

The Swedish Public Employment Service

A short presentation of our work with newly- arrived.

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The Swedish Public Employment Service

- The Swedish Public Employment Service (Arbetsförmedlingen) is a national government agency
- We have 320 local employment offices
- Arbetsförmedlingen Customer Service is one of these and it is the only marketing area that is national
- In May 2012 we had 12 724 employees. Of these, 66 percent were women and 34 percent were men. The average age was 47

Nearly 10 000 of our employees have direct contact with jobseekers and employers. Nearly 1 800 persons work as psychologists or have other specialist functions.

A new law of introduction activities for certain newly-arrived immigrants (2010-12-01).

- The Swedish Public Employment Service took over the municipal coordination responsibilities.
- The municipalities will, however, continue to play an important role in the establishment of the new arrivals. Among other things, through its responsibility for the reception, housing, tuition in Swedish (sfi), civic and other adult education, school, child care, and efforts in the social field.
- Introduction activities are for persons who,
 - are between the ages of 20 and 64 (or 18 and 19 with no parents in Sweden)
 - who has received a residence permit as a refugee or reasons similar to being a refugee
 - who are in the same age group and came to Sweden because they have a relative who has a residence permit as a refugee or for reasons similar to being a refugee, provided that the person has applied for a residence permit no later than 31 of december 2013 after his/hers relative was admitted into a municipality after the 31 december 2008.
- Less than 25% ability to take part in activities – no introduction plan and the responsibility goes over to the municipality

The contents in the law of introduction activities for certain newly-arrived immigrants

- When the person is granted the residence permit, an invitation to an **introduction interview** is sent out. One or several interviews take place containing discussions about occupational experience, training, interests, and ambitions. Together we will assess how the person's ability to take part in establishment activities or for working, are affected by his/her family and health situation.
- During the process of introduction interview, in order to make an **introduction plan**, the person has the right to an **introduction benefit**. The benefit is 231 SEK per day, five days per calendar week. The benefit is paid twice a month.
- **Introduction plan**. Contains various activities that will support the person to find an education leading to work or employment. The length of the introduction plan is **24 months**.

The contents in the law of introduction activities for certain newly-arrived immigrants

- While carrying out the introduction plan and taking part in the activities, the person will receive an **introduction benefit**, which is up to a maximum of 308 SEK, per day, five days per calendar week. The benefit is paid once a month.

The size of the introduction benefits depends on the extent of the introduction plan.

Working within or outside the introduction plan.

The introduction benefit can be reduced if the person has got employment. If the person has work as an activity **in the introduction plan**, in addition to the wage, he/she may also keep the introduction benefit during a **total of six months**.

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After six months, the introduction benefit is reduced to the same extent as the work. For example, if he/she works 25 percent, the introduction benefit is reduced by 25 percent.

If the person has work that is not part of the introduction plan, the introduction benefit is not affected.

Other benefits persons can apply for are,

- supplementary introduction benefit for children
- supplementary introduction benefit for housing

The Swedish Social Insurance Agency decides whether the person can receive these benefits.

The person must submit a monthly report in order for the benefits to be paid.

The contents in the law of introduction activities for certain newly-arrived immigrants

Help and support with housing.

- Residence permit
- Apply for support within 6 months
- The best conditions for finding work or education
- One proposal for housing with support from the Swedish Public Employment service – if not accepted – resolve by themselves through a housing company or local housing agency
- Non-quota refugees. They get support from the Swedish Migration Board.

Activities provided in the introduction plan

- ✓ Tuition in Swedish (sfi, offered by the municipalities)
- ✓ Social orientation (offered by the municipalities)
- **Job preparation activities, including,**
- ✓ Translations and recognition of qualifications (study programmes and prior studies, regulated professions)
- ✓ evaluation and validation of training and professional experience in order to convert the skills and experiences to the swedish labour market
- ✓ professional practice
- ✓ supplementary primary and secondary education and supplementation of previous vocational training
- ✓ preparatory education
- ✓ employment training programmes
- ✓ employment with wage subsidy
- ✓ guidance and recruitment meetings with employers
- ✓ adapt workplaces according to the needs of jobseekers with special needs
- ✓ teamwork with our specialists, for example, employability rehabilitation
- ✓ Introduction guides
- ✓ Supported work experience with a supervisor
- ✓ Practical foundation year

The contents in the law of introduction activities for certain newly-arrived immigrants

When can you not receive introduction benefit?

- You cannot receive introduction benefit if you are receiving benefits from The Swedish Migration Board in accordance with the Reception of Asylum Seekers and Others Act (1994:137)

You can also not receive introduction benefit when you are receiving:

- Sickness or activity compensation
- Sickness benefit
- Rehabilitation benefit
- Maternity allowance
- Parental benefit
- Temporary parental benefit
- Occupational injury annuity
- Allowance for the care of close relatives
- Disease carrier's allowance
- Sick pay

You do not have the right to student aid from The Swedish National Board of Student Aid (CSN) during the period that you are receiving introduction benefit.