



# Fact Sheet on the Right to Work

## Who is eligible?

From 29 June 2018, applicants for international protection who have been waiting 9 months for a first instance decision are eligible to work in Ireland.

If you are awaiting a decision on an application for Subsidiary Protection under the Refugee Act 1996, you are eligible to work in Ireland.

Applicants who hold self-employment permission under the interim scheme, which applied from February 2018, will continue to hold their permission and do not need to apply for a new labour market permission.

If you are under 18, you are eligible to seek permission to work on the same terms. However, special rules apply to people under 18 in employment. For further information about your rights as a young person in employment [click here](#).

## Who is not eligible?

If you have already had a first instance decision and are awaiting an appeal, you will not be eligible to work in Ireland.

If you have received a transfer decision to another EU member state under the Dublin Regulation, you are not eligible to work in Ireland.

If you have had a final negative decision on your application for international protection, you will not be eligible to work in Ireland.

## When should I apply?

Applications can be made from 29 June 2018.

Once you have been waiting 8 months for a first instance decision, you can make an application which will be valid after 9 months.

Permission is for a period of 6 months so applicants can apply for a renewal of permission well in advance of expiry.

## How do I apply?

Application forms are available on the INIS website [here](#).

You can apply online or you can ask for an application form in writing to:

INIS Labour Market Access Unit  
PO Box 12931  
Freeport FDN5264,  
Dublin 2

- To apply, you will need to fill out the application form and provide a clear copy of your valid and in-date temporary residence certificate.
- On the form, you will be asked to confirm that you meet the eligibility criteria.
- You will also be asked to sign a declaration that all information provided is correct and true.
- You will need to print the application form, sign it, scan it and return it by email to [Imauapplications@justice.ie](mailto:Imauapplications@justice.ie)
- Alternatively, you can post the completed form to:

INIS Labour Market Access Unit  
PO Box 12931  
Freeport FDN5264,  
Dublin 2

## What does permission to work mean in practice?

- You will be entitled to work in Ireland once you have been waiting 9 months for a decision at first instance.
- Once your permission to work has been granted, you will continue to hold it until you have a final decision on your international protection application.
- If your first instance decision is positive, your refugee status will entitle you to the same access rights to the labour market as a citizen of Ireland.
- If your first instance decision is negative, you can continue to renew your permission to work through any appeal process you may wish to pursue.
- If you receive a negative **final** decision, your permission to work will cease immediately.