

CNE, always at your side

Reflex Cards Catalogue

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).

Last update : July 2026

Keep in touch with your members !

NEW JOB, ACCIDENT AT WORK, PREGNANCY, PATERNITY LEAVE, RESIGNATION, DEPARTURE, RETIREMENT... FOR EACH SITUATION THAT A WORKER MAY ENCOUNTER, THE CNE HAS PRODUCED A REFLEX CARD: A DOUBLE-SIDED LETTER THAT GUIDES THE MEMBER THROUGH ALL THE STEPS TO BE TAKEN AND, ABOVE ALL, ENCOURAGES HIM OR HER TO CONTACT THE CNE TEAM.

HOW TO USE THESE QUICK REFERENCE CARDS?

When one of your members finds himself or herself in one of these situations, go and meet him or her and give him or her the relevant form. You will be doing them a favour and reminding them that the CNE is always there for them. You can also distribute this tool to workers who are not yet members, to show them the value of joining the CNE. It is up to your union team to decide who these cards are distributed to, depending on your membership strategy.

WHERE CAN YOU GET THESE REFLEX CARDS?

On our website <https://www.lacsc.be/cne/publications/reflexes/reflex> or at your CNE secretariat, for a free quality print. We advise you not to print large stocks: legislation sometimes evolves very quickly and the cards will be updated on the site. It is therefore better to print them as and when required.

CAN'T FIND THE RIGHT CARD?

If you come across a situation for which there is not yet a record, suggest it to your union representative.

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Last update : July 2026

Have a great start to the 2026 social year !

THE SUMMER HOLIDAY PERIOD IS COMING TO AN END... WE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT TRADE UNION VICTORY OF PAID HOLIDAYS, AND WISH YOU WELCOME BACK TO WORK. HERE WE ARE AGAIN FOR A NEW SOCIAL YEAR.

THE CNE, AT YOUR SIDE IN THE COMPANY

In September, the monthly meetings of the consultation bodies resume in the company. This is an opportunity to continue the work for better working conditions : work regulations, pay and benefits, prevention and safety, well-being at work, etc. To achieve such improvements, the involvement of all colleagues will be necessary in order to build power relations capable of countering the omnipotence of employers. Together we are stronger !

THE CNE, AT YOUR SIDE IN INDIVIDUAL CASES

In addition to this collective work, the CNE also provides a personalised service to its members. Do you need advice, information, support in your professional endeavours or during an interview, help in settling a dispute or even for a defense in court ? Whatever your question or professional problem, the CNE is at your disposal to answer it.

If you are at work, contact your company's CNE team first. If there is no CNE delegate in your company, you should know that your requests are handled directly by the central office: more than 160 people work daily to serve members. The same applies if you are currently unemployed, on long-term illness or retired.

So never hesitate to contact us!

AND MORE...

Trade union work does not stop at the company gates. The CNE negotiates and represents its members in 53 joint committees. At cross-industry level, the CSC, to which the CNE is affiliated carries out the same work within the economic and social security institutions.

Faced with rising inequality and the rise of the (far) right, faced with an increasingly violent capitalist system, now more than ever we need to organize collectively, fight together, and build power relations in order to push back against the government and bosses in their attempts to restrict the rights of the working class and impose our alternatives to achieve union victories (such as strengthening our social security system and our public and collective services).

So, whether you are employed or unemployed, your union is there to defend and advance your rights!



The MR and Engagés Arizona government is attacking our working conditions, our retirement benefits, our pensions, our public services, and our social rights for the benefit of employers. Let's organize the response, fight collectively to defend our social gains, and impose our alternatives!

To learn more and join the fight: click [here](https://www.lacsc.be/cne/) or scan this QR code.



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Thank you for your loyalty and happy (and combative) end of year holidays!

2026 IS COMING TO AN END AND 2027 IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER... AT THE END OF THIS YEAR, THE CNE TEAM WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU WARMLY FOR YOUR TRUST AND LOYALTY. THANKS TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP FEES AND THOSE OF OUR 160,000 OTHER MEMBERS, THE CNE HAS ONCE AGAIN BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE A PERSONALISED SERVICE TO ITS MEMBERS AND TO ACHIEVE MANY SOCIAL ADVANCES, WHETHER IN COMPANIES, SECTORS OR, WITH THE CSC, FOR ALL WORKERS, EMPLOYED OR UNEMPLOYED.

IN 2027, WE WILL CONTINUE TO FIGHT ALONGSIDE WORKERS...

Faced with the steamroller of capitalism, rising inequality and the rise of the (far) right, it is crucial to defend our interests and win new rights for all workers. To do this, we need to strengthen our power relations, as this is the only way to get bosses, shareholders and other leaders to give up what they would not be inclined to accept without external pressure. Power relations are built up gradually, over a long period of time, through the involvement and association of as many colleagues (in the workplace) and workers (beyond the workplace) as possible.

