£62.50
Over £22 and up to £24	£55.50	£60.50
Over £24 and up to £26	£53.50	£58.50
Over £26 and up to £28	£51.50	£56.50
Over £28 and up to £30	£49.50	£54.50
Over £30 and up to £32	£47.50	£52.50
Over £32 and up to £34	£45.50	£50.50
Over £34 and up to £36	£43.50	£48.50
Over £36 and up to £38	£41.50	£46.50
Over £38 and up to £40	£39.50	£44.50
Over £40 and up to £42	£37.50	£42.50
Over £42 and up to £44	£35.50	£40.50
Over £44 and up to £46	£33.50	£38.50
Over £46 and up to £48	£31.50	£36.50
Over £48 and up to £50	£29.50	£34.50
Over £50 and up to £52	£27.50	£32.50
Over £52 and up to £54	£25.50	£30.50
Over £54 and up to £56	£23.50	£28.50
Over £56 and up to £58	£21.50	£26.50
Over £58 and up to £60	£19.50	£24.50
Over £60 and up to £62	£17.50	£22.50
Over £62 and up to £64	£15.50	£20.50
Over £64 and up to £66	£13.50	£18.50
Over £66 and up to £68	£11.50	£16.50
Over £68 and up to £70	£9.50	£14.50
Over £70 and up to £72	£7.50	£12.50
Over £72 and up to £74	£5.50	£10.50
Over £74 and up to £76	£3.50	£8.50
Over £76 and up to £78	Nil	£6.50
Over £78 and up to £80	Nil	£4.50
Over £80 and up to £82	Nil	£2.50

**Increases:**

- Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over
- For people aged 80 or over

**Rate per week**

£6.00

£5.00

# One-Parent Family Payment from 3 June

## (Widowed lone parents from 4 June)

see booklet SW 82

Where the weekly means as assessed by the Department are:

Under age 66  
Rate per weekAged 66 or over  
Rate per week

Up to £6	£73.50	£78.50
Over £6 and up to £8	£71.50	£76.50
Over £8 and up to £10	£69.50	£74.50
Over £10 and up to £12	£67.50	£72.50
Over £12 and up to £14	£65.50	£70.50
Over £14 and up to £16	£63.50	£68.50
Over £16 and up to £18	£61.50	£66.50
Over £18 and up to £20	£59.50	£64.50
Over £20 and up to £22	£57.50	£62.50
Over £22 and up to £24	£55.50	£60.50
Over £24 and up to £26	£53.50	£58.50
Over £26 and up to £28	£51.50	£56.50
Over £28 and up to £30	£49.50	£54.50
Over £30 and up to £32	£47.50	£52.50
Over £32 and up to £34	£45.50	£50.50
Over £34 and up to £36	£43.50	£48.50
Over £36 and up to £38	£41.50	£46.50
Over £38 and up to £40	£39.50	£44.50
Over £40 and up to £42	£37.50	£42.50
Over £42 and up to £44	£35.50	£40.50
Over £44 and up to £46	£33.50	£38.50
Over £46 and up to £48	£31.50	£36.50
Over £48 and up to £50	£29.50	£34.50
Over £50 and up to £52	£27.50	£32.50
Over £52 and up to £54	£25.50	£30.50
Over £54 and up to £56	£23.50	£28.50
Over £56 and up to £58	£21.50	£26.50
Over £58 and up to £60 (see note below)	£19.50	£24.50
Over £60 and up to £62	£17.50	£22.50
Over £62 and up to £64	£15.50	£20.50
Over £64 and up to £66	£13.50	£18.50
Over £66 and up to £68	£11.50	£16.50
Over £68 and up to £70	£9.50	£14.50
Over £70 and up to £72	£7.50	£12.50
Over £72 and up to £74	£5.50	£10.50
Over £74 and up to £76	£3.50	£8.50
Over £76 and up to £78	Nil	£6.50



**Note:** If you are getting One-Parent Family Payment, you could earn up to £115.38 per week and may still qualify for full payment. If you earn between £115.38 and £230.76, you may qualify for a reduced payment. If you are in receipt of One-Parent Family Payment, and your earnings subsequently exceed £230.76 per week, your payment may continue for one year at **half rate**.

