

Extension of Grace Period & Volunteering of Services

Michael Meade
President
ISA Ireland Section
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Extension of Grace Period

ISA wishes to support its loyal Members during these difficult economic times. Therefore the Executive Board of ISA has agreed to an extension of membership benefits to unemployed Members. This extension will last for a period of up to nine months beyond the current "active grace" period that now exists for three months after a paid membership period has expired. Certain practical conditions will be attached to this extension with the key conditions expected to be that this will be a one-time offer and that the Member concerned must be actively seeking work which would lead to a continuance of the said membership of ISA.

During the extension, all Member benefits will continue, including Division memberships, except that delivery of InTech and any Division newsletters will be in digital form, and no ISA Directory of Automation will be mailed. Members will continue to receive benefits during this term, as long as they remain unemployed.

This program is available to Members who enter active grace status on or after 1 January 2009 and who apply by 31 March 2010 for the extension and any Member, other than Student Members, may request this extension.

Should you wish to avail of this valuable service then please contact your Membership Team at -

John Downey
Membership Chair
ISA Ireland Section
PO Box 203
Togher Mail Centre
Cork
E-Mail : info@isa.ie

Volunteering of Services

Time is the most precious non-renewable of all the world's resources because our personal possession of this resource is both indeterminate and cannot be increased. Therefore such should be utilised very wisely indeed and so the giving of time freely for the benefit of others is to be much treasured.

Generally, volunteering is described as an unpaid activity where someone gives their time to help an organisation or an individual who they are not related to. Volunteering is therefore "...an activity that involves spending time, unpaid, doing something that aims to benefit the environment or individuals or groups other than (or in addition to) close relatives".

In our era of pop psychology and self-help, few things can make such a profound difference to an individual as a spirit of engaged service and volunteerism. Studies have shown that a key motivation for volunteering is social exchange and obligation to society and this further leads to improve the happiness, life satisfaction, self-esteem and sense of mastery of people and delivers physical and mental health benefits.

The Ireland Section is greatly in need of new such volunteers to serve so that we may continue and expand our services to the Membership. Perhaps in the current economic climate you find yourself with some spare time on your hands to which you wish to put to good use or indeed you wish to expand your current work-rate into a valuable input to your Society. If so then please contact me at

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