

Questions about temporary unemployment?

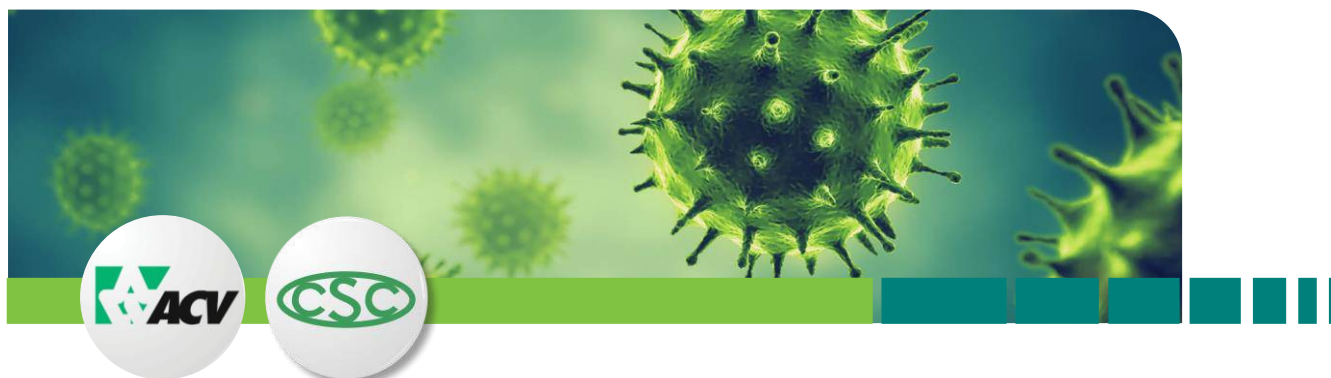
Here you will find the most frequently asked questions and answers about temporary unemployment. This page is constantly updated.

If you are a member of ACV-CSC, **you can apply for temporary unemployment online**. This is the fastest way to submit your request.

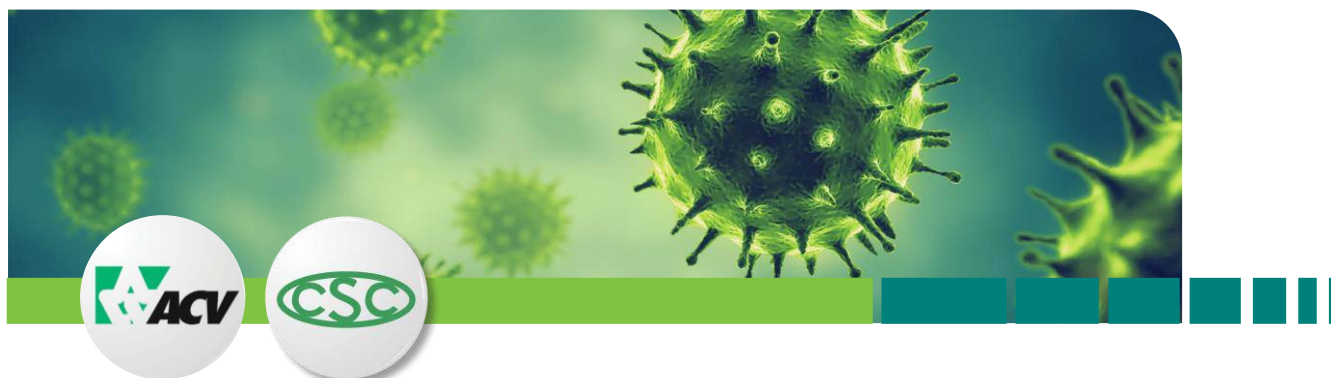
Go the [Simplified application for temporary unemployment](#).

Inhoud

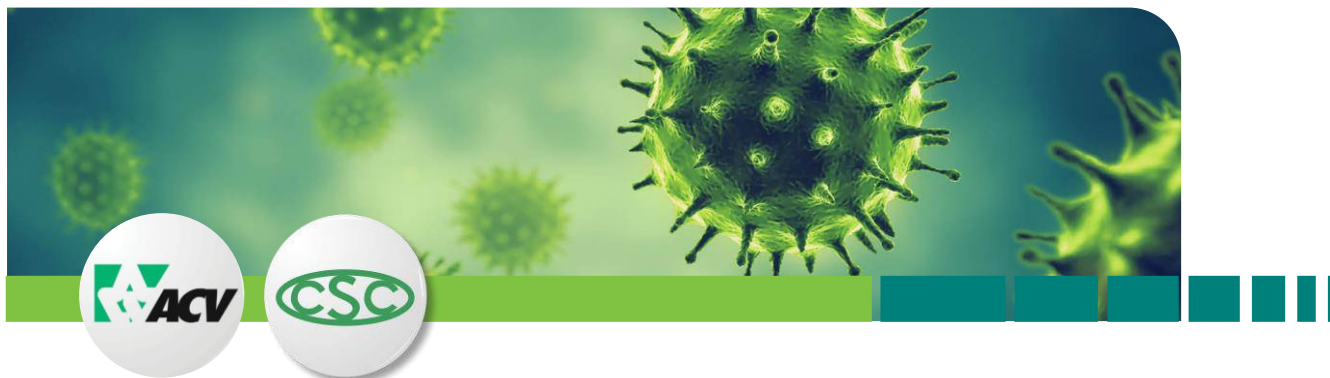
Your application.....	4
My employer says he will fill in the temporary unemployment documents. Is there anything I must do? .4	
I applied for temporary unemployment online. How do I know my application is in order?	4
My temporary unemployment file is in order. What happens and when shall I be paid?.....	4
What happens if I entered the wrong date on the form?.....	5
My employer refuses to apply for temporary unemployment benefits. What should I do?.....	5
Your payment.....	5
I am entitled to temporary unemployment benefits. How much shall I receive?	5
Where can I find information about my unemployment benefit payments?	6
When will I get paid?.....	6
How long does it take to get paid?	7
The government mentioned an amount of € 1450 in temporary unemployment benefits. What is this about?.....	7
I need a certificate for my banking institution. Who can help me out in this regard?	8
I am temporarily unemployed. Am I still entitled to extra-legal benefits such as meal vouchers, eco vouchers, etc.?	8
What is temporary unemployment?.....	9
What does unemployment due to economic reasons mean?.....	9
What is temporary unemployment due to force majeure?	9
How many days do you need to have worked in order to be entitled to temporary unemployment benefits?	9
Where can I find the most up-to-date information on temporary unemployment?.....	10
Temporary unemployment and leaves	10



What does economic unemployment mean for my end-of-career scheme?.....	10
My employer forces me to take leave first. Only then will he put us on temporary unemployment. Is that allowed?.....	10
I'm temporarily unemployed, but I have a number of scheduled days off coming up. What happens to my holiday leave?.....	11
I'm temporarily unemployed. How does this affect my annual holiday leave?.....	11
I'm temporarily unemployed. It is Easter Monday soon. Will this public holiday still be paid?.....	11
I'm taking parental leave / time credit. Currently I'm only working part-time (80%). Can I combine this with temporary unemployment?	12
I'm on parental leave / time credit. Can I end this prematurely?	12
Temporary unemployment and overtime	12
Am I entitled to a compensation when I work overtime?	12
How many voluntary overtime hours can I perform at maximum?	13
Temporary unemployment and sickness	13
I currently work in a system of progressive work resumption. What happens if I become temporarily unemployed?	13
I am temporarily unemployed, but I get ill. What should I do?	13
I'm ill and receive guaranteed pay from my employer. Temporary unemployment is put into effect. What are the consequences?	14
I'm pregnant and the due date is approaching. My employer asks me to choose between sick leave and temporary unemployment. Is that allowed?	15
Temporary unemployment and resignation.....	15
I am in my cancellation. What will happen to my notice period now that I am temporarily unemployed?.....	15
I resigned and am serving my notice period. I have not yet signed a contract with my new employer. What happens now?.....	16
I resigned. I signed my contract with my new employer, but I cannot commence employment since the company has put all employees on temporary unemployment. What happens now?	16
Your situation	17
Can I combine a survivor's pension with temporary unemployment benefits?.....	17
I receive a (survivor's) pension and do some odd jobs. My contract has been suspended because of temporary unemployment. Am I allowed to combine the benefits with my pension?	17
I'm temporarily unemployed, but I also have a flexi-job. Can I keep working in my flexi-job?.....	18
As a temporary worker, am I also entitled to temporary unemployment?	18
I have a flexi-job, but all activities were stopped. Am I entitled to temporary unemployment benefits?..	19



I work in a two-man business. My employer has been infected. Am I entitled to temporary unemployment?	19
My company is forced to stop production because it was impossible to guarantee minimum safe staffing. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?.....	19
My company supplies other companies. These companies are now closed. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?.....	19
My company is dependent on a supplier for its activities. This supplier is currently unable to deliver. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?	20
I work for two different employers and both have applied for temporary unemployment. Do I need to submit two requests with the ACV?.....	20
I'm temporarily unemployed because of the coronavirus crisis. To supplement my income, I would like to take some odd jobs. Is that allowed?.....	20
I have a secondary profession. Can I keep pursuing these activities when receiving temporary unemployment benefits?.....	20
I'm temporarily unemployed. Can I do volunteer work without losing my benefits?.....	21
I am a volunteer firefighter / Civil Protection volunteer. Can I continue to do this even though I'm temporarily unemployed?.....	21
I have an income guarantee allowance (IGA) and am now temporarily unemployed. Do I need to submit a request and what about my C3 part-time form?.....	21
I have a fixed-term contract. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?	22
I'm barred from receiving unemployment benefits. Could I qualify for temporary unemployment benefits?	22
I'm a target group employee in a sheltered workshop. I have progressively resumed work. Am I also entitled to temporary unemployment benefits?.....	22
I'm a cross-border worker with a contract from a temporary employment agency. Am I also entitled to (temporary) unemployment benefits?	23
I'm temporarily unemployed. What happens to the insurance policies paid for by my employer?.....	23
I receive a monthly expense allowance as a fringe benefit. Will I still receive this allowance in the period that I am temporarily unemployed?.....	23
I work in the non-profit sector as a home-based family worker. Can I apply for temporary unemployment?	24
I work as a paid sportsperson. All sports activities have been suspended. Can I apply for temporary unemployment?	24
I am employed on the basis of article 60. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?.....	24



Your application

My employer says he will fill in the temporary unemployment documents. Is there anything I must do?