... WHILE STANDING AT YOUR SIDE

Do you need advice, information, support in your professional endeavours or during an interview, support in settling a conflict? Whatever your question or professional problem, the CNE is there to help you. Behind the CNE team in your company, more than 160 people are working to serve the members. Never hesitate to contact us!

DON'T FORGET YOUR UNION BONUS

In your sector, the trade unions have obtained a trade union bonus: this annual bonus rewards those who, through their membership fees, help to improve the lives of all workers. The amount and the month of payment vary from one sector to another. Please note: this bonus is not paid automatically! To receive your bonus, you must fill in a form and send it to the Bonus Department - CNE National Secretariat - Avenue Robert Schuman 52 - 1401 Nivelles (Baulers) - +32 (0)67 88 91 91 - cne.primes@acv-csc.be.

Ask your CNE delegate or the CNE national secretariat for more information.



The MR and Engagés Arizona government is attacking our working conditions, our retirement benefits, our pensions, our public services, and our social rights for the benefit of employers. Let's organize the response, fight collectively to defend our social gains, and impose our alternatives!

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Have a nice holiday!

SUMMER IS FAST APPROACHING AND WILL NO DOUBT GIVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A WELL-DESERVED HOLIDAY. IN ORDER TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS GREAT TRADE UNION ACHIEVEMENT, THE CNE TEAM TELLS YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY.

WHAT IS YOUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY ENTITLEMENT?

The holiday entitlement in 2027 is calculated on the basis of your working days in 2026. If you have not worked in 2026, you can nevertheless benefit from a "young" (if you are under 25) or "senior" (if you are at least 50) holiday allowance, paid by the ONEM. Otherwise, regardless of your age, you can claim your right to additional holidays, also known as "European holidays". These four formulas guarantee 4 weeks of paid holiday per year.

WHEN CAN YOU TAKE THIS LEAVE?

The date of the holiday is set collectively at sector or company level (via the works council, the trade union delegation or with the workers). If there is no collective agreement, the holiday date is determined by an individual agreement between you and the employer. In any case, you are entitled to an uninterrupted period of 2 weeks' holiday between 1st May and 31st October. It is not permitted to carry over holidays to the following year, except when the holidays could not be taken due to illness/accident, birth of a child (maternity leave or birth leave) or adoption (adoption leave).



IN CASE YOU GET SICK DURING YOUR HOLIDAYS

If you become unfit for work (due to illness or accident) during your paid holidays, you can carry over the days of holiday that you were unable to take because of your unfitness. This means that days of illness occurring during annual holidays will not be deducted from your holidays. In order to carry over these days, you have to (1) immediately inform your employer of your illness or accident and of your place of residence if you are not at home, (2) submit a medical certificate to your employer within 2 working days (unless otherwise specified in the work regulations) and (3) allow the medical assessor sent by your employer to examine you.

WHAT IS THE SALARY DURING YOUR HOLIDAYS?

The trade unions have obtained double pay for holidays: your normal salary will be maintained for the days you are on holiday ("simple pay") and a bonus to enable you to take advantage of your leisure time ("double pay"). The double pay corresponds to 92% of your normal pay for the month (possibly prorated according to the number of months worked or treated as work during the previous year). In principle, your double pay should be paid during the month in which you take your longest holiday period of the year. In practice, the social secretariats pay it to everyone in May or June.

STUDENT JOB

Is summer the time for one of your children to get a student job? Thanks to the CSC's Enter membership, under 25s can benefit from all our services for free! Ask your CNE team for more information or visit www.jeunes-csc.be.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

To find out the exact and personalized conditions of your annual holiday entitlement or to help you in your endeavours with your employer, do not hesitate to contact us.



**DID YOU
KNOW ?**

The first paid holidays were won in **1936** by workers in Belgium. History tells us that they were not granted voluntarily, but won through the mobilization of workers. On June 2, 1936, dockworkers in Antwerp went on strike after two of their union colleagues were killed by right-wing militants. The strike quickly spread, bringing together workers and employees in both the north and south of the country. The unions drew up a list of demands for the political authorities. From 10,000 strikers at the outset, more than 500,000 workers were on strike by June 18, 1936. Less than ten days later, on June 27, 1936, Parliament passed a law establishing six days of paid leave per year and a 40-hour week. A second week of paid vacation was obtained in 1952, a third in 1967, and a fourth in 1975. When will we get the fifth week of paid vacation, after 50 years of waiting?

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Welcome to the company!

