



# Unemployment benefits

## **Active Integration Income**

### **Unemployment protection**

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## ACTIVE INTEGRATION INCOME PROGRAMME FOR UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL ECONOMIC NEEDS AND DIFFICULTIES FINDING EMPLOYMENT.

### Aim

- To increase the labour market integration opportunities for unemployed people with special economic needs and difficulties finding employment.
- To provide financial aid known as the Active Integration Income for the above-mentioned group.

### RECIPIENT REQUIREMENTS

- You must be unemployed and a registered job seeker throughout the period you receive the allowance, and you must also sign the activity commitment undertaking.
- You must be under 65 years of age.
- You must not be entitled to contributory benefit, unemployment allowance or agricultural income.
- You must not have income that, calculated on a monthly basis, exceeds [75% of the Minimum Wage \(SMI\)](#), excluding the proportional part of two extraordinary payments.
- The sum of the monthly income obtained by all members of the family unit (you, your spouse and children under the age of 26 or over 26 with disabilities or fostered minors), divided by the number of members in the family unit must not exceed [75% of the Minimum Wage](#), excluding the proportional part of two extraordinary payments.
- You cannot have been a recipient of the Active Integration Income Programme in the 365 calendar days preceding the application to join the programme, except in the case of victims of gender violence or domestic violence and people with a disability.
- You cannot have been a recipient of three previous Active Integration Income Programmes.

In addition,

#### **IF YOU ARE LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED**

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- You must be 45 or older.
- You must have used up a contributory benefit or unemployment allowance, except by way of penalty.
- You must be registered with the employment office as a jobseeker on a continuous basis for 12 months or more. This registration is considered not continuous if you have worked 90 days or more in the year preceding the application date or if you have gone abroad.

In both the cases above, a new continuous 12-month period will be required from the new registration date.

Your registration will not be deemed to have been discontinued if you work for less than 90 days and where you can prove that your travel abroad was for 15 days or less and was due to:

- \* Marriage.
- \* Birth of a child.
- \* Death or serious illness of the spouse or family members to the second degree by blood or marriage.
- \* Fulfilment of an unavoidable public or personal duty.

Travel abroad to countries in the European Economic Area and Switzerland will not discontinue your registration, provided that you stay in those countries for less than 90 days in search of employment or to work, for vocational training or international cooperation.

### **IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY.**

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- You must have a recognised degree of disability equal to or greater than 33%, or be a disability pension recipient.
- You must have used up a contributory benefit or unemployment allowance, except by way of penalty.
- You must be registered with the employment office as a jobseeker on a continuous basis for 12 months or more. Your registration is considered to be continuous or otherwise according to the same rules as outlined for the long-term unemployed.
- You do not need to be 45 years old or older.

### **COMMON TO THE TWO PREVIOUS GROUPS**

- Actively searching for employment without having rejected a suitable job offer or refused to take part in promotion, training and professional retraining actions or others to increase employability without a justified cause.
- Accrediting to the State Public Employment Service that during the registration period you have completed at least three actions to actively search for employment ([BAE](#)). Accreditation must be provided at the time of application.

Each of the following are considered [BAE](#) actions:

- \* Employment or self-employed work.
- \* Sending or submitting curriculum vitae to at least three different companies.
- \* Attending at least one job interview.
- \* Registration with at least one placement agency.
- \* Registration as a jobseeker with at least two public or private job portals.
- \* Application to at least one job offer managed by Public Employment Services.

- \* Any training or information action offered by Public Employment Services for the self-employed and entrepreneurs

### IF YOU ARE A RETURNED EMIGRANT

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- You must be 45 or older.
- You must have worked at least 6 months abroad since you last left Spain and have returned within the 12 months preceding the application.
- You do not have to be registered as a job-seeker for at least 12 months on a continuous basis.

### IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF GENDER OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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- Accredited status as a victim of gender-based violence or a victim of domestic violence (see documentation section).

In all cases, in order to participate in the Programme, workers must sign an Activity Commitment in which they declare they are fully available to actively seek work, to work and to take part in the various actions designed to promote their labour market integration that may be agreed subsequently with the Public Employment Services.