To ensure you qualify for unemployment benefits, your employer must indeed fill in the temporary unemployment documents. However, the employee must also always submit the application.

As a member of ACV-CSC, you can apply for your temporary unemployment benefits online.

However, if you have had temporary unemployment with your current employer at any time during the past 3 years and if you are a member of ACV-CSC, you do not need to do anything. ACV-CSC and your employer will work together on your application.

I applied for temporary unemployment online. How do I know my application is in order?

You will see a confirmation on the screen when you have completed your application. We do endeavour to process your request as quickly as possible.

You should also receive a confirmation e-mail. Since we receive quite a lot of requests, the confirmation e-mail may take a while. Also, check your spam folder, as our e-mail may have landed there.

My temporary unemployment file is in order. What happens and when shall I be paid?

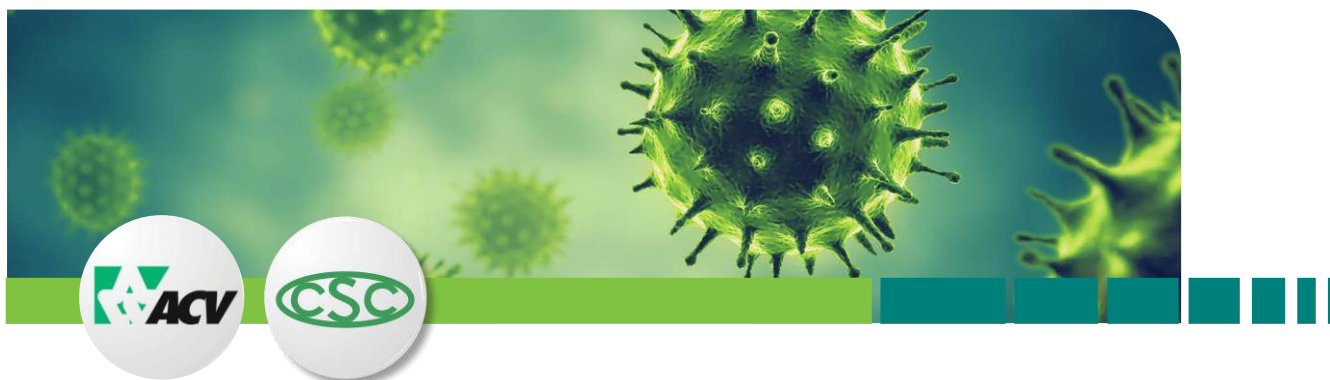
ACV-CSC will follow up your file

- ACV-CSC will prepare your application and send your file to RVA-ONEm.
- Please note: if something is missing in your file, we will contact you by email or by phone. Therefore, please do not send the same request twice: this will only delay and complicate the application.

Payment

You do not need to submit any document to us in order to receive payments.

- ACV-CSC can make the payment as soon as your employer or their social secretariat has sent your unemployment data regarding the previous month to the government. Your employer can do this at the earliest from the beginning of the following month.
- ACV-CSC makes every effort to ensure your payment is made as soon as possible.



What happens if I entered the wrong date on the form?

- If the date you have indicated lies before your first day of temporary unemployment (e.g. 15 March instead of 17 March), you do not need to do anything.
- If you have set a later date (e.g. 19 March instead of 17 March), send the correct date to your local ACV-CSC office by e-mail.

Important: include the following information in the subject line of the e-mail:

NATIONAL REGISTER NUMBER - NAME - CHANGE APPLICATION DATE FOR TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT

We will then investigate your original application and check whether the file has already been submitted to RVA-ONEm. If this is the case, we will ask RVA-ONEm to adjust your original application.

My employer refuses to apply for temporary unemployment benefits. What should I do?

If your employer refuses to apply for temporary unemployment benefits or if he does not take the necessary steps for application, please contact your local RVA-ONEm unemployment office.

RVA-ONEm can then decide to verify your situation and give your employer the necessary instructions.

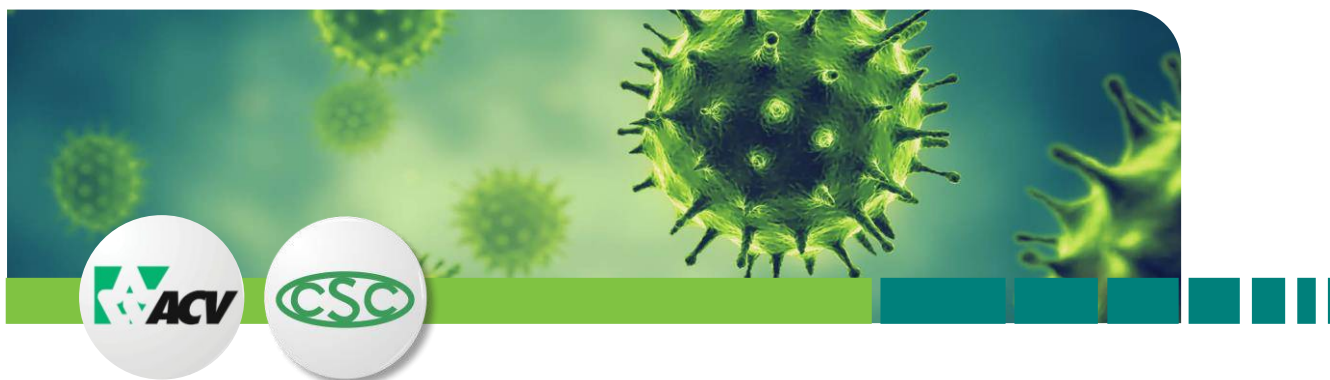
Your payment

I am entitled to temporary unemployment benefits. How much shall I receive?

Before the coronavirus crisis, the unemployment benefits amounted to 65% of the (capped) gross wages. Owing to the insistence of ACV-CSC, the government increased this percentage to 70% of the (capped) gross wages.

The gross salary is capped at 2,754.76 EUR. If your gross salary is lower, you will receive 70% of your gross salary. If your gross salary is higher, it will be limited to the amount of 2,754.76 euros.

ACV-CSC obtained the payment of an allowance on top of this. RVA-ONEm pays 5.63 euros per day (or 146 euros based on 26 days per month) on top of the 70% of the limited gross wages to workers temporarily unemployed due to force majeure. Workers are eligible for this allowance as from 13 March.



ACV-CSC also obtained that days of temporary unemployment due to force majeure will be assimilated to worked days with regard to annual leave (holiday pay and amount of leave).

Please note:

- 26.75% income tax will be withheld from your benefits.
- You can combine the extra allowance of 5.63 euros with the additional allowances agreed in your sector or company, but only if you are temporarily unemployed due to force majeure.

Where can I find information about my unemployment benefit payments?

You can log on to Mijn ACV/Ma CSC (via eID or ItsMe) in order to monitor your payments. This is the fastest and safest procedure, which also prevents our telephone lines from being overloaded.

When will I get paid?

To qualify for payment of unemployment benefits, you need to have filed an application yourself. If you have not done so yet, please take care of this first. And make sure to join the ACV-CSC if you are not yet a member.