AS A NEW COLLEAGUE, WE WOULD LIKE TO WARMLY CONGRATULATE YOU AND WELCOME YOU TO THE COMPANY. AS THE COMPANY BELONGS TO AN EMPLOYEE'S OR A MIXED (EMPLOYEES AND WORKMEN) JOINT COMMISSION, ITS STAFF IS REPRESENTED BY THE CNE, THE NATIONAL EMPLOYEES' CENTRALE OF THE CSC.

THE CNE, FOR COLLECTIVE PROGRESS

The CNE defends the interests of all staff in the various consultation forums with management. The CNE represents all staff, particularly in the various places for concertation with management. The aim is to defend our interests as workers and to improve or secure new rights: increases in salaries and benefits, reductions in working hours/workload, application of rules on prevention and protection at work, or any other demands made by workers. It is proven that the presence of a trade union organisation clearly improves well-being at work in a company. But if we are to obtain improvements, all the colleagues - including you - will need to be involved in order to build up a power of balance capable of convincing or forcing the employer. Together, we're stronger!

THE CNE, FOR INDIVIDUAL PROTECTION

In addition to this collective work, the CNE also provides a personalised service to its members. Whether you need information on your rights and obligations, support in your professional activities or during an interview, help in finding a solution to a dispute, the CNE is there to help you with any questions or problems you may have. So please don't hesitate to contact us!

NOT YET AFFILIATED?

Today, career paths are increasingly uncertain. Who knows exactly where he or she will be in 5 or 10 years? Faced with the overwhelming power of capitalism and the rise of inequality and the (extreme) right, towards Arizona's attempts to restrict our rights, it is becoming increasingly important for workers to resist and organise through a collective movement. In this context, knowing that you can count on, and even commit to, a trade union organisation like the CNE throughout (and even after) your career is a real asset. Behind the CNE team in your company, there are more than 160 people working to help the members. So don't wait any longer, sign up with your CNE delegates or visit www.lacsc.be/cne/

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Welcome to the CNE!

FOLLOWING YOUR APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU WARMLY FOR YOUR TRUST AND WELCOME YOU TO THE CNE (LA CENTRALE NATIONALE DES EMPLOYÉS). WITH ALMOST 160,000 MEMBERS, THE CNE IS THE LARGEST TRADE UNION CENTRALE IN WALLONIA AND BRUSSELS. WE DEFEND FRENCH-SPEAKING MANAGERS AND EMPLOYEES IN COMMERCE, FINANCE, SERVICES, INDUSTRY, AS WELL AS IN THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR. THE CNE IS PART OF THE CSC, THE MAIN CONFEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS IN BELGIUM: MORE THAN 1.7 MILLION MEMBERS TRUST IT AND COMMIT THEMSELVES TO IT, FOR THEIR PERSONAL SECURITY, AND FOR A FAIRER WORLD.

What can you expect from us? As well as fighting collectively for better living conditions in companies and in society, the CNE is committed to providing a quality service to its members.

ALL USEFUL INFORMATION

As an affiliate, you will now receive our magazine "Le Droit de l'Employé": four times a year, you will find all the information on your rights and our advice, as well as the social and political news commented from the point of view of your interests. Finally, you can consult our website at any time, www.lacsc.be/cne, follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram.

A PERSONALISED RESPONSE

Behind your company's CNE team, more than 160 people work to serve its members. A network of 11 regional secretariats, a front-line service and 60 union representatives cover the whole of Wallonia and Brussels. We answer your questions on labour law and offer you personalised support when necessary.

LEGAL SUPPORT

In the event of a dispute, our legal department will defend you in dealings with public authorities, employers, public bodies (family allowances, pensions, unemployment, etc.) and the labour courts.

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Accident at work?

The CNE supports you

HAVE YOU SUFFERED AN INJURY CAUSED BY AN EVENT THAT OCCURRED IN THE COURSE OF YOUR WORK OR ON THE WAY TO WORK? THEN YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF WHAT IS KNOWN AS AN ACCIDENT AT WORK, AND COVERED BY SOCIAL LEGISLATION. THE TRADE UNIONS HAVE INDEED WON THE RIGHT FOR INJURED PERSONS TO BE COMPENSATED FOR ALL COSTS INCURRED. THE CNE TEAM GUIDES YOU THROUGH THE STEPS TO TAKE.

THE MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

If you are injured on your way to work or at work, go as soon as possible to the medical service indicated in your work regulations to have the injuries, even slight ones (in case of future complications), established. Give the certificate to the employer and keep a copy.

REPORTING THE ACCIDENT

You must report your accident to your employer as soon as possible, even if you do not stop working. Remember to gather evidence: your medical certificate, witnesses, a police report if the accident occurred on the public highway, etc. Be as precise as possible and never change your description afterwards. If you are asked to co-sign the employer's statement, check that the description of the facts is correct. The employer is then obliged, under penalty of law, to declare your accident to his insurer within 8 days of the accident. The employer's opinion does not count: it is up to the insurer to decide whether it is an accident at work. If the insurer refuses to consider the facts as an accident at work, FEDRIS (the Federal Agency for the occupational hazards) can intervene and control its decision. The intervention of the employer is justified because the accident report contains technical data. These data make it possible to draw up statistics, thanks to which the trade unions can collectively improve safety and accident prevention at work.

