

Temporary economic unemployment?

The CNE supports you

UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, A COMPANY IN DIFFICULTY HAS THE RIGHT TO SUSPEND THE EXECUTION OF THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT OR TO REDUCE THE WORKING TIME OF ITS EMPLOYEES (UP TO A MINIMUM OF 2 DAYS PER WEEK). THIS IS CALLED "TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT". HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TEMPORARY UNEMPLOYMENT FOR EMPLOYEES.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE EMPLOYER

In order to be able to put its employees on temporary unemployment, the company must be recognised as a "company in difficulty", according to specific criteria checked by ONEM.

Secondly, the employer has to give at least 7 days' notice of his intention to the workers either directly or by posting a notice in the company, stating the names of the workers concerned, the number of days of suspension and the start and end dates of the suspension of the contract or the reduced working time scheme (at least 2 working days a week).

Finally, on the same day that employees are notified of the planned unemployment, the employer must communicate the economic reasons justifying the introduction of the temporary unemployment scheme to the works council or (in the absence of a works council) to the trade union delegation.

If you have any doubts about the employer's compliance with this procedure, do not hesitate to contact the company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region.

ALLOCATIONS

During the periods of temporary unemployment, you receive benefits from the ONEM (www.onem.be). They correspond to 60% of your gross remuneration (capped if it exceeds a certain amount - €3,570 gross per month since September 1, 2026). To receive these allowances, you must complete a control card online and send it to the CSC at the end of each month. Feel free to contact the company's CNE team, who will be able to help you with this process, or contact the unemployment service of the CSC in your region directly.

You will receive as well a supplement paid by the employer (of at least €5.41 per day, unless a collective labour agreement or company plan provides a higher amount) + a daily amount of at least €2 (if there is a company plan) or €5 (if there is a company collective agreement) or €6.74 (if there is neither a company plan nor a company collective agreement). To find out the exact amount of this supplement, please contact the CNE team in your company or the CNE secretariat in your region.

ASSIMILATION

Temporary economic unemployment is taken into account for the calculation of your retirement pension and your annual holiday.

Need to mail us ? Please write to : cne.advice@acv-csc.be (English only!)

Need to contact us ? Please call 067 88 91 00 on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9AM to 12PM and Tuesdays from 1.30PM to 4.30PM (French).

Need to meet us ? Our offices are open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1.30PM to 4.30PM and Tuesdays from 9AM to 12PM (French).

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