

## Advice if workers request to stay at home for infection control / childcare reasons

There is no statutory entitlement for an employee to be paid by their employer, if they are absent from work for infection control or childcare reasons. In such circumstances, employers and their employees should engage proactively and work to be as flexible as possible to resolve any issues arising at the level of employment and explore options such as:

- Working from home or other remote working arrangements where feasible and practical;
- Working from an alternative location where feasible and practical;
- Agreement to work back the hours / days lost, more relevant to part time workers;
- Alternative opening days on a day where the organisation is normally closed; and/or
- The taking of holiday leave to avoid employee loss of earnings.

In situations where the employer's ability to provide work to its employees is impacted, the employer may put employees on a period of 'layoff'. Periods of layoff are unpaid.

### ***Layoff / Short Time Working***

Employees who are laid off temporarily, without pay, due to a reduction in business activity, can apply for a Jobseeker's Payment. This application can be made online at [mywelfare.ie](http://mywelfare.ie) or in person at an Intreo Centre.

Employees who are put onto short-time working by their employer due to a reduction in business activity related to Covid-19 may apply for a Short Time Work Support payment. This application can be made in person at an Intreo Centre.

[Click here for an FAQ for IBEC on short time working / lay off.](#)