COMPENSATION FOR THE ACCIDENT

If your accident at work is recognised by the insurer, you are entitled to full reimbursement of the health care (and any prosthetic or orthopaedic appliances) required as a result of the accident. If you need to be examined or treated as a result of your accident at work or if you have to travel at the request of FEDRIS, the insurance company or the labour court, your travel expenses are also reimbursed.

COMPENSATION FOR INCAPACITY FOR WORK

If your accident at work prevents you from returning to work, either totally or partially, temporarily or permanently, you are entitled to compensation for your loss of income. The amount of this compensation is calculated on the basis of your gross salary and varies according to the extent and duration of your incapacity for work (see the sheet "Incapacity for work? The CNE supports you"). You can obtain this information from the CNE team in your company or from our website www.lacsc.be/cne.



**DID YOU
KNOW ?**

The first mandatory social insurance program won by Belgian workers was... for workplace accidents!

At the end of the 19th century, accidents were commonplace in mines, factories, and workshops. Every day, workers were injured or killed on the job. To receive compensation, they had to prove that the employer was at fault—an almost impossible task. If he survived, an injured worker would lose his income overnight and could only rely on his family or charity.

For decades, workers organized themselves into unions and mutual aid societies. The major strikes of 1886 and the campaigns for universal suffrage (1893, 1902, 1913) strengthened their bargaining power and gradually established the idea that the risks of work should not be borne by the victims.

In 1903, Belgium passed a law on workplace accidents. For the first time, a victim of a workplace accident could receive compensation without having to prove fault on the part of their employer. But unlike what would later be done for sickness, unemployment, or pensions, lawmakers chose to entrust this protection to private insurers rather than integrating it into a public system as part of the broader development of Social Security.

Even today, workplace accidents remain an exception within our social protection system. This insurance is managed by private insurance companies, which operate on a for-profit basis. As a result, victims often face disputes or procedures (such as expert assessments) aimed at limiting compensation. The other branches of Social Security, on the other hand, are based on a principle of solidarity rather than profitability.

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Sick and unable to work?

The CNE supports you

ARE YOU UNABLE TO WORK DUE TO ILLNESS OR AN ACCIDENT? THEN YOU ARE "UNABLE TO WORK" AND COVERED BY SOCIAL LEGISLATION. THE TRADE UNIONS HAVE INDEED CONQUERED WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE GUARANTEED SALARY FOR THE SICK: YOU CONTINUE TO RECEIVE YOUR SALARY DURING (A PART OF) YOUR CONVALESCENCE, PROVIDED THAT YOU RESPECT CERTAIN RULES. THE CNE TEAM GUIDES YOU THROUGH THE STEPS TO TAKE.

INFORMATION FOR THE EMPLOYER

Inform your employer immediately. The law does not lay down any specific procedures: you can do this by telephone, e-mail, via a colleague or a member of your family. But remember to keep a written record, useful in the event of a possible dispute, by confirming your call by e-mail, for example.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

If this is provided for in the employment regulations or if the employer requests it, you must submit a medical certificate to your employer. Keep a record of this. The deadline for submitting this medical certificate may be specified in the employment regulations. If it is not specified, the deadline for sending it is two working days (and receipt may take place after the deadline has passed). The law does not specify how you should do this: you can hand in your certificate in person, via a colleague or family member, or send it by post, email, etc. Keep a written record of this step.



You are not required to produce a medical certificate for the first day of incapacity for work; this applies twice a calendar year, even if the employment regulations stipulate that a medical certificate must be produced from the first day. If you are not staying at your usual address known to the employer, you must inform him of the address at which you are staying (so that he can organise the medical check-up if necessary (see below)). Companies with fewer than 50 employees may opt out of this rule and still stipulate, in their employment regulations, the obligation to submit a medical certificate for the first day of incapacity for work.



Arizona plans to restrict this right to two days per calendar year, instead of three. As with all its attacks on the working class, it is still possible to push back. But to do so, we must organize, fight, and defend a more just and united society together. To learn more and join the fight: click [here](#) or scan this QR code.



MEDICAL EXAMINATION

The employer has the right to have your incapacity for work checked by a medical officer of his choice, either at your home or at his office (the cost of travel is then borne by the employer). The examining doctor only checks whether you are unable to work, the probable duration of your incapacity and the medical data needed to apply the legislation (existence of a relapse, occupational origin, etc.). All other questions are covered by professional secrecy. The examining doctor is not entitled to communicate the diagnosis to the employer, nor to interfere with the treatment prescribed by your doctor.