Increases:

- EACH Child Dependant
- Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over
- For people aged 80 or over

Rate per week

£15.20  
£6.00  
£5.00

**Widow's/Widower's****(Contributory) Pension** from 4 Junesee booklet **SW 25****Deserted Wife's Benefit** from 3 Junesee leaflet **SW 43**

	<b>Contributions</b>	<b>Under Age 66</b>	<b>Aged 66 or over</b>
		<b>Rate per week</b>	<b>Rate per week</b>
PERSONAL RATE	48 or over	£77.10	£82.10
	36 - 47	£76.00	£80.80
	24 - 35	£73.80	£78.50



**Note:** A yearly average of 39 weeks PRSI paid or credited under the 3 or 5 tax year condition will secure a maximum personal rate of £77.10 - under age 66, £82.10 - aged 66 or over.

*Increases:*

- EACH Child Dependant
- Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over
- Extra Allowance for people aged 80 or over

**Rate per week**

£17.00  
£6.00  
£5.00

**Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension** from 4 Junesee leaflet **SW 48**

Where the weekly means as  
assessed by the Department are:

	<b>Rate per week</b>
Up to £6	£51.60
Over £6 and up to £8	£49.60
Over £8 and up to £10	£47.60
Over £10 and up to £12	£45.60
Over £12 and up to £14	£43.60
Over £14 and up to £16	£41.60
Over £16 and up to £18	£39.60
Over £18 and up to £20	£37.60
Over £20 and up to £22	£35.60
Over £22 and up to £24	£33.60
Over £24 and up to £26	£31.60
Over £26 and up to £28	£29.60
Over £28 and up to £30	£27.60
Over £30 and up to £32	£25.60
Over £32 and up to £34	£23.60
Over £34 and up to £36	£21.60
Over £36 and up to £38	£19.60
Over £38 and up to £40	£17.60
Over £40 and up to £42	£15.60
Over £42 and up to £44	£13.60
Over £44 and up to £46	£11.60
Over £46 and up to £48	£9.60
Over £48 and up to £50	£7.60
Over £50 and up to £52	£5.60
Over £52 and up to £54	£3.60

## Employment Support Payments

### Farm Assist from 6 April

see booklet SW 27

	Rate per week
Maximum PERSONAL RATE	£73.50
<i>Increases:</i>	
— Qualified Adult (▲)	£43.20
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate * £13.20
	Half-rate * £6.60

### Back to Education Allowance from end May/June

see booklet SW 70

	Rate per week
PERSONAL RATE	£73.50
<i>Increases:</i>	
— Qualified Adult (▲)	£43.20
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate * £13.20
	Half-rate * £6.60

\*An increase of £13.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a full rate increase for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for a full rate increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

### Back to Work Allowance (Employees)

see leaflet SW 93

- 75% of social welfare payment for the first year
- 50% of social welfare payment for the second year
- 25% of social welfare payment for the third year.

### Back to Work Enterprise Allowance

see leaflet SW 92

- 100% of social welfare payment for the first year
- 75% of social welfare payment for the second year
- 50% of social welfare payment for the third year
- 25% of social welfare payment for the fourth year.

▲ A reduced rate increase may be payable if your spouse/partner has earnings/income of between £60 and £90 (£105 from October 1999) gross per week, see page 28.

