

**YOU'VE BEEN TAKEN OFF INCAPACITY
BENEFIT & YOU INTEND TO APPEAL
BUT
WHAT CAN YOU CLAIM
WHILE YOU WAIT?**

NOTE: This leaflet only applies to first claims made (or deemed to have been made) prior to 27.10.08

You have **4** Options:

OPTION 1: Claim Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)

- You sign-on fortnightly at the Jobcentre;
- National Insurance Contribution 'credits' will be given; (protecting your future benefit/pension rights)
- You'll be paid the full basic rate of JSA, which is higher than Income Support;
- If you win the appeal, you'll revert back to Incapacity Benefit;
- If you lose the appeal, you stay on Jobseekers Allowance as a *jobseeker*.

OPTION 2: Claim Income Support (IS)

- You do not have to sign-on;
- You'll be paid at a *reduced* rate pending appeal; (unless you are entitled to IS on other grounds, such as a lone parent or carer)
- Your National Insurance record will only be protected if you win the appeal (or get IS on other grounds);
- If you do win, you'll be repaid any monies owing;
- If you lose, you will need to sign-on for 'Jobseekers Allowance' in order to get any benefit income.

OPTION 3: Claim nothing

- Wait until the appeal (which could take up to 12 weeks);
 - No National Insurance credits will be given as you are not claiming any benefit.
 - If you win, you'll go back onto Incapacity Benefit, and any arrears will be repaid;
 - If you lose, you'll have to sign-on for Jobseekers Allowance in order to get any income;
- (you might as well do options 1 or 2)

OPTION 4: Make a claim for ESA

- if your GP will give you a fresh sick note, it is possible to make a claim for Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) if more than 8 weeks have passed since you were found fit for work. If your original appeal is ultimately successful, you will be switched back to your original benefit.

MAKING A CLAIM

Claims for the above benefits are made by phoning the Claim Line on 0800 055 66 88. When you get through, you will be asked to press '1' to make a new claim. You will then be told "Press '1' if you have an illness or disability, otherwise press '2' ". If you wish to claim Jobseekers Allowance or Income Support, press '2' - even if you believe that you are ill. Only press '1' if you wish to claim ESA.

For further advice and/or help with completion of application forms, contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau:

Citizens Advice Bureaux

Rugby & District

1st Floor, Chestnut House
North Street
Rugby CV21 2AQ
Tel: 0844 855 2327

Nuneaton/Bedworth

Old Market Tavern
25 Congreve Walk
Bedworth, CV12 8LX
Tel: 0844 855 2322
To book an appointment in
Nuneaton call 024 7635 1049

North Warks

The Parish Rooms
Welcome Street
Atherstone CV9 1DU
Tel: 0844 499 4192

Stratford & District

25 Meer St
Stratford Upon Avon CV37 6QB
Tel: 01789 203299, for advice, or
01789 261966 to book appointment

Warwick & District

10 Hamilton Terrace
Leamington Spa CV37 6QB
Tel 01926 457900

The information in this factsheet is correct as of April 2009

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