

Advice on Break-Times

Break-Times are covered under the Working Time Act Legislation.

In general, employees are entitled to a minimum 15 minute break when you have worked for 4½ hours. If you work more than 6 hours you are entitled to a 30 minute break. These times are a minimum requirement by law under the Act.

There is no entitlement to be paid for these breaks and they are not considered working time. It is important to note, although your breaks are not considered working time, you do not have to pay or owe time back to your employer as this would result in extending the working day. There is no provision in the Working Time Act for this to be allowed.

Please note, it is Forsá's position that Break-Times should be of equal duration for all staff working a full-time post in a school setting, i.e. Break-Times duration should be of equal duration for SNAs, teachers, school secretaries and caretakers.