## Payments for Ill or Incapacitated People

### Disability Benefit from 31 May

see booklet SW 9

	Rate per week
PERSONAL RATE	£73.50
<i>Increases:</i>	
— Qualified Adult ▲	£43.20
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate *£13.20
	Half-rate *£6.60

Disability Benefit rates are graduated according to earnings as follows:

Average Weekly Earnings	Personal rate	Qualified Adult Increase ▲
— Less than £35	£33.00	£28.00
— £35 and less than £50	£47.40	£28.00
— £50 and less than £70	£57.60	£28.00
— £70 or more	£73.50	£43.20

\*An increase of £13.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a full rate increase for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for a full rate increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

### Invalidity Pension from 3 June

see leaflet SW 44

	Rate per week
PERSONAL RATE:	
— Under age 65	£75.20
— Aged 65 or over	£89.00
<i>Increases:</i>	
— Qualified Adult	£49.50
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate *£15.20
	Half-rate *£7.60

\*An increase of £15.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a payment for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

	Rate per week
— Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over	£6.00
— For people aged 80 or over	£5.00

Other payments are available for incapacitated people from the Health Boards - see page 26.

**Disability Allowance** from 2 June

see booklet SW 29

Where the weekly means as assessed by the Department are:

**Rate per week**

Up to £2	£73.50
Over £2 and up to £4	£71.50
Over £4 and up to £6	£69.50
Over £6 and up to £8	£67.50
Over £8 and up to £10	£65.50
Over £10 and up to £12	£63.50
Over £12 and up to £14	£61.50
Over £14 and up to £16	£59.50
Over £16 and up to £18	£57.50
Over £18 and up to £20	£55.50
Over £20 and up to £22	£53.50
Over £22 and up to £24	£51.50
Over £24 and up to £26	£49.50
Over £26 and up to £28	£47.50
Over £28 and up to £30	£45.50
Over £30 and up to £32	£43.50
Over £32 and up to £34	£41.50
Over £34 and up to £36	£39.50
Over £36 and up to £38	£37.50
Over £38 and up to £40	£35.50
Over £40 and up to £42	£33.50
Over £42 and up to £44	£31.50
Over £44 and up to £46	£29.50
Over £46 and up to £48	£27.50
Over £48 and up to £50	£25.50
Over £50 and up to £52	£23.50
Over £52 and up to £54	£21.50
Over £54 and up to £56	£19.50
Over £56 and up to £58	£17.50
Over £58 and up to £60	£15.50
Over £60 and up to £62	£13.50
Over £62 and up to £64	£11.50
Over £64 and up to £66	£9.50
Over £66 and up to £68	£7.50
Over £68 and up to £70	£5.50
Over £70 and up to £72	£3.50

*Increases:*

- Qualified Adult ▲
- EACH Child Dependant

**Rate per week**

	£43.20
Full rate	*£13.20
Half-rate	*£6.60

\*An increase of £13.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a full rate increase for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for a full rate increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

▲ A reduced rate increase may be payable if your spouse/partner has earnings/income of between £60 and £90 (£105 from October 1999) gross per week, see page 28.

**Blind Person's Pension** from 4 June

see booklet SW 76

Where the weekly  
means as assessed by  
the Department are:

	Under age 66 Rate per week	Aged 66 or over Rate per week	Increase per week for Qualified Adult
Up to £6	£73.50	£78.50	£43.20
Over £6 and up to £8	£71.50	£76.50	£42.20
Over £8 and up to £10	£69.50	£74.50	£41.20
Over £10 and up to £12	£67.50	£72.50	£40.20
Over £12 and up to £14	£65.50	£70.50	£39.20
Over £14 and up to £16	£63.50	£68.50	£38.20
Over £16 and up to £18	£61.50	£66.50	£37.20
Over £18 and up to £20	£59.50	£64.50	£36.20
Over £20 and up to £22	£57.50	£62.50	£35.20
Over £22 and up to £24	£55.50	£60.50	£34.20
Over £24 and up to £26	£53.50	£58.50	£33.20
Over £26 and up to £28	£51.50	£56.50	£32.20
Over £28 and up to £30	£49.50	£54.50	£31.20
Over £30 and up to £32	£47.50	£52.50	£30.20
Over £32 and up to £34	£45.50	£50.50	£29.20
Over £34 and up to £36	£43.50	£48.50	£28.20
Over £36 and up to £38	£41.50	£46.50	£27.20
Over £38 and up to £40	£39.50	£44.50	£26.20
Over £40 and up to £42	£37.50	£42.50	£25.20
Over £42 and up to £44	£35.50	£40.50	£24.20
Over £44 and up to £46	£33.50	£38.50	£23.20
Over £46 and up to £48	£31.50	£36.50	£22.20
Over £48 and up to £50	£29.50	£34.50	£21.20
Over £50 and up to £52	£27.50	£32.50	£20.20
Over £52 and up to £54	£25.50	£30.50	£19.20
Over £54 and up to £56	£23.50	£28.50	£18.20
Over £56 and up to £58	£21.50	£26.50	£17.20
Over £58 and up to £60	£19.50	£24.50	£16.20
Over £60 and up to £62	£17.50	£22.50	£15.20
Over £62 and up to £64	£15.50	£20.50	£14.20
Over £64 and up to £66	£13.50	£18.50	£13.20
Over £66 and up to £68	£11.50	£16.50	£12.20
Over £68 and up to £70	£9.50	£14.50	£11.20
Over £70 and up to £72	£7.50	£12.50	£10.20
Over £72 and up to £74	£5.50	£10.50	£9.20
Over £74 and up to £76	£3.50	£8.50	£8.20
Over £76 and up to £78	Nil	£6.50	Nil
Over £78 and up to £80	Nil	£4.50	Nil
Over £80 and up to £82	Nil	£2.50	Nil

*Increases:*

- EACH Child Dependant
- Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over
- For people aged 80 or over
- Additional Increase for Qualified Adult aged 66 or over

**Rate per week**

Full rate	£13.20
Half-rate	£6.60
	£6.00
	£5.00
	£1.00

## Occupational Injuries Benefits Payments

**Injury Benefit** from 31 Maysee leaflet **SW 30****Unemployability Supplement** from 31 Maysee leaflet **SW 31**

## Rate per week

PERSONAL RATE £73.50

*Increases:*

- |   |                      |           |         |
|---|----------------------|-----------|---------|
| — | Qualified Adult (▲)  |           | £43.20  |
| — | EACH Child Dependant | Full rate | *£13.20 |
|   |                      | Half-rate | *£6.60  |

\*An increase of £13.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a full rate increase for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for a full rate increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

**Disablement Benefit** from 4 Junesee leaflet **SW 31****Over 90% Disablement**

Maximum PERSONAL PENSION £97.20 per week

**20% to 90% Disablement**

Reduced pension

- |   |     |        |
|---|-----|--------|
| — | 90% | £87.50 |
| — | 80% | £77.80 |
| — | 70% | £68.00 |
| — | 60% | £58.30 |
| — | 50% | £48.60 |
| — | 40% | £38.90 |
| — | 30% | £29.20 |
| — | 20% | £19.40 |

**Up to 19% Disablement**A lump sum may be payable  
up to a maximum of

£6,800

**Medical Care Scheme**see leaflet **SW 34**

This Scheme covers the cost of certain medical care expenses incurred as a result of an occupational accident or disease. However, these expenses must not already have been met by the Health Board or by way of Treatment Benefit from the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.

▲ A reduced rate increase may be payable if your spouse/partner has earnings/income of between £60 and £90 (£105 from October 1999) gross per week, see page 28.