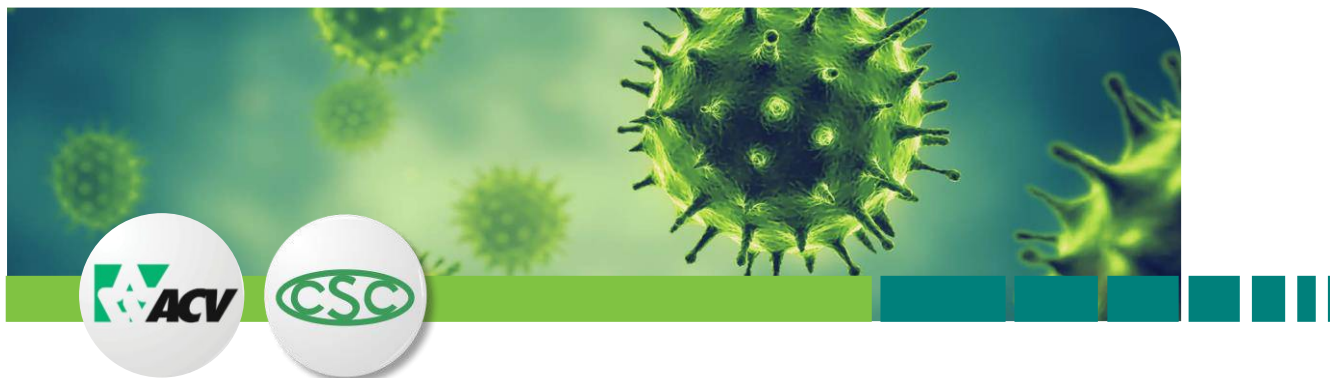
Your application will be processed by the ACV-CSC. This can take a few days because we are processing hundreds of thousands of applications at the moment. You can monitor the status of your application via Mijn ACV. Login using your eID or Itsme on your smartphone.

Once we have processed your application, you need to take care of one more thing. ACV-CSC can only carry out the order to pay benefits once your employer or their payroll service provider has passed on your details with regard to unemployment in the previous month to the authorities. This can be done no earlier than at the start of the next month. So the payment of unemployment benefits for March can only be processed in early April at the earliest.

We currently have not yet received all information from all employers. It also takes a great deal of effort from the employers to get all their data processed in time.

It subsequently depends on your banking institution how soon the benefits are actually paid into your account.

In short, you will have to practise some patience.



How long does it take to get paid?

The first payments for March will be carried out on 1 April for all applications that have been processed in full. Your unemployment benefits will be paid into your account within two days. We will continue to process payments in the course of the first and second week of April.

If you have not yet received your unemployment benefits by 10 April, this is probably because your employer has not yet submitted the social risk declaration (SRD) to the authorities. We can only pass on the order to pay unemployment benefits to your financial institution when your employer has taken care of this.

The government mentioned an amount of € 1450 in temporary unemployment benefits. What is this about?

Definition

€ 1450 is the minimum gross amount for a full month of temporary unemployment in case of full-time employment.

€ 1450 equals the minimum gross unemployment benefits in case of temporary unemployment. The maximum gross unemployment benefits amount to approximately € 1930. For a full month of temporary employment, you will receive an amount somewhere in between this minimum and maximum that corresponds to 70% of your basic gross pay.

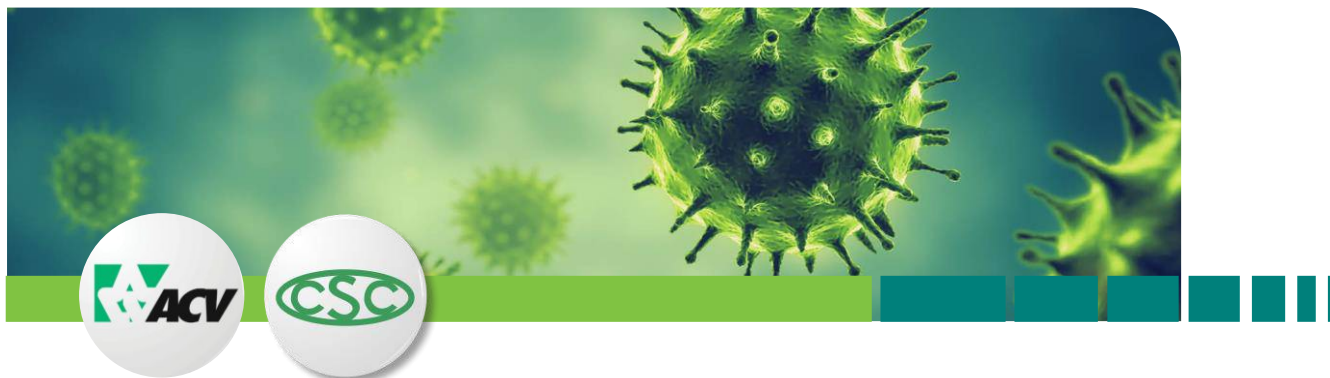
If your gross wage exceeded € 2067.26 (basis for minimum unemployment benefits), you will receive a higher amount because you are entitled to higher unemployment benefits than the minimum amount of € 1450. A maximum gross monthly amount of € 2754.76 is taken into account for the calculation.

Every employee who is temporarily unemployed on account of coronavirus measures is furthermore entitled to a gross bonus of € 5.63 for each day of unemployment.

These gross amounts are subject to 26.75% advance business tax.

Example:

Marc works fulltime and is temporarily unemployed from 17 March until 31 March on account of coronavirus measures.



Marc will receive a gross minimum of € 806.06 (= net minimum of € 590.44) in early April. His family situation is not taken into account.

If Marc's gross monthly wage exceeded € 2067.26, he will receive a higher gross amount. Marc furthermore receives a gross bonus of € 5.63 for each day of unemployment.

If Marc earned less than € 2067.26, he will receive a gross amount of € 806.06 as well as a gross bonus of € 5.63 for each day of unemployment.

Marc will obviously receive his regular pay from his employer for his work from 1 March until 16 March.

I need a certificate for my banking institution. Who can help me out in this regard?

You can ask your employer to provide a certificate which demonstrates that you have applied for temporary unemployment. This is usually a copy of the employer's declaration.

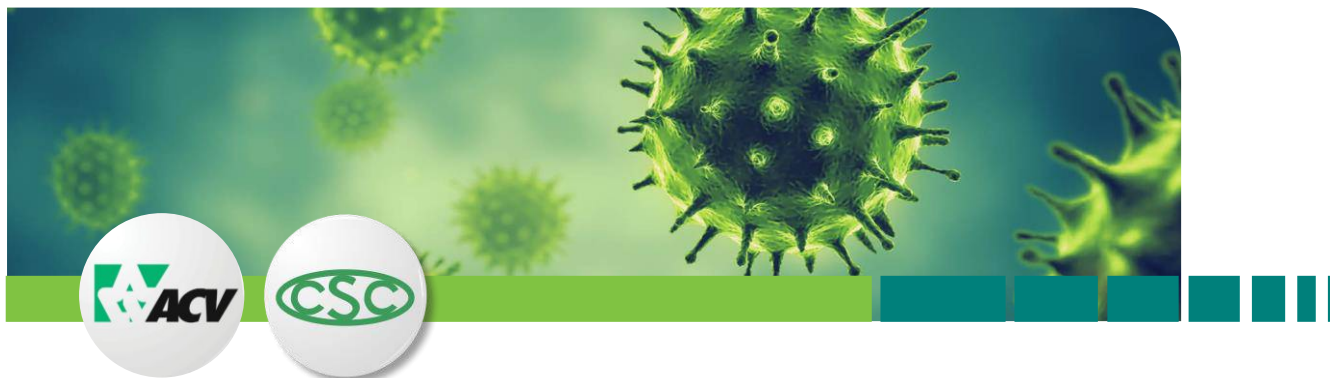
As soon as your benefits have been paid, you can request a 'payment certificate' from the ACV-CSC. To do so, login on Mijn ACV using your eID (or Itsme on your smartphone). You can download the certificate from Mijn ACV.

I am temporarily unemployed. Am I still entitled to extra-legal benefits such as meal vouchers, eco vouchers, etc.?

Meal vouchers and eco vouchers are given per working day. You will therefore not receive these for the days when you were temporarily unemployed.

Whether you receive other fringe benefits (e.g. the use of a company car, smartphone, laptop, hospitalization insurance, group insurance) during the period in which you are temporarily unemployed depends on the agreements made in the company. If no agreements have been made in this regard, these benefits will continue.

The sectoral collective labor agreement determines whether the days of temporary unemployment are included in the calculation of your end-of-year bonus.



What is temporary unemployment?

What does unemployment due to economic reasons mean?

Whether you are entitled to temporary unemployment benefits depends on your employment status and work situation. If you are a white-collar worker, for example, you must be working in a company that is experiencing economic difficulties, in order to qualify.

What is temporary unemployment due to force majeure?

In the event of temporary unemployment due to force majeure, the same regulation applies to blue-collar workers and white-collar workers:

- Which procedure should the employer follow?

The employer must inform the competent unemployment office and provide a file with evidence and explanations that the unemployment stems from force majeure due to the coronavirus crisis.

- In the event of temporary unemployment due to force majeure, how long may the employment contract be suspended?

The maximum duration of temporary unemployment due to force majeure due to coronavirus is provisionally limited to 30 June 2020.

