



Borderwise: Work

This information sheet aims to provide a general overview of working in the Republic of Ireland.



Looking for a Job

If you are currently living in Northern Ireland (NI) you can find out what jobs are available by going to a Jobs and Benefits Office and checking for vacancies in the Republic of Ireland (ROI).



If you have already arrived in ROI there are various ways you can find work. In Ireland FÁS is the national body responsible for providing employment services to people looking for work. There is a network of 66 FÁS offices in all main towns and cities which advertise a wide range of employment vacancies. You can call into a local FÁS centre or check the website www.fas.ie



If you are coming to work in ROI for the first time, you will have to apply for a Personal Public Service number.

Applying for a Personal Public Service Number (PPS No.)

Prior to commencing work in the South you should apply for a PPS No. This is the equivalent of a National Insurance Number in NI. You can apply for a PPS Number by visiting your local social welfare office and filling in an application form. You need to have identification with you.

Becoming Self-Employed

FÁS provides training for people who are interested in becoming self-employed. You may get financial support for setting up a business from City or County Enterprise Boards. There are Boards in each of the local authority areas throughout the country. Information on setting up your own business may be found at www.basis.ie.

Your Rights as a Worker

If you work in the ROI you will normally have the following basic rights:

- To be paid the National Minimum Wage
- Not to have unlawful deductions from your wage
- To working hours and holidays in line with legislation
- To join a Trade Union
- To Health and Safety Protection
- Rights relating to pregnancy

Further information on your rights is available from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment www.entemp.ie.

Going
South

Pay

Every person is entitled to the National Minimum Wage (NMW). From July 2007 this is €8.65 an hour for most adult workers. If you are under 18 years of age, the minimum wage is €6.06 an hour. If you are in your first year of employment after turning 18, the minimum wage is €6.92 an hour and in your second year, it is €7.79 an hour. If you are not being paid the minimum wage you may complain to the Employment Rights section of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment and to a Rights Commissioner.

Discrimination

You may not be discriminated against on grounds of gender, marital status, family status, age, race, religion or political beliefs, disability, sexual orientation or membership of the Traveller community. The non-discrimination legislation applies to all aspects of employment including the recruitment process and access to training.

You may get further information and assistance from the Equality Authority : www.equality.ie

Taxation

The income tax year is the calendar year. The amount you have to pay in tax depends on your income, and the tax credits to which you are entitled. The taxation system is implemented by the Revenue Commissioners. Before taking up employment in the South, it is advisable to contact the local Revenue office and get a tax certificate by completing form I2A. Further information may be found by visiting the website www.revenue.ie

Tax Credits

Tax credits are amounts by which your tax is reduced. Everyone is entitled to some tax credits. The following are the most important credits (2006 rates):

Single Person Tax Credit	€1,760
Married Couple Tax Credit	€3,520
Employee Tax Credit	€1,760

Frontier Workers

Frontier workers who are resident in NI and work in the South may have a liability to pay income tax in NI. Double taxation relief provides an allowance for the income tax paid through the PAYE system in the South. Self-assessment forms should be completed annually by frontier workers in this position and returned to HM Revenue and Customs in NI.

Contact Details

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