**Constant Attendance Allowance** from 31 May

see leaflet **SW 31**

	Rate per week
<b>100% Disablement</b>	
Standard rate	£40.30
Reduced Standard rate	£20.20
<b>Severe Disablement</b>	
Severely disabled people	£60.50
<b>Exceptionally Severe Disablement</b>	
Exceptionally severely disabled people	£80.60

**Death Benefits (Survivor's Benefits)** from 4 June

see leaflet **SW 32**

	Rate per week
Pension for a widow or widower	£95.40
<i>Increases:</i>	
— EACH Child Dependant	£17.00
<b>DEPENDENT PARENT'S PENSION</b>	
Where deceased was <b>Unmarried</b>	
— one parent	£95.40
— other parent	£44.80
Where deceased was <b>Married</b>	
— each parent	£44.80

Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over

£6.00 per week

Orphan's Pension

£53.90 per week

Funeral Grant (Lump Sum)

£500

## Payments for Retired or Elderly People

**Retirement Pension** from 3 June

see booklet **SW 18**

**Old Age (Contributory) Pension** from 4 June

	Contributions	Rate per week
PERSONAL RATE	48 or over	£89.00
	36 - 47	£86.60
	24 - 35	£83.70
— Old Age (Contributory) Pension only	20 - 23	£81.90
	15 - 19	£66.80
	10 - 14	£44.50

*Increases:*

	Rate per week
— Qualified Adult UNDER age 66	£55.50
— Qualified Adult aged 66 or over	£59.90
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate *£15.20
	Half rate *£7.60

\*An increase of £15.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a payment for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for an increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

	Rate per week
— Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over	£6.00
— For people aged 80 or over	£5.00

**Pre-Retirement Allowance** from 3 June

see leaflet **SW 80**

	Rate per week
Maximum PERSONAL RATE	£73.50
<i>Increases:</i>	
— Qualified Adult (▲)	£43.20
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate *£13.20
	Half-rate *£6.60

\*An increase of £13.20 is payable for each child dependant if you are in receipt of a full rate increase for a qualified adult. Where you do not qualify for a full rate increase for a qualified adult, half rate child dependant increases may be payable.

▲ A reduced rate increase may be payable if your spouse/partner has earnings/income of between £60 and £90 (£105 from October 1999) gross per week, see page 28.

**Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension** from 4 June see booklet SW 16

Where the weekly means as assessed by the Department are:

	Rate per week	Increase per week for Qualified Adult
Up to £6	£78.50	£44.20
Over £6 and up to £8	£76.50	£43.20
Over £8 and up to £10	£74.50	£42.20
Over £10 and up to £12	£72.50	£41.20
Over £12 and up to £14	£70.50	£40.20
Over £14 and up to £16	£68.50	£39.20
Over £16 and up to £18	£66.50	£38.20
Over £18 and up to £20	£64.50	£37.20
Over £20 and up to £22	£62.50	£36.20
Over £22 and up to £24	£60.50	£35.20
Over £24 and up to £26	£58.50	£34.20
Over £26 and up to £28	£56.50	£33.20
Over £28 and up to £30	£54.50	£32.20
Over £30 and up to £32	£52.50	£31.20
Over £32 and up to £34	£50.50	£30.20
Over £34 and up to £36	£48.50	£29.20
Over £36 and up to £38	£46.50	£28.20
Over £38 and up to £40	£44.50	£27.20
Over £40 and up to £42	£42.50	£26.20
Over £42 and up to £44	£40.50	£25.20
Over £44 and up to £46	£38.50	£24.20
Over £46 and up to £48	£36.50	£23.20
Over £48 and up to £50	£34.50	£22.20
Over £50 and up to £52	£32.50	£21.20
Over £52 and up to £54	£30.50	£20.20
Over £54 and up to £56	£28.50	£19.20
Over £56 and up to £58	£26.50	£18.20
Over £58 and up to £60	£24.50	£17.20
Over £60 and up to £62	£22.50	£16.20
Over £62 and up to £64	£20.50	£15.20
Over £64 and up to £66	£18.50	£14.20
Over £66 and up to £68	£16.50	£13.20
Over £68 and up to £70	£14.50	£12.20
Over £70 and up to £72	£12.50	£11.20
Over £72 and up to £74	£10.50	£10.20
Over £74 and up to £76	£8.50	£9.20
Over £76 and up to £78	£6.50	£8.20
Over £78 and up to £80	£4.50	£7.20
Over £80 and up to £82	£2.50	£6.20

Increases:

	Rate per week
— EACH Child Dependant	Full rate £13.20 Half-rate £6.60
— Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over	£6.00
— For people aged 80 or over	£5.00

## Extra Benefits

### Butter Vouchers

People who receive social assistance payments are entitled to butter vouchers.