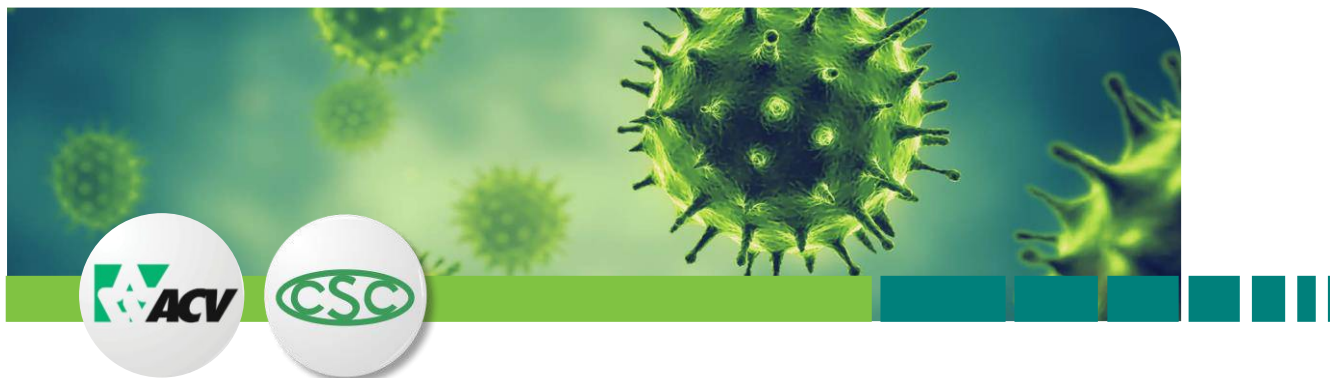
- Is an employee whose contract is suspended entitled to a benefit?

If you are temporarily unemployed, unemployment benefits will compensate to some extent your loss of income until 30 June 2020. Under pressure from ACV-CSC, this compensation was increased to 70% of the capped gross salary.

In contrast to economic unemployment, the employee is not entitled to a company allowance.

How many days do you need to have worked in order to be entitled to temporary unemployment benefits?

If you apply for temporary unemployment for the period of 01/02/2020 until 30/06/2020, you are not required to demonstrate that you have worked a sufficient number of days. This exception is applicable to both unemployment on account of economic reasons and unemployment on account of force majeure.



This exception only applies during the coronavirus crisis. In case of temporary unemployment before 01/02 or after 30/06, the usual conditions will have to be met.

Where can I find the most up-to-date information on temporary unemployment?

Under pressure from ACV-CSC, the government is constantly taking new measures to support workers. We systematically process all new information here.

Please also look up the RVA-ONEm website: FAQ Temporary unemployment corona.

Temporary unemployment and leaves

What does economic unemployment mean for my end-of-career scheme?

It is perfectly possible to combine economic unemployment with an end-of-career scheme.

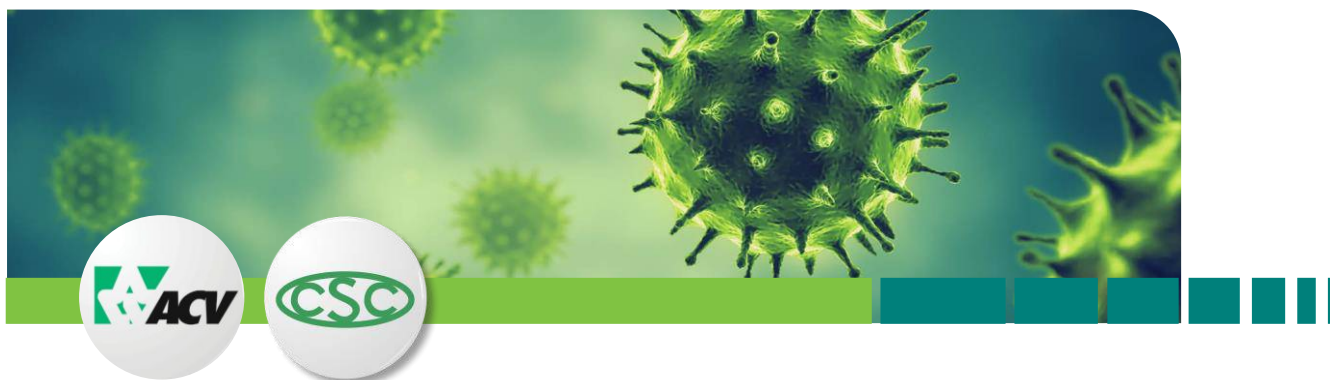
This applies to normal working days only. You will maintain your end-of-career scheme as well as your benefits.

My employer forces me to take leave first. Only then will he put us on temporary unemployment. Is that allowed?

No, it isn't. Annual holiday leave is taken by mutual agreement between the employee and the employer. It is therefore not possible to unilaterally decide when leave should be taken.

If you fail to reach an agreement with your employer, please contact the ACV-CSC representative at your company or organisation.

You can always agree out of your free will. However, this implies you cannot be put on temporary unemployment during those days. It is also impossible to be temporarily unemployed on "scheduled" days off. However, your employer cannot force you to use up your holiday leave before putting you on temporary unemployment on account of force majeure.



I'm temporarily unemployed, but I have a number of scheduled days off coming up. What happens to my holiday leave?

Please contact your employer. Annual holiday leave is decided by mutual agreement between the employer and the employee. If you both agree, you can cancel this leave. You will remain temporarily unemployed in this case and you will be able to take time off at a later time.

If your employer does not agree, your holiday will remain as planned. You will not receive temporary unemployment benefits for these days, but you will receive your wage.

I'm temporarily unemployed. How does this affect my annual holiday leave?

If you are temporarily unemployed on account of the coronavirus crisis, all these days will be taken into account to determine your entitlement to holiday leave in 2021. The days on which you are temporarily unemployed will therefore be considered as time worked.

I'm temporarily unemployed. It is Easter Monday soon. Will this public holiday still be paid?

A distinction should be made between temporary unemployment due to economic reasons and temporary unemployment due to force majeure.

Temporary unemployment due to force majeure

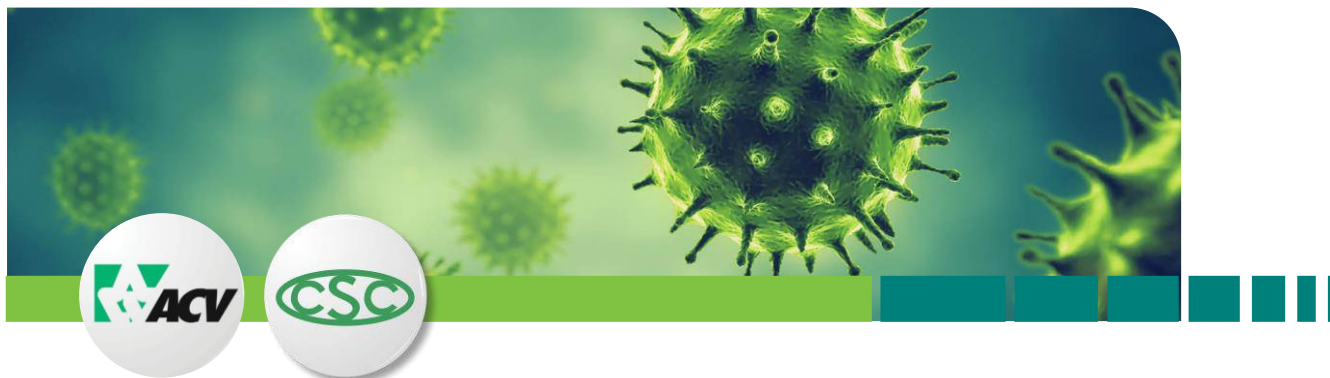
Whether you are entitled to wages for a public holiday will depend on when you become temporarily unemployed. Your employer must only pay wages for public holidays if they fall within 14 (calendar) days after you were placed on temporary unemployment due to force majeure.

Do you still sometimes work for a day? Then the employer must pay wages for the holiday if you have worked at least 1 day in the 2 weeks before the holiday. When the employer alternates days of activity with days of temporary unemployment, the period of 14 calendar days starts again after every day worked or every collective holiday.

After a day of working hours reduction or a catch-up rest day, those 14 calendar days do not interrupt.

Have you been temporarily unemployed for more than 14 days? Then you will be paid temporary unemployment before the holiday.

Temporary unemployment for economic reasons



If you are temporarily unemployed for economic reasons, the employer will have to pay all public holidays, regardless of whether you still have to work for a day or not.

I'm taking parental leave / time credit. Currently I'm only working part-time (80%). Can I combine this with temporary unemployment?

Yes, this is not a problem.

Your current work schedule will be the basis for your temporary unemployment benefits. If you generally work all days except Fridays, you will receive temporary unemployment benefits for all days except Fridays. On Fridays you remain on parental leave or time credit.

I'm on parental leave / time credit. Can I end this prematurely?

You can only withdraw your request for parental leave or time credit if your employer agrees. Please keep in mind that your parental leave or time credit balance will be reduced even if you withdraw your request.

