

Being made redundant can be very stressful, but it can also offer new opportunities for changing the way you work or the type of job you do.

What are my options?

You should at least consider the following:

- Looking for a job
- Returning to study to update your skills or qualifications – many distance learning or online courses are extremely flexible.
- Working flexible hours, such as part-time, shift work or job sharing. Your Money Guider can offer you information on this.
- Working for yourself: this could be self-employed or freelance
- Volunteering to gain useful experience and strengthen your CV
- Moving to a new area to find work: does this give you the chance to try a change of scenery?

Who can help me?

The Redundancy Action Scheme (**ReAct**) is a programme of funding for training provided by the Welsh Government for people living in Wales who are facing redundancy.

You can receive a training award of up to £1,500 to help you get the skills you need to land a new job. You can train while you are job hunting or you can go on courses to get the skills you need.

Who is eligible?

Support under the ReAct scheme is available if you:

- have become unemployed in the last 3 months as a result of redundancy, are currently unemployed, and have not been in continuous employment for 6 weeks or more since being made redundant **or**
- are currently under notice of redundancy **or**
- have not undertaken any publicly funded training since being made redundant.

What is available?

There are 3 parts to ReAct:

- Recruitment and Training Support
- Discretionary Award - Vocational Training
- Discretionary Award - Extra Support

Support is available to help increase your skills and remove any barriers to learning new skills or returning to work. You will need to have your training needs assessed by Careers Wales, who will also advise on suitable training courses venues for you.

The following financial support is available:

- A contribution towards agreed training (up to a maximum of £1,500)
- help towards the cost of travelling to training courses
- overnight accommodation costs (where appropriate)
- a contribution towards childcare costs whilst training (subject to terms and conditions).
- In some circumstances, help with the cost of equipment for individuals with a learning difficulty, disability, or a work-limiting health condition.

You can get more information on ReAct from your Money Guider or by calling their freephone helpline on 0800 028 4844.

If you are unemployed and claiming benefits

Remember - You can usually do some part-time study without it affecting your benefits. Check with Jobcentre Plus before you start a course.

Some courses, including courses to help improve reading, writing and number skills, are free. There's a wider range of free courses available if you are on income-related benefits. Help with childcare and other costs may also be available.

Good to know - If you are on the Steps to Employment learning programme for adults aged 18 and over you may get an extra training payment on top of your benefit payment.