

# TUS Programme 2011

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# TUS

## Community Workplace Initiative

### Aims and objectives

- Activation initiative for unemployed people on the Live Register
- Intended to support the work readiness of participants
- Provide short term quality work opportunities to people who are unemployed
- Allow people to carry out beneficial work within communities
- 5,000 places available nationally

# Tus

- Who can participate?
  - Jobseekers who have been continuously unemployed for at least 12 months and signing on a full time basis
  - In receipt of a jobseekers payment from DSP for at least 12 months
- **Currently in Receipt of Jobseeker's Allowance**
- **NOT** open to people on CE, Illness Payments, Lone Parents, Carers Allowance , credits etc.

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- Payment
- Full personal rate of JA plus €20 = **€208.00 per week**
- Plus existing rate payable on JA  
for qualified adult max **€124.80**
- **€29.80** in respect of each qualified child provided  
participants qualifies for the increase.  
Otherwise they may get a half rate qualified child increase.

**Full rate of €208 payable without any reduction for persons aged  
under 25**

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- Participants work 19 ½ hours per week
- Period is for 52 weeks
- Participant cannot re-participate on TUS for a minimum of 3 years
- Participants entitled to 8% of total hours worked for annual leave, 10 ½ days in the 12 month period, pro rata where person works less than 12 months
- Payment is made directly to participant's account
- Secondary benefits as per usual assessment by HSE etc.

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- **Sourcing participants**
- Persons on LR and in receipt of JA will be contacted directly by DSP based on random selection
- When person agrees to participate they are then referred to PAUL Partnership
- PAUL Partnership will match person to suitable work, based on assessment of experience etc.
- Garda vetting will be required for specific positions
- **Failure to agree to be referred or to take up suitable opportunity may lead to loss or reduction of social welfare benefits**

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- **Identifying opportunities**
- PAUL Partnership invites expressions of interest from community/voluntary organisations that will:
  - ‘provide valuable working opportunities in good quality work settings’
- Detailed job descriptions and work proposals will be required. Organisations may indicate possible posts and give outline of this, further details can be provided later.
- Proposed positions cannot displace existing jobs, CE places or commercial activity or duplicate service provision by another agency

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- Expression of Interest Form
- Seeking details of structure and purpose of organisation
- Not necessary for group to be a limited company
- Must have dedicated person who can monitor participants and liaise with Team Leaders
- Details will be sought on specific work to be carried out over the 52 weeks.

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## Possible work opportunities

- Energy conservation work in homes and community buildings
- Social care across all age groups, including people with disabilities
- Caretaking, security and maintenance of community buildings or facilities
- Renovation and enhancement of community, recreation and sporting spaces
- Work which supports cultural and heritage activities
- Repair of equipment for third world countries – computers, bicycles, sewing machines etc.
- Work should be beneficial to the local communities and support voluntary activity

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## Costs

- Tus participants are employees of PAUL Partnership
- Participants allowance paid directly by DSP via Pobal
- Comm/Vol group may need public liability insurance, PAUL P will have employer liability
- Participants will receive H&S and manual handling training from PAUL P.
- Participants will be provided with protective clothing or other such necessary items
- Comm/Vol group to supply materials, equipment etc.

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## Decisions on allocations

- Decisions will be made by a working group within PAUL P based on specified criteria, e.g. capacity and need, location, service to be provided etc.
- PAUL P will allocate participants based on skills and experience matching
- PAUL P. will arrange Garda Vetting where required
- Comm/Vol group will sign Service Level Agreement with PAUL P

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Comm/Vol Group must:

- Provide a safe working environment which meets Health & Safety and other statutory requirements
- Treat participants respectfully and comply with equality legislation
- Not use participants to displace other workers
- Provide a quality work experience which is beneficial to the community

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- Contact details
- Leona Collins – TUS Administrator

PAUL Partnership

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Forms can be downloaded at [www.paulpartnership.ie](http://www.paulpartnership.ie)