

**From:** Mary Pracht  
**Sent:** 18 March 2020 13:20  
**To:** Eoin Brown  
**Cc:** Des Henry  
**Subject:** RE: Query - reply to RSU

Hi Eoin,

All asylum seekers can work legally if they have been 9 months awaiting the decision on their application for international protection and receive a permission to access the labour market.

Where an asylum seeker (age 18 – 66) living in the community has lost their employment then they would be eligible to receive the COVID-19 payment. The issue that I see is that they may not qualify for another DEASP payment at the end of the 6 week period. This cohort doesn't meet HRC and therefore wouldn't qualify for JSA or Basic SWA. They may qualify for JB if they have sufficient contributions. Otherwise, it's only payment through ENPs/UNPs.

The situation is different for those in accommodation centres (direct provision). In this case, the persons needs are met (accommodation, food, etc) and they receive the DEASP weekly daily expenses allowance payment (€38.80 per wk for adult and €29.80 per child). The DEA payment will continue and isn't means tested. The person in this situation does not qualify for the pandemic unemployment payment as they are in receipt of a different DEASP payment.

I will need to get the agreed position out to Area Managers with accommodation centres in their areas.

Give me a ring if you want to discuss further.

Thanks,  
Mary

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**From:** Eoin Brown  
**Sent:** 18 March 2020 10:58  
**To:** Mary Pracht  
**Cc:** Caitriona Bracken; Michael Regan  
**Subject:** RE: Query

Mary,

Please see the attached – if the person was aged between 18 and 66 and lost their job I'd pay but what do you think ?

Asylum seekers living outside DP – I assume these are leave to remain ?

Eoin

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**From:** Michael Regan  
**Sent:** 18 March 2020 10:48  
**To:** Eoin Brown  
**Cc:** Caitriona Bracken  
**Subject:** FW: Query

Eoin

Sorry for this but maybe you know who would be best placed to answer the attached enquiry?

Regards

**Michael Regan**

*Client Identity Services*

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**An Roinn Gnóthaí Fostaíochta agus Coimirce Sóisialaí**

Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection

**Grianán na Soinná, Cora Droma Rúisc, Co. Liatroma, N41 KD81**

Shannon Lodge, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim, N41 KD81.

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**From:** Hanna Dwyer [<mailto:hanna@irishrefugeecouncil.ie>]

**Sent:** 18 March 2020 10:35

**To:** Michael Regan

**Subject:** Query

Dear Micheal,

I hope you are well and do not mind me emailing you.

I was hoping you might be able to point me in the direction of someone within the Department of Social Welfare who could confirm with certainty whether or not the COVID-19 payment would be open to asylum seekers living outside of Direct Provision.

There is some confusion around it and if we could confirm for certain we would then be able to spread the news around our networks.

Thank you in advance for your time,

Hanna Dwyer