

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT INCOME SUPPORT (SPECIAL PAYMENTS) (AMENDMENT) (JERSEY) REGULATIONS 201-

**Lodged au Greffe on 7th June 2011
by the Minister for Social Security**

STATES GREFFE



Jersey

DRAFT INCOME SUPPORT (SPECIAL PAYMENTS) (AMENDMENT) (JERSEY) REGULATIONS 201-

REPORT

Regulation 5 of the Income Support (Special Payments) Regulations provides for payments to Income Support households that no longer qualify for Income Support due to an adult failing the actively seeking work test.

In this situation, the current Regulation provides for a 25% reduction in the value of the basic component for the adult each week for up to 4 weeks.

The ongoing review of Income Support has identified a number of areas relating to employment conditions within Income Support, which require improvement.

Proposal

It is proposed that the reduction in the basic adult component received by a failed jobseeker should be increased from 25% in the first week to 50%. If the failed jobseeker continues to fail the actively seeking work conditions for a second week, then the basic component in respect of the adult would be withdrawn completely.

The Special Payment Regulation ensures that other components for the household – for example in respect of rent and children, continue to be paid.

Financial and manpower implications

There will be a small financial saving, in terms of the reduction of benefit available to individuals who have failed the jobseeking test. However, it is hoped that the main impact of this amendment will be to increase the motivation of individuals to fulfil their jobseeking activities each week, which will help them to regain employment more quickly. A beneficial side effect of this will be a lesser demand for Income Support.

Explanatory Note

These Regulations amend the Income Support (Special Payments) (Jersey) Regulations 2007 to reduce the special payments that are payable to defray any expenses of a household where the household is no longer eligible for income support only because an adult member of the household is not actively seeking work within the meaning of Article 5 of the Income Support Regulations. The effect of the amendment is that in the first week in which a special payment is claimed the payment will amount to the income support to which the household would be entitled were that adult member seeking work, less 50% of the basic component that would have been payable in respect of that adult member had he or she been actively seeking work. In the subsequent week in which a special payment is claimed, if during the previous week that adult member has been actively seeking work then the same amount will be payable as was paid in respect of the previous week. However, if that adult member has not, during the past week, been actively seeking work then the special payment will be reduced by the full value of the basic component that would have been payable in respect of that adult member. But if the adult member actively seeks work for 2 consecutive weeks then the household will regain entitlement to income support.



Jersey

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PAYMENTS) (AMENDMENT) (JERSEY)
REGULATIONS 201-**

Made [date to be inserted]

Coming into force [date to be inserted]

THE STATES, in pursuance of Articles 8 and 18 of the Income Support (Jersey) Law 2007¹, have made the following Regulations –

1 Regulation 5 of the Income Support (Special Payments) (Jersey) Regulations 2007 amended

In Regulation 5(2) of the Income Support (Special Payments) (Jersey) Regulations 2007² for the words “25%” in both places where they appear there shall be substituted the words “50%”.

2 Citation and commencement

These Regulations may be cited as the Income Support (Special Payments) (Amendment) (Jersey) Regulations 201- and shall come into force on 1st August 2011.

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- ¹ *chapter 26.550*
² *chapter 26.550.70*