## PROCESSING AND DOCUMENTATION

In order to join the Programme, workers must be fully unemployed, seeking work, and make an application to join electronically via <https://sede.sepe.gob.es>, or at their local benefits office ([after arranging an appointment](#) in the electronic office of the Spanish Public Employment Service or by calling 901 01 02 10), or at Public Employment Service registry offices or other offices of the Administration, including the offices with which there is an agreement in place, or in any public registry offices or via administrative channels. They must fulfil the requirements, providing proof of same, at the time of application and sign the Activity Commitment on the same date.

**THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION MUST BE SUBMITTED:**

- [Official Active Integration Income](#) application form.
- Identification of the applicant, spouse and children that appear in the application by means of the following original and valid documentation (this must be shown only in order to check the details):
  - \* Spanish citizens: National Identity Document (DNI) or Passport.
  - \* Foreigners resident in Spain:
    - EU Citizens: European Union citizen registration certificate showing the foreign resident ID number (NIE), together with the passport or identification document of their country of origin.
    - Non-EU Citizens: Foreign Resident Identity Card (TIE) showing the foreign resident ID number (NIE) and passport.
- Any bank document stating the bank account number. You must be the ACCOUNT HOLDER.
- Family Record Book, or an equivalent document in the case of foreign citizens, legally approved and translated.
- In the case of cohabiting and dependent children over 26 years old, certificate of the degree of disability issued by the IMSERSO or the relevant body in the Autonomous Community, or resolution from the INSS, Ministry of Finance and Public Administrations or the Ministry of Defence, recognising their status as a pensioner due to total, absolute or serious permanent disability, or retirement due to being permanently unfit for service.
- Legal or written resolution formalising the fostering arrangement containing the consent of the Public Authority in each region responsible for child protection and the fostering date.
- Judgement and/or agreement in the case of separation or divorce.
- Applicants' supporting documentation, if they are:



## Disabled

- \* Certificate of the degree of disability issued by the IMSERSO or the relevant body in the Autonomous Community, or resolution from the INSS, Ministry of Finance and Public Administrations or the Ministry of Defence, recognising your status as a pensioner due to total, absolute or serious permanent disability, or retirement due to being permanently unfit for service.

## Returned emigrants.

If they are returning from:

- \* A member country of the European Union or the European Economic Area: form U1 or E-301.
- \* Switzerland: Swiss Labour Attachment certificate or form U1.
- \* Australia: liaison form.
- \* A country that is not a member of the European Union or the European Economic Area, or with which there is no unemployment protection agreement: certificate issued by the Provincial Departments or Offices for Labour and Social Affairs of the Government Delegations or Sub-delegations, indicating the date of return and the time worked in the country of emigration.
- Victim of gender-based or domestic violence
  - \* Final judgement condemning the aggressor.
  - \* Legal resolution concluding the criminal proceeding, which indicates that the woman has been a victim of gender-based violence, even though the aggressor was not condemned.
  - \* Protection order in favour of the victim issued by a judge.
  - \* Report from the Public Prosecutor's Office.
  - \* Legal resolution agreeing precautionary penal measures.
  - \* Certificate/report from the social services of the Regional or Local Public Administration.

- Other documents:
  - \* Proof that the applicant fulfils the no-income requirement must be certified by submitting the declaration concerning the members of the family unit and income.
  - \* The Spanish Public Employment Service, subject to prior authorisation from the interested party, will request information from the Spanish Tax Agency on the income earned by the applicant in the previous financial year and may require pay slips, pension collection statements or any other document providing proof of the income received.

#### IF YOU HAVE SUFFERED LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT OR IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY

- [Form](#) declaring active employment search

#### START DATE OF THE ENTITLEMENT TO RECEIVE THE INCOME

The Active Integration Income will be received from the date after the date the worker applies to join the Programme and signs the Activity Commitment.

The fact that the worker participates in Vocational Training for Employment Sub-system courses will not be an obstacle to their entitlement to receive the Income.

#### DURATION

This Income can only be granted for a maximum period of 11 months.

