

# Returning to Ireland and seeking work

## Start your job search before you return

Many employers will facilitate remote interviews by Skype or phone so it's best to try to start your job search online before your return. Make sure you have references from your overseas employers too.

## Use online resources

LinkedIn and websites like [www.jobsireland.ie](http://www.jobsireland.ie), [www.indeed.ie](http://www.indeed.ie), and [www.irishjobs.ie](http://www.irishjobs.ie) are a good place to start. You'll also find useful jobs related information on the 'Coming Home' section of the Department of Foreign Affairs' **Global Irish** website at <https://www.dfa.ie/global-irish/returning-to-ireland/>.

## Talk to people in the sector you're interested in

This may seem obvious but these are the people who will be able to give you the best information on the kind of work you hope to do - what the pay is like, where the best opportunities are, things to be aware of, etc.

If you are still abroad and planning a return, you may be in a position to make a short visit first. If so, make some calls and arrange to meet others working in the same industry. You'll learn a lot and it's a good networking opportunity too!

## Help while you seek work

If you are unemployed on your return to Ireland, you may be eligible for a job seekers related social welfare payment during your job search. Read about the sort of supports available at [www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social\\_welfare/social\\_welfare\\_payments/unemployed\\_people/](http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/social_welfare_payments/unemployed_people/)

Depending on how long you have been gone, you'll have to prove that you have made Ireland your home again because of something known as the **Habitual Residence Condition (HRC)**. Make sure to provide supporting documentation with your application e.g. things like your one way ticket, shipping or excess baggage receipts, evidence of renting a property in Ireland, proof of closing bank accounts abroad etc. It's also helpful to include a cover letter detailing your circumstances. Find out more at [www.migrantproject.ie/returning-to-ireland/social-welfare-habitual-residence/](http://www.migrantproject.ie/returning-to-ireland/social-welfare-habitual-residence/).

You'll also need to satisfy a **means test** to qualify – read about this at [www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social\\_welfare/irish\\_social\\_welfare\\_system/means\\_test\\_for\\_social\\_welfare\\_payments/means\\_test\\_for\\_jobseekers\\_allowance.html](http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/irish_social_welfare_system/means_test_for_social_welfare_payments/means_test_for_jobseekers_allowance.html).

## Check your Qualifications - maybe upskill

If you studied abroad, you should check that your foreign qualification is recognised in Ireland. **NARIC Ireland** ([www.qqi.ie/Articles/Pages/NARIC-Ireland.aspx](http://www.qqi.ie/Articles/Pages/NARIC-Ireland.aspx)) can provide information on this. If your qualification is not recognised, you may need to upskill on return. Similarly, if you studied in Ireland but feel you might benefit from more up-to-date training, you will find information on further education and training from the website of the **Education and Training Boards Ireland** at [www.etbi.ie](http://www.etbi.ie).

If you have construction qualifications from outside Ireland, you should check with **Solas** (<http://solas.ie/>) if they are recognised here. While qualifications from the EU and UK may be recognised, those from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and other countries outside of the EU generally are not.

## Cast your net wide

You may be qualified or have experience in a specific field or industry but plenty of skills are transferable to other areas. Do some research, think outside the box and consider where else your talents and skills might fit. It could open up a great deal more opportunities to you.

Talking to a recruitment company and registering with them may be a good way to do this. Some recruitment companies even offer services tailored to returning emigrants (like **CPL OneTribe** - [www.cpl.ie/onetribe](http://www.cpl.ie/onetribe)).

## Persistence is key

Rome wasn't built in a day, as they say. Job-hunting takes time and it can be very disheartening to get knocked back. Keep asking for feedback and follow-up with recruiters. If things are getting you down and you need support, make sure to talk it out with someone and see [www.yourmentalhealth.ie](http://www.yourmentalhealth.ie) for tips on staying well.

We would like to acknowledge the support of the Government of Ireland **Emigrant Support Program**.



Government of Ireland  
Emigrant Support Programme



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

*Disclaimer: This leaflet contains guidelines only. Crosscare Migrant Project has made every effort to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate; however, policies and legislation can change at any time. All information should be clarified with the relevant government department or authority*