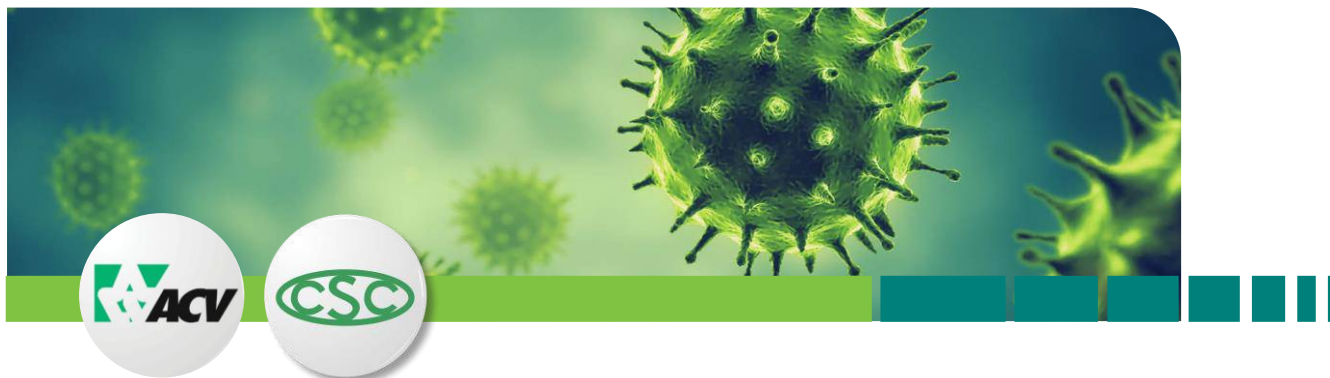
Withdrawing your parental leave or time credit in order to make use of the temporary unemployment system will not be accepted by the RVA-ONEm.

Temporary unemployment and overtime

Am I entitled to a compensation when I work overtime?

In the event of temporary unemployment due to force majeure, your employer cannot force you to take compensatory leave for overtime work. Mind you, in the case of temporary unemployment due to technical disruption, bad weather or economic causes, you may be asked to go on compensatory leave.

You can voluntarily use your compensatory leave to avoid temporary unemployment. Also, you cannot be temporarily unemployed during "planned" holidays. Your employer cannot force you to use up your holidays before making you temporarily unemployed due to force majeure.



How many voluntary overtime hours can I perform at maximum?

The general rule is that 100 voluntary overtime hours may be worked in the public sector and 120 hours in the private sector. An employee may therefore work 100 or 120 overtime on a voluntary basis, on top of all other overtime that the employer can impose, without having to take compulsory catch-up rest. .

Given the current circumstances, it has been decided to increase voluntary overtime to 220 hours for essential activities. There are some limitations to this:

- Only from April 1 to June 30, 2020
- The voluntary overtime, which is performed from April 1 to June 30, does not entitle you to the statutory overtime bonus (+ 50% or 100% on top of your normal hourly wages)

Wages for overtime will be exempt from taxes and social contributions.

Temporary unemployment and sickness

I currently work in a system of progressive work resumption. What happens if I become temporarily unemployed?

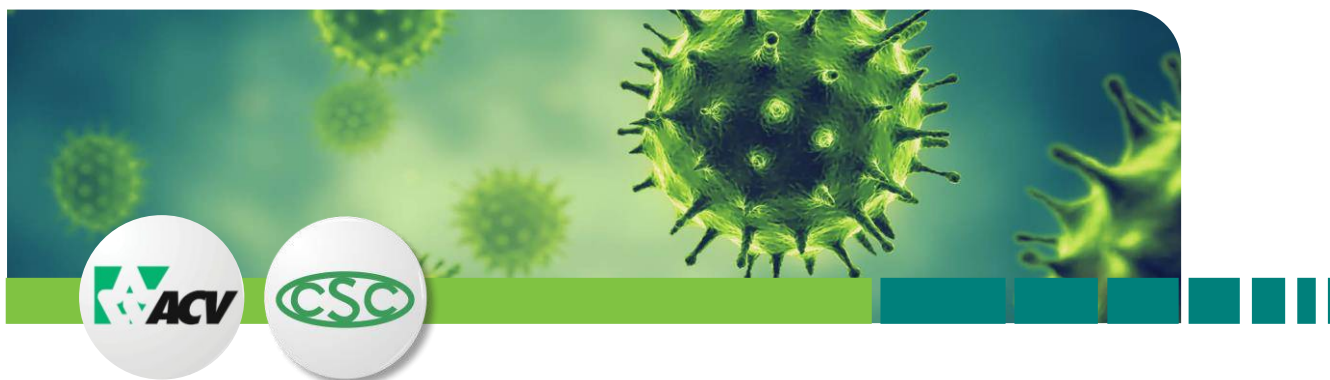
You can combine temporary unemployment benefits with reduced sickness benefits. More specifically:

- Your sickness benefits will be reduced if you are working in a system of progressive work resumption for at least 20% of your working week. You will then receive unemployment benefits according to the percentage you would normally work.
- If you work less than 20% of your working week, your sickness benefit will remain unchanged, but you are not entitled to unemployment benefits.
- If you are employed in a system of progressive work resumption outside the normal working circuit, for example in a sheltered workshop, your sickness benefits remain unchanged and you are not entitled to unemployment benefits.

I am temporarily unemployed, but I get ill. What should I do?

- **You are a blue-collar worker**

If you become ill while you are temporarily unemployed, your employer does not have to pay guaranteed wages. You will fall back on health insurance benefits from the first day of illness.



Consequently, you must submit the application to your health insurance fund within 48 hours. Contact them to find out how best to do this.

- **You are a white-collar worker**

If you become ill while you are temporarily unemployed, the situation is different.

- If you were already ill before you became temporarily unemployed, your employer must continue to pay your guaranteed wages.
- If you were already temporarily unemployed and subsequently fell ill, you will have to inform your health insurance fund of being unfit to work within 48 hours. Contact your health insurance fund for more information.

Sickness benefits amount to 60% of the capped gross salary. ACV-CSC is putting pressure on the government and on health insurance funds to increase this amount to 70% in the event of illness, as is the case with temporary unemployment.

I'm ill and receive guaranteed pay from my employer. Temporary unemployment is put into effect. What are the consequences?

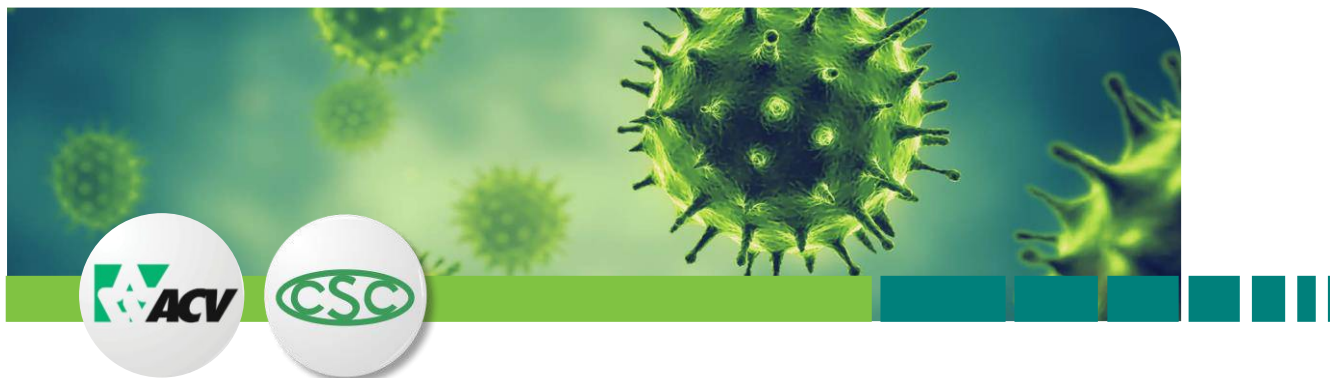
If you are a blue-collar worker, you will immediately receive a sickness benefit instead of your guaranteed pay. Within this scope you need to inform your health insurance immediately by sending them the document labelled "Confidential".

This can be done by mail. By way of exception, it is now also possible to send this document by e-mail. Just make a picture or scan of the original certificate. This certificate must clearly contain the following information:

- Identity of your GP: family name, first name and RIZIV number
- Your identity: family name, first name and national register number

You can find the relevant e-mail address on the website of your health insurance fund.

If you are a white-collar worker, there is no clear answer to this question at this time. The law states that your employer is required to keep paying the guaranteed pay. The ACV supports this position. The Federal Public Service Employment advises differently: they apply the arrangements for blue-collar workers also to white-collar workers, which goes against the law. The ACV demands that this is rectified.



Sickness benefits amount to 60% of the capped gross salary. The ACV is putting pressure on the government and the health insurance funds to use the same percentage in case of illness as is the case with temporary unemployment, namely 70%.

I'm pregnant and the due date is approaching. My employer asks me to choose between sick leave and temporary unemployment. Is that allowed?

As a pregnant employee you are still entitled to pre- and postnatal leave for a total period of 15 weeks.

Please note: some periods during which you did not perform any work are equated with periods of work, such as temporary unemployment on account of economic reasons. This is not the case for periods of illness or temporary unemployment on account of force majeure (or the coronavirus crisis). These days are therefore deducted from your prenatal leave and cannot be transferred to the period after the delivery. The ACV-CSC advocates equal treatment, but this cannot be guaranteed at this time.

It is therefore important to consider carefully when your employer suggests temporary unemployment:

- If you agree to be put on temporary unemployment on account of force majeure before your prenatal leave, you run the risk of having to return to work 9 weeks after delivering your child.
- If you decide to take prenatal leave immediately, you will also have to return to work after 9 weeks, but you will receive higher benefits.