Victims of gender violence or domestic violence who are forced to move home in the 12 months preceding the application to join the Programme or while on the Programme will receive a single additional payment of three months' Income. They can apply for this additional payment electronically via the website <https://sede.sepe.gob.es>, at their local benefits office (after arranging [an appointment](#) in the electronic office of the Spanish Public Employment Service

or by calling 901 01 02 10), at Public Employment Service registry offices or other offices of the Administration, including the offices with which there is an agreement in place, in any public registry offices or via administrative channels.

## AMOUNT

The amount of the Income will be equal to 80% of the Public Income Index ([IPREM](#)).

## PAYMENT

- The Active Integration Income will be paid on a 30-day monthly basis during the month immediately after the month to which it corresponds.
- The income shall be paid monthly in arrears by means of a deposit into the account of the collaborating financial institution stated by the applicant, of which the applicant is the account holder, except under exceptional circumstances where the State Public Employment Service authorises payment in cash

## WORKERS' OBLIGATIONS

- You must actively seek employment.
- You must provide the documentation and information deemed necessary for the purposes of your joining and remaining on the Programme and notify the regional Public Employment Services (SPE) and the National Public Employment Service (SEPE) about your residence and, where applicable, any change to the address provided for notification purposes as soon as this occurs.
- You must take part in the employment programmes or labour market integration, guidance, promotion, training or professional retraining actions that the Public Employment Services deem appropriate
- You must accept a suitable position if offered to you.

- You must renew the unemployment claim in the manner and on the dates shown on the claim renewal document.
- You must appear before the Public Employment Services or the Spanish Public Employment Service when called to do so.
- You must return the document proving you appeared at the time and place stated to accept the job offers provided by the Public Employment Services to such Services within 5 days.
- You must report any reasons for termination, no longer fulfilling requirements and incompatibilities at the time such situations occur.
- You must reimburse any Active Integration Income unduly received.

## COMPATIBILITIES

- With grants and aid of any kind obtained to attend vocational training courses associated with the Vocational Training for Employment Sub-system.
- With part-time work for another person, in which case, the amount of the Income will be reduced in proportion to the number of hours worked and the income collection period will be extended by the same proportion.

## INCOMPATIBILITIES

- With earning income of any kind in excess of [75% of the Minimum Wage](#), excluding the proportional part of two extraordinary payments, without any income obtained from actions or work compatible with receiving the Income being included in the calculation for such purposes.
- With unemployment benefits or allowances and Agricultural Income.
- With Social Security pensions or financial benefits that are incompatible with working or that, without being incompatible, exceed the above-mentioned limits.

- With simultaneously working as self-employed, or for another person on a full-time basis, without prejudice to being entitled to receive aid to encourage employment, where applicable.
- With the welfare assistance that may be granted to victims of gender violence who cannot take part in employment programmes.

If you relocate abroad in order to seek or carry out work, professional improvement or international cooperation for a period of less than six months, the income will be suspended, and on your return you can apply for it to be renewed.

### **ASSISTANCE TO ENCOURAGE EMPLOYMENT**

Workers accepted on the Programme who work full-time as a self-employed person or employed by another person will receive assistance equivalent to 25% of the Income for a maximum period of 180 days. In the case of self-employed work, the assistance is granted subject to the interested party making a specific application for it. Receiving such assistance will not reduce the duration of the Income.

### **TEMPORARY REMOVAL AND RE-JOINING THE PROGRAMME**

The following will be grounds for temporary removal from the Programme:

- Entering prison, if this situation is incompatible with working or taking part in labour market integration actions outside the Prison, when the incarceration period is less than six months.
- Working for another person on a full-time basis for less than six months.
- Being self-employed for less than six months.
- Exceeding the income limit for a period of less than six months.
- Moving abroad to seek work or carry out work, professional improvement or international cooperation for a period of less than six months.

The worker will automatically re-join the Programme after working for another person on a full-time basis, after registration and checking that the cessation of the work was involuntary, and in the case of self-employed workers by application within 15 days following the cessation of the self-employed work or the return date from abroad or the prison release date, subject to registration and reactivation of the Activity Commitment.

