

## MANDATORY FOR ANYONE IN RECEIPT OF A SOCIAL INTEGRATION INCOME

Up and until 2016, recipients aged 25 years were free to sign up for an individualised project for social integration or not. However, as early as 2002, some public centres for social welfare (PCSWs) had already expanded, not to mention generalised, the practice of concluding an IPSI. Other PCSWs were using them for certain types of support (jobseekers, people looking for housing...) or for specific target groups (the homeless, people under the age of 25 in receipt of financial assistance equivalent to a social integration income (EFA), ...).

A bill amending the Right to Social Integration (RSI) Act was tabled in May of 2016. This bill was designed to introduce three new aspects into the RSI Act, one of which an extension of the obligation to conclude an IPSI.

The new Act was adopted on 21/07/2016 and came into effect on 01/11/2016. It significantly changed the IPSI provisions of the RSI Act.



## WHOM TO CONTACT?

### THE SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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#### How to get there

Metro station : Madou  
Bus : 29 (Clovis) ;  
61 (Steurs) ;  
63 (Saint-Josse)

#### Drop-in centre

Monday to Friday  
from 08:45 to 11:45

Or via our call center  
0800 35 254

Monday to Friday  
8am-12pm | 1pm-4.30pm

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## INDIVIDUALISED PROJECTS FOR SOCIAL INTEGRATION



## WHAT IS AN IPSI?

**An Individualised Project for Social Integration Project (IPSI) outlines the process and objectives that are essential to social and/or professional integration of anyone in receipt of a social integration income and who isn't ready for the labour market (yet).**

**An IPSI is first and foremost designed to boost people's chances of professional integration by offering them training or full-time education for instance.**

**An IPSI is not a stand-alone right. It always comes with financial support from the PCSW: a social integration income or equivalent financial assistance (SII/EFA).**

**People don't always have to sign an IPSI to be eligible for or hold onto their social integration income. However, an IPSI is mandatory:**

- **For anyone under the age of 25;**
- **For anyone over the age of 25 who didn't qualify for social integration during the previous 3 months;**
- **If one of the parties requests it.**

**For equity and health reasons, the conclusion of a mandatory IPSI may be deviated from.**

**The most suitable IPSI will depend on a person's specific situation, ambitions and opportunities for social and/or professional integration.**

An IPSI is a written contract between an individual and the PCSW. At the request of one of the parties, one or more third parties can also be party to the contract.

## WHAT ARE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS?

An IPSI can take several forms. But whatever the form, it must always meet the following 8 general conditions:

### 1/ Contractualisation of the IPSI

An IPSI is drafted by the social worker in charge of the file, in consultation with the applicant, and then formalised in a contract.

### 2/ Procedural guarantees in the context of the IPSI negotiation process:

- Applicants may bring a person of their choice along to the meeting with the social worker;
- Furthermore, applicants are given 5 calendar days' reflection time before signing a social integration contract;
- Applicants can ask to be heard by the centre before any decision on the granting, refusal or review of their IPSI is taken.

### 3/ Content-related terms

An IPSI contract sets out the various parties' undertakings, i.e. those of the PCSW, those of the applicant and, where applicable, those of one or more external partners.

### 4/ Duration of the IPSI

Any integration contract must define the duration of the IPSI. That duration may be subject to an evaluation and adjustment of the IPSI and will also depend on the content of the project. For instance, a full-time course must cover the duration of the programme.

### 5/ Signature of third-party participant(s)

Aside from signing the IPSI contract, any external partner(s) involved must also state the extent to which it/they will ensure the performance of the contract and, where applicable, take part in its evaluation.

### 6/ Name of the social worker

The contract must list the name(s) of the members of staff who will replace the social worker when he or she is temporarily unavailable.

### 7/ Mandatory evaluation of the IPSI

The integration contract that sets out the IPSI is an evolutionary process which makes it essential that it is evaluated on a regular basis (as a minimum 3 times a year). The manner in which the project will be evaluated must also be contractually defined.

### 8/ End of the IPSI

An IPSI automatically comes to an end as soon as the PCSW with whom the IPSI has been concluded is no longer entitled to pay out the social integration income because the beneficiary has moved to another area or the project has come to an end.

**Comment:** PCSWs will continue to pay out a social integration income to people in full-time education and to anyone who signed up for an IPSI and follows it uninterruptedly. In other words, in cases like these, a recipient's change of address will not entail the end of the IPSI, or a change in PCSW.