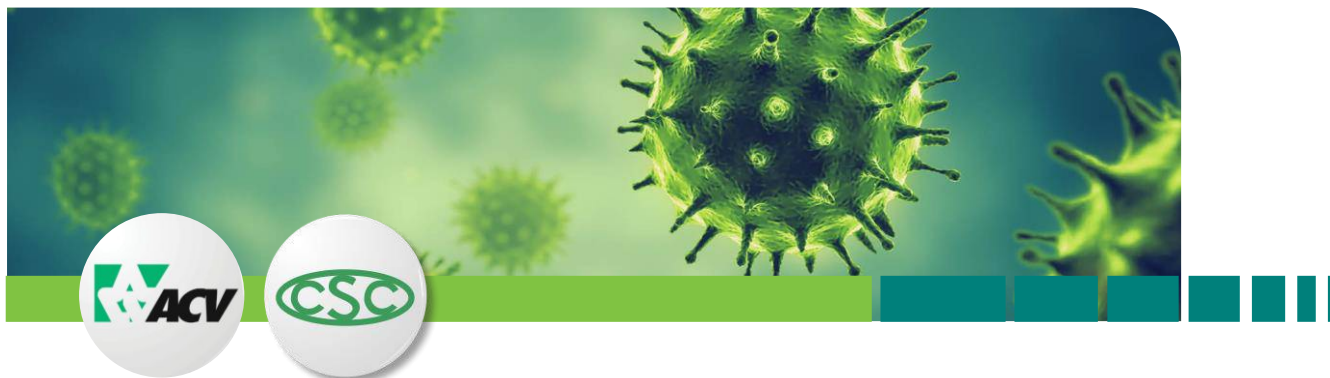
It is also a good idea to look into possibilities such as parental leave or time credit for a specific reason after you have used up your maternity leave.

Temporary unemployment and resignation

I am in my cancellation. What will happen to my notice period now that I am temporarily unemployed?

If you are temporarily unemployed and dismissed by the employer with a notice period to be performed, there are two options:

- If it concerns unemployment due to force majeure (e.g. closure of restaurant), your notice period will expire on the anticipated end date. Your notice period is therefore not extended.
- Is it temporary unemployment for economic reasons? (e.g. dropped orders, without closure), your notice period will be extended by the duration of the unemployment.



The reason for temporary unemployment (force majeure or economic reason) is normally found on the documents that the employer provides you with if you are temporarily unemployed. During the corona measures, however, your employer is not obliged to provide you with those documents.

The documents that your employer delivers digitally to be able to make the payment do state the temporary unemployment involved. You cannot view these documents yourself. After the payment of your temporary unemployment, you can contact your ACV-CSC service center to inquire about the reason for the temporary unemployment.

I resigned and am serving my notice period. I have not yet signed a contract with my new employer. What happens now?

This is a difficult situation. The ACV-CSC advises the National Employment Office to handle employees flexibly in such a situation. After all, we are living in exceptional times.

The best solution would be that your new employer employs you from the agreed starting date onwards. In that case he can request temporary unemployment on account of the coronavirus for you the same way he did for the other employees. The ACV-CSC believes this is possible from the first day of employment.

In any case, you should assure that your new employer sends you a communication stating that:

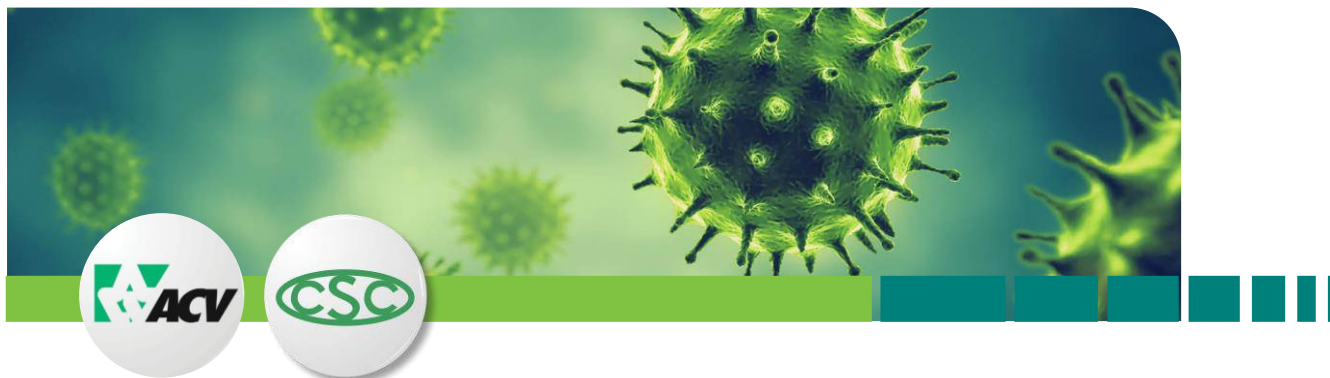
- there was a clear engagement to employ you after the end of your notice period.
- this has become impossible because of special circumstances and the coronavirus measures.
- the employer is willing to employ you after the measures have been lifted and the workload has returned to a normal level.

Keep this certificate safe and submit it to your ACV-CSC service centre together with the C1 and C4 forms you received from your previous employer. Within the scope of the coronavirus measures, these documents can be submitted digitally.

If you become completely unemployed (meaning upon expiry of your previous contract), you also need to register with the VDAB within 8 days. This can also be done online on the VDAB website.

I resigned. I signed my contract with my new employer, but I cannot commence employment since the company has put all employees on temporary unemployment. What happens now?

You and your new employer signed a contract before coronavirus became an issue.



The best possible scenario is that your new employer employs you from the agreed starting date onwards. In that case he can request temporary unemployment on account of the coronavirus for you the same way he did for the other employees. The ACV-CSC believes this is possible from the first day of employment.

You should in any case hold on to all e-mails, letters and other documents you received from your new employer. In case of a dispute these may be helpful to demonstrate that your employer had agreed to employ you before the coronavirus crisis began. The letter of resignation given to your previous employer may also help you to demonstrate this.

We also advise you to apply for temporary unemployment right away.

Your situation

Can I combine a survivor's pension with temporary unemployment benefits?

A survivor's pension can be combined with temporary unemployment benefits for one year.

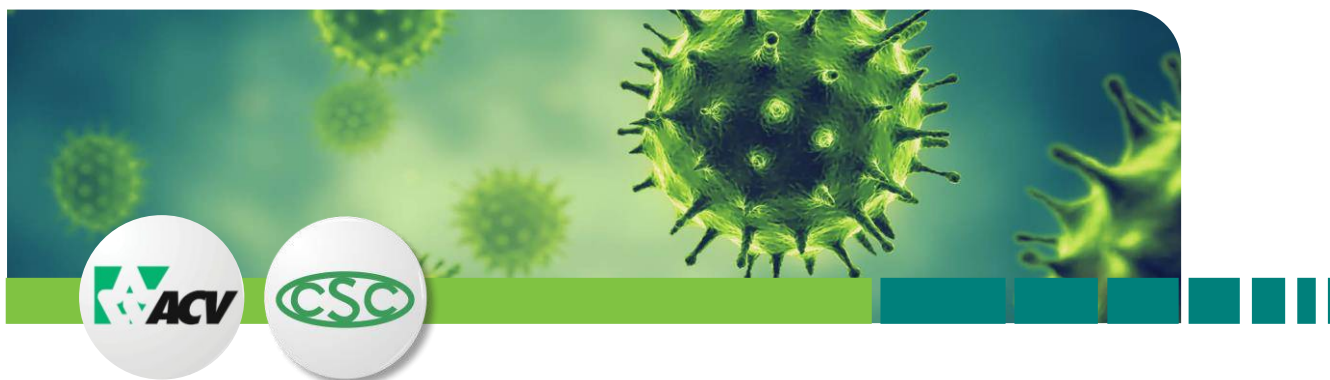
Even if you are younger than 65 and have already combined the temporary unemployment benefit with a survivor's pension for 12 months, you can still get temporary unemployment because of corona. This was provisionally extended to 30/06/20.

The period of temporary unemployment due to corona (currently up to 30/03/20) will not be deducted from the 12 months that you are entitled to the accumulation of both benefits.

I receive a (survivor's) pension and do some odd jobs. My contract has been suspended because of temporary unemployment. Am I allowed to combine the benefits with my pension?

ACV-CSC and Okra urged the government to find a solution for our retired employees. Retired employees who work to supplement their income are also a victim of this crisis.

The old rules have changed. If you are temporarily unemployed, you will be allowed to combine your pension with temporary unemployment benefits from now on. The laws on unemployment benefits have already been adapted accordingly. We hope the same will happen to the law on pensions in the coming days.



I have a flexi-job, but all activities were stopped. Am I entitled to temporary unemployment benefits?

That depends: a flexi-job employee only works on the basis of a framework contract. Whenever an employer wishes to employ you, they draw up a separate contract. That means that you only have an employment contract when they wish to employ you.

The RVA-ONEm is of the opinion that in case of a flexi-job you can only be temporarily unemployed on account of force majeure if you have a written employment contract. The framework contract is therefore insufficient.

I work in a two-man business. My employer has been infected. Am I entitled to temporary unemployment?

Yes, you are; if, for instance, you work at a two-man company and no one is able to follow up on orders from customers, you can turn to the system of temporary unemployment.

