

Citizens' Assembly on Gender Equality

Second Work Meeting 5 December 2020

Dr. Mary Murphy Video on the Welfare System

Term	Definition
Activation (Active Labour Market measures)	Activation policies use policy instruments to increase engagement in job search, they often make receipt of income support conditional on participation in activation programmes and public employment services. Active Labour Market Policies provide support for unemployed or other vulnerable people in their search for employment and include training, employment incentives, entrepreneurship incentives, supported employment, job sharing and direct job creation.
Household payments	In this video household payment refers to the State jobseeker assistance payments. If the household has only one earner, or the jobseeker's spouse, civil partner or cohabitant is low paid, the claimant may be entitled to additional payment on behalf of the 'qualified adult', this additional payment is limited to 70% or .7 of the full job seekers payment.
In-work benefits	In-work benefits are social welfare payments that people may be eligible for when employed. They supplement low income families and incentivise people to get (or remain in) work. In Ireland, this includes the part-time jobseeker's benefit.
Income tested/means tested	To qualify for many forms of social assistance it is necessary to satisfy a means test. This is a way of testing whether you have enough financial resources to support yourself and what amount of social assistance payment you may qualify for.

¹ Definitions are drawn from a variety of sources including the European Commission, Citizens Information, the OECD, the Institute of Labour Economics (IZA) and the Parliamentary Budget Office.

<p>Jobseeker's Transitional Payment (JST)</p>	<p>The Jobseeker's Transitional payment is a special arrangement to support lone parents into the workforce. Under this payment (unlike the regular jobseeker's payments), lone parents do not have to be available and seeking full-time work when their child is between 7 and 14 years of age. This allows lone parents to meet their caring responsibilities. Those getting JST can also avail of activation supports.</p>
<p>Pathways to Work</p>	<p>Pathways to Work is the Government's overarching policy for Activation and Employment Policy framework and aims to improve services to people looking for work. It has been in place since 2012. The latest Pathways to Work covers 2016-2020 and can be found here, a new policy is due soon.</p>
<p>Qualified/dependent adult</p>	<p>A qualified adult (formally known as an adult dependant) is usually the spouse, civil partner or cohabitant of a jobseeker whose income falls below a certain threshold. The presence of such a person in a household may entitle jobseekers to an increase in their welfare payment (see also 'household payments'). Over 90% of qualified adults are women.</p>
<p>Tax individualisation and second earner</p>	<p>In some tax systems (including in Ireland) married or cohabiting couples can be taxed as a household, with lower tax where there is only one income, or where one member of the couple earns below a certain threshold (the 'second earner'). 'Tax individualisation' is when this possibility is removed, and each member of a household is taxed individually. This is generally seen to incentivise the 'second earner' to enter or re-enter the workforce. Second earners represent the majority of women in married or cohabiting couples</p>