Applications that do not meet the above-mentioned deadline will entail the loss of as many days of the Income and Social Security contributions as elapse between the day after the cessation of self-employed work, the return or the release date and the application date.

In the case of removal from the Programme as a result of no longer meeting the no individual or family income requirement, the interested party may re-join the Programme the day after the application if they can provide proof that they will once more meet this requirement and apply within six months from the date they were removed from the Programme, subject to reactivating the Activity Commitment on the application date.

**PERMANENT REMOVAL OR EXCLUSION FROM THE PROGRAMME**

Any of the following situations will be grounds for the worker to be permanently removed from the Programme:

- A. **WORKING FULL-TIME AS SELF-EMPLOYED OR EMPLOYED BY ANOTHER PERSON FOR A PERIOD EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN SIX MONTHS.**
- B. **RECEIVING PENSIONS OR FINANCIAL BENEFITS FROM THE SOCIAL SECURITY THAT ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH WORK, OR BEING ENTITLED TO WELFARE ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF GENDER VIOLENCE WHO CANNOT TAKE PART IN EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMMES.**
- C. **NO LONGER MEETING THE REQUIREMENT OF NOT HAVING AN INCOME FOR A PERIOD EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN SIX MONTHS.**
- D. **QUALIFYING FOR AN UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT OR ALLOWANCE OR AGRICULTURAL INCOME.**
- E. **MOVING ABROAD, EXCEPT IN CASES WHERE THIS RELOCATION ENTAILS TEMPORARY REMOVAL FROM THE PROGRAMME.**
- F. **VOLUNTARILY GIVING UP THE PROGRAMME.**
- G. **UNDULY OBTAINING OR CONTINUING TO RECEIVE THE ACTIVE INTEGRATION INCOME.**
- H. **USING UP THE MAXIMUM DURATION OF THE ACTIVE INTEGRATION INCOME.**
- I. **BEING INCARCERATED FOR A PERIOD EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN SIX MONTHS.**

## LABOUR MARKET INTEGRATION ACTIONS

### INDIVIDUAL MENTORING

Workers included in the Active Integration Income Programme will have an employment advisor at their disposal at all times to provide them with individual assistance and suggest appropriate actions to improve their employability.

### LABOUR MARKET INTEGRATION ROUTE.

Once the worker has been authorised to join the Programme a professional interview between the advisor and the worker will be held within a deadline of 15 days for the purposes of:

- Completing and updating the information on the job-seeker held in the Public Employment Services, precisely defining their professional profile.
- Creating a personal labour market integration plan based on the job-seeker's professional and training characteristics.

Based on all of this, the Personal Labour Market Integration Route best suited to the worker will be established with a schedule and the activities to carry out.

### MANAGEMENT OF JOB OFFERS

The employment advisor will promote the job-seeker's selection and participation in the Public Employment Services job offer management processes.



## INCLUSION IN EMPLOYMENT AND/OR TRAINING PLANS

The Public Employment Services, based on their availability and taking into consideration the labour market integration route that has been deemed most suitable, will promote the job-seeker's joining one of the following Plans or Programmes, with priority over other groups:

- Vocational Training for Employment Sub-system. To provide the worker with the qualifications required by the production system and integrate them in the labour market when they lack training or their qualifications are insufficient or unsuitable.
- Employment Workshops Programme or Workshop Schools Programmes or Trade Schools. To obtain the vocational training and work experience needed to facilitate the worker re-entering the labour market.
- Employment Plans to hire unemployed people to carry out work and services in the public interest, and provide the unemployed person with suitable work experience. The participation of workers in the employment plans will be governed by the Spanish Public Employment Service's regulations concerning the granting of subsidies, both in the context of cooperating with local authorities as well as with bodies in the General State Administration and its Regional Bodies, Autonomous Communities, Universities or appropriate placement agencies.
- Other actions that increase the chances of labour market integration such as support in seeking employment and information and advice on self-employment.

For more information:

**Spanish Public Employment Service**

[www.sepe.es](http://www.sepe.es)

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