If you do not agree with the examining doctor's decision, you can initiate the procedure for appointing an arbitrating doctor. In this case, contact the CNE team in your company or the CNE secretariat in your region.

GUARANTEED SALARY

If you fulfil these obligations, you are entitled to 30 days' guaranteed pay from the first day of your incapacity for work, entirely at the employer's expense. Are you employed on a fixed-term contract of less than 3 months or a workman? If you have been working for less than a month, you are covered directly by your health insurance plan if you meet the eligibility requirements for sick leave benefits.. If you have been working for more than one month, your guaranteed salary is weekly: your employer has to pay you 100% of your salary the first week, a little less the following three weeks and the mutual insurance company completes.

If you do not comply with the above obligations, you will not receive your guaranteed salary until you remedy the situation (except in cases of force majeure or for legitimate reasons, which you can invoke before the labour court).

If your incapacity to work lasts longer than 30 days, You will generally be covered by health insurance (www.inami.fgov.be) and receive benefits from your health insurance provider. Thanks to Social Security—which didn't just fall from the sky and certainly wasn't a gift from governments or employers: it was built gradually through the organization, mobilization, and struggles of workers! In the face of those who would like to roll back collective protections and dismantle our mechanisms of solidarity, it is more necessary than ever to defend and strengthen it.



IN CASE YOU GET SICK DURING YOUR HOLIDAYS

If you become unfit for work (due to illness or accident) during your paid holidays, you can carry over the days of holiday that you were unable to take because of your unfitness. This means that days of illness occurring during annual holidays will not be deducted from your holidays. In order to carry over these days, you have to (1) immediately inform your employer of your illness or accident and of your place of residence if you are not at home, (2) submit a medical certificate to your employer within 2 working days (unless otherwise specified in the work regulations) and (3) allow the medical assessor sent by your employer to examine you.

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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.

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You are changing your job role or contract? The CNE supports you

YOU ARE CHANGING YOUR JOB ROLE OR YOUR CONTRACT IN THE COMPANY? YOU PROBABLY HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, THE STEPS TO TAKE, AND ADVICE ON HOW TO MAKE THIS CHANGE A SUCCESS. THE CNE TEAM SUPPORTS YOU THROUGH THIS NEW PHASE IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER.

WITH YOUR CONSENT

In principle, your employer cannot significantly change an essential element of your contract without your consent. The nature of your work (employee or workman), the content of your function (more or less detailed in your contract), your salary (or the way it is calculated), your working regime and working hours (in the case of fixed hours), and possibly your place of work, are some of these essential elements. To change them, your employer must obtain your agreement, unless your contract provides otherwise.

THE CNE, ALWAYS AT YOUR SIDE

Do you need advice, information, support in your professional endeavours or during an interview, support in settling a conflict? Whatever your question or professional problem, the CNE is there to help you. Behind the CNE team in your company, more than 160 people are working to serve our members. Never hesitate to contact us!

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You are pregnant?

The CNE supports you

YOU ARE EXPECTING A CHILD? CONGRATULATIONS ON THE HAPPY NEWS! YOU CERTAINLY HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS... FOR THOSE CONCERNING THE PROFESSIONAL FIELD, COUNT ON US: THE CNE TEAM TELLS YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PREGNANCY AT WORK.

INFORMING THE EMPLOYER

The law protects pregnant women at work. To benefit from these protections, the employer must have been informed of the pregnancy. We therefore advise you to notify the employer, keeping a written record of this. From that moment on, you will be covered by the law on maternity protection.

RISK ASSESSMENT

If your work is likely to be dangerous or harmful to your health or that of your child, the employer has to organize a risk assessment, and to communicate the general measures to be taken to the Committee for Prevention and Protection at Work (CPPT) or the trade union delegation (DS). The assessment and the measures are also communicated to you.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

You have the right to be absent from work, without loss of pay, to attend antenatal clinics. Make sure you provide your employer with a doctor's certificate and keep a copy.

OVERTIME AND NIGHT WORK

Throughout your pregnancy, you cannot do any extra work. Eight weeks before the expected date of delivery, you can refuse to work at night (between 8PM and 6AM) and your employer will then be obliged to transfer you to a day job*. If this is technically and objectively impossible, you are temporary laid off. Based on a medical certificate, this restriction may apply throughout the entire pregnancy and for up to 4 weeks after the end of maternity leave.