#### Allowance

#### Number of Vouchers

— Claimant	1
— Each Dependant	1

Each voucher can be used towards the cost of one pound of butter or towards the cost of one pound of spreadable butter which has a minimum butterfat content of 80%.

### Fuel Allowance

see leaflet SW 17

#### Rate per week

Allowance Payable from mid-October to mid-April

£5.00

### Smokeless Fuel Allowance

see leaflet SW 17a

#### Rate per week

Allowance Payable from mid-October to mid-April

£3.00

### Free Electricity Allowance

see booklet SW 39

#### Allowance

#### Normal Standing Charges PLUS

— Individual Account	1,500 units per year
— Group Account	£10.30 per month

### Free Natural Gas Allowance

see booklet SW 39

#### Standard Tariff Allowance

The allowance covers:

- the supply charge of £22.00 and up to £5.00 of free natural gas in each two-monthly billing period in winter and
- a credit of £18.00 against your overall natural gas bill in each two-monthly billing period in summer.

For details on other tariffs see booklet SW 39.

**Free Bottled Gas Refill Allowance**

see booklet SW 39

**For the Period:****Allowance**

— January to April	5 cylinders
— May to June	2 cylinders
— July to August	2 cylinders
— September to December	5 cylinders

**Free Television Licence**

If you qualify for a Free Electricity/Natural Gas/Bottled Gas Refill Allowance you are entitled to a free colour television licence from the next due renewal date of your licence.

**Free Telephone Rental Allowance**

see leaflet SW 45

This allowance covers the full cost of the yearly rental and up to 20 free units per two monthly billing period. It does not include installation costs.

**Back to School Clothing & Footwear Allowance**

see leaflet SW 75

The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance is payable to parents whose income limits are at or below the following amounts:

Couple with:	Income Limit	Lone Parent with:	Income Limit
— 1 child	£164.70	— 1 child	£104.10
— 2 children	£179.90	— 2 children	£121.10
— 3 children	£195.10	— 3 children	£138.10
— 4 children	*£210.30	— 4 children	**£155.10

\*Limit is increased by £15.20 for each additional child

\*\*Limit is increased by £17.00 for each additional child

**Allowance****Rate payable**

— Rate for each child aged 2 - 11	£43.00
— Rate for each child aged 12 - 17*	£58.00

\*and children aged 18 - 22 if in full-time education for whom a Child Dependant Allowance is payable.

**Bereavement Grant** from 2 February

see leaflet SW 47

	Rate
— Child	£500.00
— Adult	£500.00

## Payments from Health Boards

### Blind Welfare Allowance from 2 June

A Supplementary Allowance payable in addition to Disability Allowance to blind people over age 16 and under age 18 in respect of:

	Rate per week
— an Adult Dependant	£2.70
— a Child Dependant	£3.00

A Supplementary Allowance is payable to blind people receiving a Blind Person's Pension, Disability Allowance or Infectious Diseases Maintenance Allowance (who can supply a certificate of visual impairment) or to people who are getting another Social Welfare / Health Board payment who are registered with the National Council for the Blind.

	Rate per week
— Blind Pensioner over age 18	£ 22.80
— Blind Couple	£ 45.60
— Increase for each Child Dependant	£ 3.40

### Infectious Diseases Maintenance Allowance from 2 June

	Rate per week
Maximum PERSONAL RATE	£73.50
<i>Increases for Dependants:</i>	
— Increase for Qualified Adult	£49.50
— Increase for each Child Dependant	£13.20

### Other Allowances and Grants

	Rate payable
Mobility Allowance	£43.20 per month
Domiciliary Care Allowance - Maximum PERSONAL RATE	£111.20 per month
Maternity Cash Grant - For medical card holders	£8.00
Motorised Transport Grant - For disabled people, up to	£3,007

