



AN OIFIG UM CHOSAINN IDIRNÁISIÚNTA INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OFFICE

ADDENDUM 1 TO INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR APPLICANTS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION (IPO 1)

Section 8 - Your Rights and Obligations in the International Protection Process

Access to the Labour Market

From 9 February 2018, an international protection applicant will be able to access the labour market in two ways:

1. All applicants for international protection can apply to the *Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation* for an **employment permit**. This is an existing scheme and the same conditions for eligibility will be applied to a protection applicant as for all other non-EEA nationals. Full details can be found on the Department's website www.dbei.gov.ie by following the link to 'Employment Permits'.
2. The *Minister for Justice and Equality* has set up an administrative scheme to provide eligible international protection applicants with **permission to be self-employed**. To be eligible for this scheme a protection applicant must, on the date they apply for a permission under the scheme, be waiting on a first instance recommendation on their protection application for 9 months or more. A protection applicant must also have made reasonable efforts to establish their identity and have co-operated with, and not otherwise delayed the protection process. If on 9 February 2018, a protection applicant has already received a first instance recommendation on their protection application, they are not eligible for this scheme.

For further information please see the website of the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service: <http://www.inis.gov.ie/en/INIS/Pages/self-employment-permission>

Please note that certain information furnished for the purpose of an international protection application may be disclosed to the Irish Naturalisation and Immigration Service and other Government Departments, in line with the law, for the purpose of processing an application for access to employment or self-employment.