IF YOU ARE TEMPORARY LAID OFF

If the occupational doctor decides to lay you off due to your exposure to a risk that is dangerous to your health or that of your child in the context of your work, you are not entitled to the guaranteed salary paid by the employer. You are entitled to health insurance benefits corresponding to 78% of your gross salary (capped if it exceeds a certain amount - €4,953 gross per month since September 1, 2026), paid by your mutual insurance company. Thanks to Social Security—which didn't just fall from the sky and certainly wasn't a gift from governments or employers: it was built gradually through the organization, mobilization, and struggles of workers! In the face of those who would like to roll back collective protections and dismantle our mechanisms of solidarity, it is more necessary than ever to defend and strengthen it.

PROTECTION AGAINST DISMISSAL

From the moment the employer has been informed of your pregnancy until one month after your maternity leave, he cannot dismiss you, except for reasons unrelated to your maternity. To find out more about maternity leave, see our factsheet "Going on maternity leave soon? The CNE supports you", available from your company's CNE team or on our website www.lacsc.be/cne.

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

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Last update : July 2026

About to go on maternity leave?

The CNE supports you

YOUR PREGNANCY IS COMING TO AN END AND THE BIRTH IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER? FIRST OF ALL, WE WISH YOU ALL THE BEST DURING THIS VERY SPECIAL TIME. YOU PROBABLY HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS... FOR THOSE CONCERNING THE PROFESSIONAL FIELD, YOU CAN COUNT ON US: THE CNE TEAM TELLS YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MATERNITY LEAVE.

NOTIFY THE EMPLOYER

You must give the employer a certificate stating the expected date of delivery no later than 7 weeks before the due date (9 weeks in the case of a multiple pregnancy). Keep a written record of this.

15 WEEKS OF REST

Maternity leave lasts 15 weeks. It consists of 6 weeks of prenatal leave and 9 weeks of postnatal leave. You are not obliged to take the 6 weeks of antenatal leave: only the last week (7 calendar days) before the expected date of delivery must be taken as antenatal leave. The other 5 weeks of prenatal leave can be carried over (in whole or in part) after the 9 weeks of postnatal leave. Please note that it is the actual date of delivery that counts. If you give birth before or after the expected date, you will have to recalculate. Maternity leave is extended in the event of multiple births or hospitalization of the child.

MATERNITY BENEFITS

During your maternity leave, you will not receive any salary from your employer. Instead, you will receive compensation from INAMI (Federal Institute for Health Insurance) and paid by your mutual insurance company. For the first 30 days, you will receive 82% of your gross salary. For the following days, you will receive 75% of your gross salary (capped if it exceeds a certain amount - €4,953 gross per month as at 1 February 2025). Thanks to Social Security—which didn't just fall from the sky and certainly wasn't a gift from governments or employers: it was built gradually through the organization, mobilization, and struggles of workers! In the face of those who would like to roll back collective protections and dismantle our mechanisms of solidarity, it is more necessary than ever to defend and strengthen it.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES

Through social security again, you or the other parent will receive child benefit for your child. Contact your family allowance fund to find out what you need to do ([here](#) for the Walloon Region and [here](#) for the Brussels Region).

PROTECTION AGAINST DISMISSAL

From the time the employer has been informed of your pregnancy until one month after your maternity leave, he cannot dismiss you, except for reasons unrelated to your maternity. This includes any act that could lead to dismissal, such as a declaration of intent, steps to recruit a replacement or the reorganization of work to dispense with your post. If in doubt, contact the company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region as soon as possible!

PARENTAL LEAVE

Do you want to extend these moments with your child? Parental leave allows you to stop working entirely for 4 months, to reduce your working hours to 50% for 8 months, to 80% for 20 months or to 90% for 40 months (for this one, you need your employer's agreement). The ONEM pays you allowances to compensate (in part) for the loss of salary. You can take parental leave for each of your children, from their birth until their 12th birthday. Both parents are entitled to parental leave. Once again, this is possible...thanks to Social Security!

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Last update : July 2026

Soon-to-be father or co-parent? The CNE supports you

YOU ARE A SOON-TO-BE FATHER OR CO-PARENT? CONGRATULATIONS ON THE HAPPY NEWS! YOU CERTAINLY HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS... FOR THOSE CONCERNING THE PROFESSIONAL FIELD, COUNT ON US: THE CNE TEAM TELLS YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BIRTH LEAVE.

NOTIFY THE EMPLOYER

You must notify your employer of your intention to take childbirth leave. This notification can be given orally or in writing, but it is recommended to inform your employer in writing (for example, by e-mail with acknowledgement of receipt or by handing in a written document with a copy signed for receipt by the employer) so that you can keep a written record, which will be useful in the event of any disagreement.

20 DAYS LEAVE

The birth of your child entitles you to 20 days' birth leave (also known as "paternity leave"). You can spread these 20 days over the 4 months following the day of the birth.

