## **Jobs Growth Wales Plus and ReAct Plus**

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## **Jobs Growth Wales Plus**

Jobs Growth Wales Plus (JGW+) is a voluntary programme aimed at supporting 16 to 19 year-old claimants in Wales to find sustainable employment and opportunities for further progression.

Suitable claimants are those who are not currently engaged in education, training or employment.

The programme works with a network of contracted providers to deliver tailored highquality training, development and employability support.

Types of support may include:

- the opportunity to take part in work trials and work experience placements
- one-to-one support and guidance from advisers
- the opportunity to obtain recognised qualifications
- help with applying for and starting work with local employers

The programme is not time limited. Claimants can be referred and participate until the day before their 20th birthday. This means that each claimant's experience will be different and that they will progress at a rate that meets their needs.

The provision has different strands as follows:

- engagement (Enrichment or Get Ready activities)
- advancement
- employment

Enrichment and Get Ready activities are for young people who are already enrolled on the JGW+ Programme and for who the provider has assessed would benefit from additional support to:

- prepare them for starting their learning programme
- encourage them to stay on the Programme where otherwise they may be at risk of disengaging or dropping-out

Participants in the engagement and advancement stages of the Programme will receive a weekly training allowance which is deducted from their Universal Credit payment pound for pound.

It is the claimant's responsibility to inform DWP of the amount of their training allowance and to report if the amount changes (this must be reported as 'Other

income' and not 'Earnings'). For evidence, they will be asked to provide a copy of their JGW+ Mini Individual Learning Plan which will show the amount of allowance.

Jobs Growth Wales Plus participants receive support with travel and childcare costs. This support must be exhausted before any top-up is made using Universal Credit or the Flexible Support Fund.

A free meal will be available each day and providers may reimburse the actual cost or provide the meal. Any amount paid for this will be fully disregarded.

Participants in JGW+ remain eligible for Universal Credit while they are taking part in the provision as this is considered to be a voluntary work preparation activity and is recorded as such on the Claimant Commitment. The number of hours spent each week on the provision must be taken into account as part of the participant's overall work search requirements.

As taking part is voluntary, participants cannot be sanctioned for not attending or engaging with the provision.

Eligible claimants must be signposted to Working Wales who will engage directly with them to establish if they are suitable for the provision.

## **ReAct Plus**

ReAct Plus (ReAct+) is a grant funded and flexible programme designed to support unemployed adults aged 18 and over to obtain sustainable employment. It provides individualised support to persons trying to enter the Labour Market by removing barriers and providing support such as:

- grant funded vocational training
- childcare and care costs
- travel costs
- wage subsidies

To be eligible for this support, claimants must:

- be aged 18 and over
- be resident in Wales
- have the right to live and work in the UK and be:
  - unemployed or have been made redundant no later than 12 months before the date of the application for the ReAct+ grant
  - under notice of redundancy
  - o an ex-offender or offender serving their sentence in the community

Claimants who are matched to a job through ReAct+ will be paid at the National Minimum Wage rate or above for a minimum of 16 hours per week over a minimum of 12 months.

Access to financial support is available to cover job skills and training. Additional support including care (in addition to childcare) and transport is also available.

Childcare costs are available as part of the support offered by ReAct+ for costs incurred in connection to participation on the programme. This support must be used before Universal Credit childcare funding is considered or support from the Flexible Support Fund.

Childcare support is also available from the Welsh government, see Childcare Offer for Wales (link is external).

Once the claimant has been referred, they must be signposted to Working Wales (link is external) who will engage directly with them to establish if they are suitable for the provision.

Normal benefit rules apply in terms of the number of hours of attendance.

As taking part is voluntary, participants cannot be sanctioned for not attending or engaging with the provision.

Employers in all sectors in Wales can be considered regardless of their size.

Employers will have access to:

- potential recruits who will match their skills needs to the needs of the business
- a wage subsidy grant to encourage recruitment
- financial incentives to recruit disabled employees or those who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)
- a training support grant to contribute to skills building for their employee

For more information, see ReAct Plus, Working Wales (link is external).