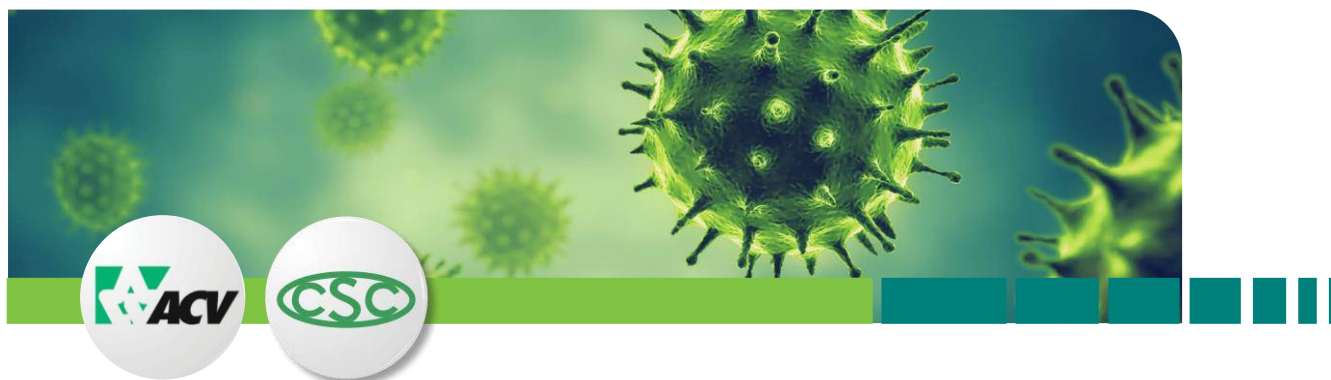
My company is forced to stop production because it was impossible to guarantee minimum safe staffing. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?

If there are too few people present to do the work so that the company is no longer able to produce goods or perform activities, you can be put on temporary unemployment on account of force majeure. In such a situation it is impossible for the remaining people to do the work because of a sudden and unforeseen event. Neither the employer nor the employees are responsible for such a situation.

You will therefore be able to fall back on temporary unemployment benefits on account of force majeure.

My company supplies other companies. These companies are now closed. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?

Yes, you can be put on temporary unemployment in such a situation. Since one or several of your employer's customers are closed, your employer is confronted with force majeure. They can apply for temporary unemployment for you and all of your colleagues. This is even the case if production can partly continue.



My company is dependent on a supplier for its activities. This supplier is currently unable to deliver. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?

Yes, you can be put on temporary unemployment in such a situation. Your employer is confronted with issues in the production chain. They are not responsible for these problems themselves, so the RVA-ONEm considers this force majeure. This is even the case if production can partly continue.

I work for two different employers and both have applied for temporary unemployment. Do I need to submit two requests with the ACV?

No, you do not. One request is sufficient. If both employers started the process to put you on temporary unemployment, you will receive temporary unemployment benefits for both jobs.

I've been temporarily unemployed before. Does this mean that I need to have my control card on me all the time and submit it to the ACV every month?

No, the RVA-ONEm has granted an exception for the period from 01/03/2020 until 30/06/2020. You therefore do not need to have your control card on you. You are not required to submit it to you ACV-CSC service centre either.

Please note: this is still required for temporary unemployment benefits granted before 01/03/2020 or after 30/06/2020.

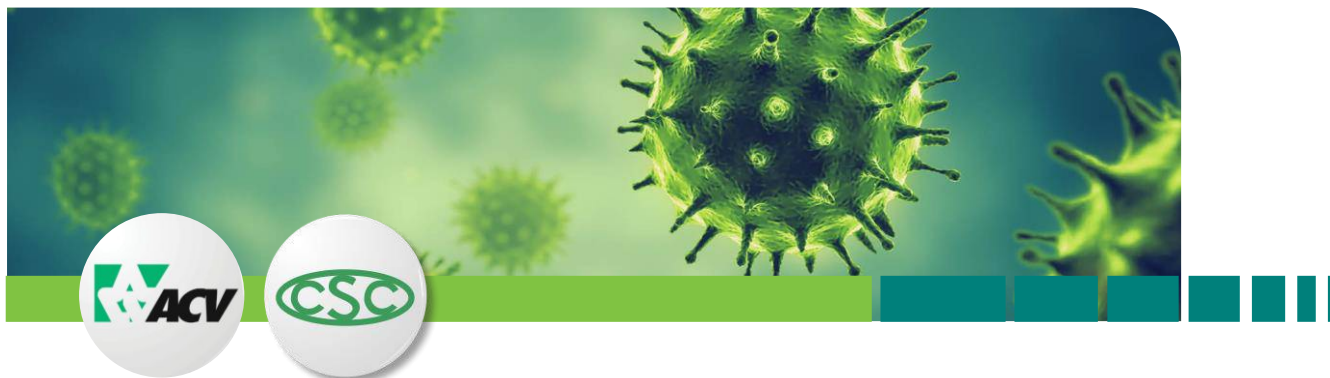
I'm temporarily unemployed because of the coronavirus crisis. To supplement my income, I would like to take some odd jobs. Is that allowed?

Yes, it is. You can earn an additional income with a different employer. However, you will only receive temporary unemployment benefits for those days on which you did not work at all, neither in your usual job nor in your additional job.

ACV-CSC will pay your temporary unemployment benefits for all days during which you did not work in your main job. If it turns out afterwards that you worked for a different employer, the RVA-ONEm will reclaim the benefits for those particular days.

I have a secondary profession. Can I keep pursuing these activities when receiving temporary unemployment benefits?

The RVA-ONEm has relaxed the rules regarding secondary professions until 30/06.



If you already had a secondary profession, you can keep at it while you are temporarily unemployed. You are not required to declare your secondary profession or to indicate when you practice your secondary profession. The income from your secondary profession will have no impact on the benefit. The amount of your benefits will be determined on the basis of the number of days registered by your employer as temporary unemployment.

It is furthermore possible to start a new activity while being temporarily unemployed. However this will impact the benefits you receive. The income from these activities must not be combined with temporary unemployment benefits.

I'm temporarily unemployed. Can I do volunteer work without losing my benefits?

Yes, you can.

Volunteer work does not need to be declared until 30/06/2020. Just bear in mind that your income from these activities should not exceed € 1388.40 a year.

I am a volunteer firefighter / Civil Protection volunteer. Can I continue to do this even though I'm temporarily unemployed?

Yes, you can.

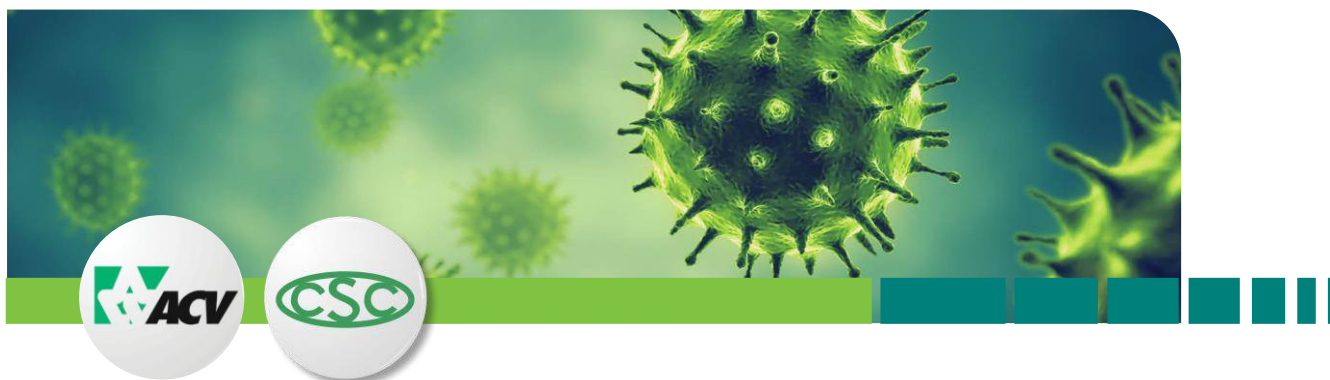
The RVA-ONEm has temporarily eased the rules for volunteer firefighters and Civil Protection volunteers.

The RVA-ONEm no longer distinguishes between interventions that involve mortal risks and other activities (watch duty, training, etc.). All allowances can be combined with your temporary unemployment benefits. It does not matter whether it concerns watch duty or an intervention.

The rules will be eased until 30/06/2020. The old rules will take effect again on 01/07.

I have an income guarantee allowance (IGA) and am now temporarily unemployed. Do I need to submit a request and what about my C3 part-time form?

If you receive an IGA, you do not need to submit a request for temporary unemployment on account of force majeure. At the end of the month you simply complete the C3 part-time form, sign it and send it to us via the mailbox of your ACV-CSC service centre.



Leave the days on which you were temporarily unemployed blank on the C3 part-time form. You furthermore do not need a stamp from the local authorities.

As soon as we have received your C3 part-time form and the two electronic declarations (IGA and temporary unemployment) from your employer, we will pay out your benefits.

I have a fixed-term contract. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?

Yes, you can. Fixed-term and open-ended employment contracts are treated on the same footing. As an employee, you also need to submit a request yourself.

If your employment contract expires, you will become full-time unemployed.