ALLOWANCES

The first 3 days of childbirth are paid by the employer. The following 17 days entitle you to allowances by INAMI ((Federal Institute for Health Insurance) but paid by your mutual insurance company. These allowances correspond to 82% of the gross salary (capped if it exceeds a certain amount - €4,953 gross per month as at September 1, 2026). Thanks to Social Security—which didn't just fall from the sky and certainly wasn't a gift from governments or employers: it was built gradually through the organization, mobilization, and struggles of workers! In the face of those who would like to roll back collective protections and dismantle our mechanisms of solidarity, it is more necessary than ever to defend and strengthen it.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES

Through social security again, you or the other parent will receive child benefit for your child. Contact your family allowance fund to find out what you need to do ([here](#) for the Walloon Region and [here](#) for the Brussels Region).

PROTECTION AGAINST DISMISSAL

From the moment the employer has been informed of the employee's wish to take childbirth leave until the fifth month after the birth, he may not dismiss you, except for reasons unrelated to the taking of childbirth leave. This includes any act leading to dismissal, such as a declaration of intent, steps to recruit a replacement or the reorganization of work in order to dispense with your post. If in doubt, contact the company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region as soon as possible!

PARENTAL LEAVE

Do you want to extend these moments with your child? Parental leave allows you to stop working entirely for 4 months, to reduce your working hours to 50% for 8 months, to 80% for 20 months or to 90% for 40 months (for this one, you need your employer's agreement). The ONEM pays

you allowances to compensate (in part) for the loss of salary. You can take parental leave for each of your children, from their birth until their 12th birthday. Both parents are entitled to parental leave. Once again, this is possible...thanks to Social Security!

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Last update : July 2026

You are adopting? The CNE supports you

YOU ARE WELCOMING A CHILD THROUGH ADOPTION? CONGRATULATIONS ON THE HAPPY NEWS! YOU CERTAINLY HAVE A LOT OF QUESTIONS TO ASK... FOR THOSE CONCERNING THE PROFESSIONAL FIELD, COUNT ON US: THE CNE TEAM TELLS YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ADOPTION LEAVE.

NOTIFY THE EMPLOYER

To take your adoption leave, you must give the employer at least one month's notice in writing, delivered against a receipt or by registered post, specifying the start and end of the leave. At the latest on the first day of the leave, you must also provide the documents proving the adoption.

A 6 WEEKS LEAVE

Each adoptive parent has an individual credit of 6 weeks of leave. In addition, both adoptive parents have a further four weeks' credit to be shared between them. These periods are doubled if the child is disabled. You must take this leave within 2 months of registering the child as part of your household. You do not have to take the entire leave period, but it must be taken in one go and include at least one week or a multiple of one week.

ADOPTION ALLOWANCES

The first 3 days of adoption leave are paid normally by your employer. The following days entitle you to compensation from INAMI ((Federal Institute for Health Insurance) via your mutual insurance company. These allowances correspond to 82% of your gross salary (capped if it exceeds a certain amount - €4,953 gross per month as at Septembre 1, 2026). Thanks to Social Security—which didn't just fall from the sky and certainly wasn't a gift from governments or employers: it was built gradually through the organization, mobilization, and struggles of workers! In the face of those who would like to roll back collective protections and dismantle our mechanisms of solidarity, it is more necessary than ever to defend and strengthen it.

FAMILY ALLOWANCES

Through social security again, you or the other parent will receive child benefit for your child. Contact your family allowance fund to find out what you need to do ([here](#) for the Walloon Region and [here](#) for the Brussels Region).

PROTECTION AGAINST DISMISSAL

During a period beginning two months before the adoption leave is taken and ending one month after the end of the leave, the employer may not dismiss you, except for reasons unrelated to the adoption leave. Any act leading to dismissal is covered, such as a declaration of intent, steps to recruit a replacement or the reorganization of work in order to dispense with your post. If in doubt, contact the company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region as soon as possible!

PARENTAL LEAVE

Do you want to extend these moments with your child? Parental leave allows you to stop working entirely for 4 months, to reduce your working hours to 50% for 8 months, to 80% for 20 months or to 90% for 40 months (for this one, you need your employer's agreement). The ONEM pays

you allowances to compensate (in part) for the loss of salary. You can take parental leave for each of your children, from their birth until their 12th birthday. Both parents are entitled to parental leave. Once again, this is possible...thanks to Social Security!

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Last update : July 2026

Need a break in your career?

The CNE supports you

YOU FEEL THE NEED TO TEMPORARILY SLOW DOWN YOUR PROFESSIONAL RHYTHM? THERE ARE VARIOUS WAYS OF INTERRUPTING YOUR CAREER OR TEMPORARILY REDUCING YOUR WORKING HOURS: TIME CREDIT, END-OF-CAREER TIME CREDIT AND THEMATIC LEAVE.