## Charges in Public Hospitals

	Private per day	Semi-Private per day	*Day Care
— Health Board Regional Hospitals and Voluntary Teaching Hospitals	£171.00	£134.00	£122.00
— County Hospitals and Voluntary Non-Teaching Hospitals	£141.00	£114.00	£102.00
— District Hospitals	£88.00	£76.00	£65.00



**Note:** These charges are additional to the Public Hospital statutory In Patient charge.

Everyone who is ordinarily resident in Ireland is entitled to hospital services as an in-patient in a public ward or as an out-patient at a public clinic.

**\*Day Care:** This charge applies to private/semi-private day beds or to day-cases in other private/semi-private beds.

### Hospital Charges

The Public Hospital statutory in-patient charge is £25.00 per night subject to a maximum of £250.00 in a 12 month period. People who attend the Accident and Emergency Department directly without having a referral note from his/her G.P., will be liable for a charge of £20 which will apply only to the first visit of any episode of care. This charge does not apply to attendances at out-patient clinics.

## Income Guidelines for Medical Card from March 1999

(Gross Income less PRSI deductions)

	Under age 66	Age 66-69	Age 70-79	Age 80 or over
— Single person living alone	£92.00	£100.00	£133.00	£140
— Single person living with family	£81.50	£86.50	£115.00	£120
— Married couple	£133.00	£149.00	£199.00	£209

### Allowances:

	Per week
— Each child under age 16	£16.00
— Other dependants	£17.50
— House expenses e.g. rent, mortgage in excess of	£16.00
— Cost of travelling to work in excess of	£14.50

## Drugs Payment Scheme from 1 July 1999

This new scheme will replace the existing Drug Cost Subsidisation Scheme and the Drug Refund Scheme. Under the new Scheme, an individual or family will only have to pay the first £42 per month of the cost of prescribed medicines approved for this purpose by the Minister for Health and Children. **For further details of the Health Schemes, please contact your local Health Board - see page 30 for list of Health Boards.**

## Appendix 1

**Reduced Rate Increase for a Qualified Adult**

If you are getting one of the payments listed below and your spouse/partner has earnings/income of between £60 and £90 (£105 from October 1999) gross per week, an increase for him/her continues to be paid at a reducing rate. This applies to:

- Disability Benefit
- Disability Allowance
- Unemployment Benefit
- Unemployment Assistance
- Pre-Retirement Allowance
- Occupational Injury Benefit
- Unemployability Supplement
- Farm Assist.

*Increases:***Spouse/Partner's Gross Weekly Income/Earnings**

Rate per week	Rate per week
June 99	Oct 99
£60 or less	£43.20
From £60.01 to £65.00	£36.70
From £65.01 to £70.00	£30.20
From £70.01 to £75.00	£23.80
From £75.01 to £80.00	£17.30
From £80.01 to £85.00	£10.80
From £85.01 to £90.00	£4.30
From £90.01 to £95.00	Nil
From £95.01 to £100.00	Nil
From £100.01 to £105.00	Nil
Over £105.00	Nil



**Note:** Half rate Child Dependant Allowances are payable if your spouse/partner's earnings/income exceed £60 gross per week.

**Disability and Unemployment Benefit only.**

Where a person's average weekly earnings are less than £70 per week, the following increases are payable:

*Increases:***Spouse/Partner's Gross Weekly Income/Earnings**

Rate per week	Rate per week
June 99	Oct 99
£60 or less	£28.00
From £60.01 to £65.00	£23.80
From £65.01 to £70.00	£19.40
From £70.01 to £75.00	£15.10
From £75.01 to £80.00	£10.80
From £80.01 to £85.00	£6.50
From £85.01 to £90.00	£2.20
From £90.01 to £95.00	Nil
From £95.01 to £100.00	Nil
From £100.01 to £105.00	Nil
Over £105.00	Nil