

S.I. 35 of 2026

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF SCHEME ACT, 2026

(Act 2 of 2026)

Unemployment Relief Scheme Regulations, 2026

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 7 of the Unemployment Relief Scheme Act, 2026, the Minister responsible for Employment and Human Resource Planning hereby makes the following Regulations —

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Unemployment Relief Scheme Regulations, 2026.

Categories of participants of the Scheme

2. There shall be two categories of participants to the Unemployment Relief Scheme (hereinafter referred to as the Scheme) —

- (a) full time employment; and
- (b) part time employment.

Conditions of employment

- 3.(1) The terms and conditions of employment under the Scheme are as follows —

- (a) the registration of participants shall be made at the Ministry of Employment and Human Resource Planning in such manner as may be specified by the Ministry;
- (b) the employment under the Scheme shall be for a period of 6 months and continuation as a participant upon expiration of this period may be reviewed or caused to be reviewed by the Ministry;
- (c) participants shall be allowed to work for a maximum of 36 hours a week on full time basis, and a maximum of 24 hours on part time basis;

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) of subsection (1), a person shall not be enrolled on the Scheme for more than three times, except for cases supported and justified by relevant reasons and documentation.

(3) Participants who drops out of the Scheme without any valid reason or who commit a serious disciplinary violation shall exit the Scheme and shall not be considered to re-enroll for 12 months from the date of exit.

(4) The period of employment under the Scheme shall not be considered as a period of employment for the purposes of benefits under the Employment Act (Cap. 69), other than the benefits provided under the provisions of these regulations.

(5) A person employed under this Scheme shall receive a monthly allowance at the rate, which is not less than the minimum wage rate per hour applicable for the normal workers.

(6) The employer shall pay the total allowance and claim a refund of 70% of the allowance with the Ministry, based on participants' attendance records and the documentation provided.

(7) A person employed under this Scheme shall be eligible for annual leave, sick leave, lunch breaks, 24 hour rest as per the provisions of the Employment Act.

(8) A person employed under the Scheme shall not be placed or considered to be on probation.

(9) Participants of the Scheme may gain practical work skills through the on-the-job training.

(10) The employer shall record the daily attendance of the employee and no allowance shall be paid for unauthorised absence.

(11) A person employed under the Scheme shall not be entitled to 13th month pay under the Employment Act (Cap. 69).

MADE this 7th day of May, 2026.

**MS. IDITH SHARON ALEXANDER
MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND
HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING**