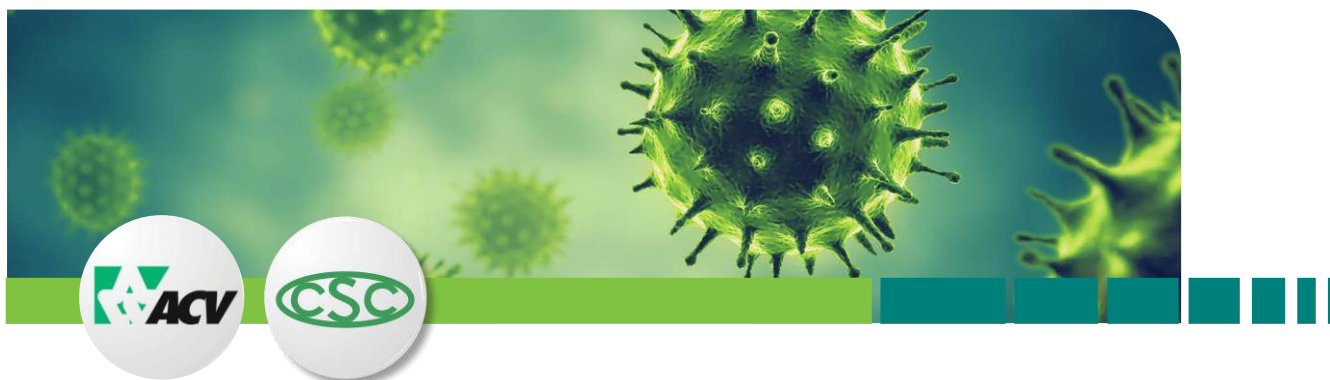
I'm barred from receiving unemployment benefits. Could I qualify for temporary unemployment benefits?

It is possible that you are (temporarily) barred from receiving unemployment benefits as a sanction from the National Employment Office. In these cases it is not possible to receive temporary unemployment benefits.

I'm a target group employee in a sheltered workshop. I have progressively resumed work. Am I also entitled to temporary unemployment benefits?

That possibility no longer existed since 1 January 2020. However, on 23 April, Parliament decided to undo it, due to the corona crisis. As of March 13, 2020, the target group employees of sheltered and sheltered workshops (custom-made companies) are again entitled to a benefit from the RVA for temporary unemployment. This RVA benefit will then be in addition to the sickness or disability benefit of the health insurance fund.

We are putting pressure on the RVA to also apply this rule to the days of temporary unemployment from 1 January 2020 to 12 March 2020.



I'm a cross-border worker with a contract from a temporary employment agency. Am I also entitled to (temporary) unemployment benefits?

The principles of temporary employment as applicable in Belgium are only applicable to Belgian contracts from temporary employment agencies.

If you are for instance a Dutch cross-border worker who works in Belgium for a Belgian temp agency, you will be entitled to temporary unemployment benefits.

However, this only works one way. If you are for instance a Belgian cross-border worker who works in the Netherlands with a Dutch contract, you will not be entitled to temporary unemployment benefits. Dutch law applies in this case.

I'm temporarily unemployed. What happens to the insurance policies paid for by my employer?

Employees continue to be covered for these risks in case of temporary unemployment.

Within the scope of the framework agreement between the insurance companies and the federal government, the insurance companies have promised to maintain the guarantees in case of temporary unemployment on account of the coronavirus measures. This is for example the case for group insurance policies which provide benefits in case of retirement, decease, invalidity or hospitalisation.

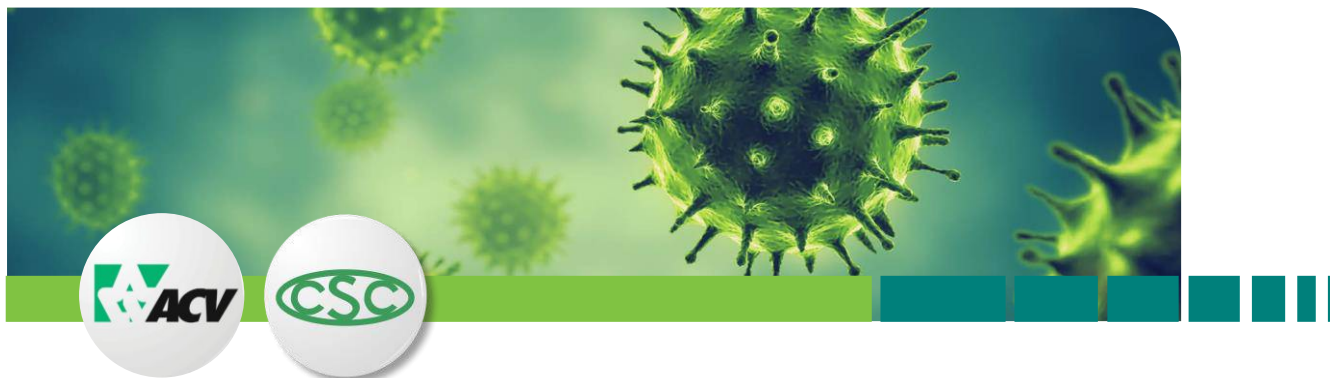
Please note: this coverage is currently valid until 30 September 2020. The employers can postpone payment of the premiums until 30 September.

I receive a monthly expense allowance as a fringe benefit. Will I still receive this allowance in the period that I am temporarily unemployed?

This depends on the reason why you receive this allowance and what it exactly covers.

If it concerns an allowance for private expenses only, this is considered part of your wage. If you are temporarily unemployed, your employment contract is temporarily suspended. You are therefore not entitled to this allowance.

If the allowance covers costs incurred within the scope of your employment contract, you have to determine whether it concerns continuing expenses or non-continuing expenses. Continuing expenses continue to be reimbursed by the employer. Examples include internet connection invoices and season tickets for public transport.



If your employment contract is not suspended, which is for example the case if you work from home, you will obviously maintain your allowance. In particular if it concerns a lump sum allowance.

If the allowance is based on costs actually incurred, the employer will only have to reimburse those expenses you can actually demonstrate. They will probably be lower because of the lockdown.

I work in the non-profit sector as a home-based family worker. Can I apply for temporary unemployment?

Yes, you can, if you work on the basis of an employment contract for employees. You can also make use of temporary employment when you assist a number of people remotely and a number of people at home.

Please note: you will only receive benefits for the days on which you did not work. If you work in the morning and do not work in the afternoon, you will not qualify for temporary unemployment benefits.

I work as a paid sportsperson. All sports activities have been suspended. Can I apply for temporary unemployment?

Yes, you can, provided that you are employed on the basis of an employment contract for employees.

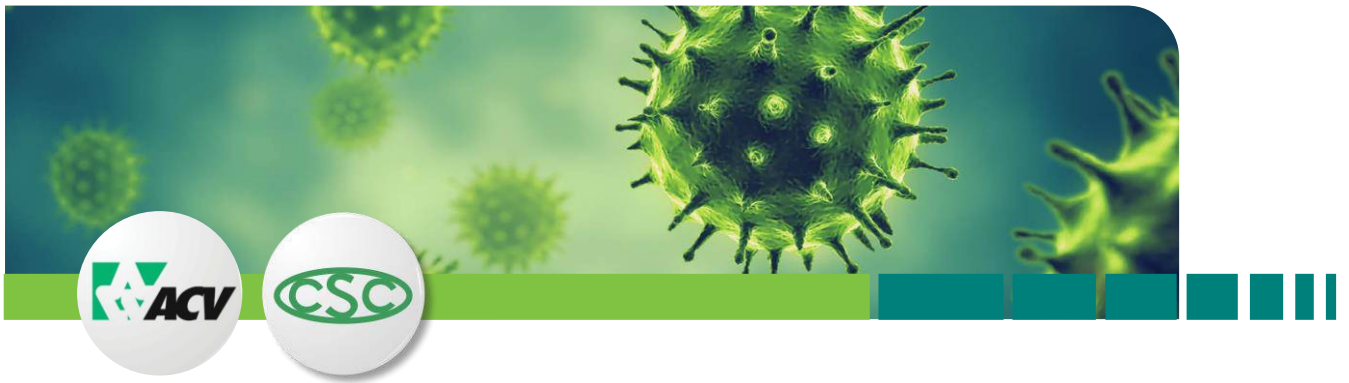
The government issued a ban on all sports and recreational activities on 18 March 2020. This official ban means that your employer is confronted with a force majeure situation. Your employer can therefore apply for temporary unemployment on account of force majeure.

Please note: if you are an employee, you have to apply for temporary unemployment yourself.

I am employed on the basis of article 60. Can I be put on temporary unemployment in this case?

If you are employed on the basis of article 60 §7 of the PSWC legislation and work for an organisation that is currently closed on account of the coronavirus crisis, you can make use of the temporary unemployment system.

The PSWC will be able to request temporary unemployment for you. They will contact the National Employment Office (RVA/ONEM) and inform them of your employer. Contrary to 'regular' unemployment, you do not have to demonstrate that you have worked a sufficient number of days in order to qualify for benefits.



You also have to apply for temporary unemployment yourself. If you fail to do so, please ask your PSWC employment counsellor for assistance.