A career break or reduction in working time is a right: the employer is therefore obliged to grant it to you (except in certain cases). During your break, you receive break benefits paid by the ONEM to partially compensate for your loss of earnings. Thanks to Social Security—which didn't just fall from the sky and certainly wasn't a gift from governments or employers: it was built gradually through the organization, mobilization, and struggles of workers! In the face of those who would like to roll back collective protections and dismantle our mechanisms of solidarity, it is more necessary than ever to defend and strengthen it.

TIME CREDIT FOR SPECIFIC REASONS

For certain reasons (caring for your child under 8 (or under 5¹), disabled child under 21 or a seriously ill relative, providing palliative care for a person who needs it, or training, you have the right to stop working entirely, to reduce your working hours to 50% or to 80%, while receiving an allowance from ONEM (to compensate (in part) for the loss of salary). You can switch from one form of reduction to another and from one reason to another, as long as the total of the periods of time credit does not exceed 51 months (limited to 48 months for caring for a child under 8/5 and to 36 months for training).

END-OF-CAREER TIME CREDIT

From the age of 60 (or 55 under certain conditions), if you have sufficient years of professional experience, you are entitled to reduce your working hours to 50% or to 80%, while receiving an allowance from ONEM. You can extend this reduction in working time until you reach pensionable age, if you wish. Please note that periods of reduced working time may have an impact on the amount of your pension.



MR and Engagés' Arizona had planned to drastically restrict access to end-of-career time credit. Workers would have had to have 35 years of service, compared to 25 years today. Trade unions secured a softening of this condition for women: in 2030, they will only have to prove 30 years of service. This remains a substantial reduction in workers' rights. Now more than ever, it is time to organize a response to reverse the power relations and impose real end-of-career measures that are fair and accessible to all! To find out more and join the fight: click [here](#) or scan this QR code.



THEMATIC LEAVES

There are 4 specific situations in which you are entitled to thematic leave. In all cases, you can receive an allowance from ONEM.

¹ When you take a full time credit (it means: you completely stop working), your child must be less than 5.

Parental leave allows you to stop working entirely for 4 months, to reduce your working hours to 50% for 8 months, to 80% for 20 months or to 90% for 40 months (for this one, you need your employer's agreement). You can take parental leave for each of your children, from their birth until their 12th birthday. Both parents are entitled to parental leave.

Palliative care leave allows you to interrupt or reduce your working hours to provide any form of medical, social, administrative or psychological care or support to a person suffering from an incurable disease. This person does not have to be a relative or close friend. The leave is for a period of one month (extendable by one more month, up to a maximum of three months per patient) and can be taken on a full-time, 50% or 80% basis.

Medical assistance leave allows you to interrupt or reduce your working hours to care for a member of your household (living under the same roof), a relative (2nd degree in your family or 1st degree by marriage) suffering from a serious illness. The leave is for a maximum of 12 months per patient (if you completely stop working) or 24 months per patient (if you reduce your working hours to 50% or to 80%).

Please note: if the company employs fewer than 10 people, the employer may refuse to reduce your benefits to 50% or 80%. In companies with fewer than 50 workers, the employer may limit the total suspension of work to 6 months and the reduction to 50% or 80% to 12 months for the same person.

Caregiver leave allows you to interrupt or reduce your working hours to provide help or support to a person who is dependent. The leave is for a maximum of 3 months per person cared for (if you completely stop working) or 6 months (if you reduce your working hours to 50% or to 80%). Over your entire career, you can only take 6 months of total suspension or 12 months of reduction to 50% or to 80%.

Beware!

When you reduce your working hours, your working arrangements change. Your contract of employment must therefore be adapted. Do not hesitate to ask us for advice before signing anything!

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Need a break on the go? The CNE supports you!

MARRIAGE, DEATH, COMMUNION, CIVIC MISSION, HOSPITALISATION OF A RELATIVE... SOME EVENTS IN PRIVATE LIFE, WHETHER PLANNED OR NOT, SOMETIMES REQUIRE TIME OFF WORK. HERE ARE SOME POSSIBILITIES FOR TAKING TIME OFF WORK.

There are two main types of leave to cope with family and private events: occasional leave and leave for compelling reasons.

OCCASIONAL LEAVE

Some family events entitle you to leave with pay from your employer. These include weddings, deaths, solemn communion. If you work part-time, you may be absent, with your salary maintained, for the days on which you would normally have worked; the duration of this occasional leave is not prorated. Some civic obligations (participation in a jury, being called as a witness in court, acting as an assessor during the elections) also entitle you to time off.

For information on deaths, please refer to the following table:

Deceased person	Duration and conditions
Spouse or cohabiting partner (married or legally cohabiting) ; child of the worker or his/her spouse	10 days, of which 3 days must be taken between the death and the funeral and the remaining 7 days within one year of the death.
Father, mother; stepfather, stepmother; mother's second husband, father's second wife ; of the worker or his or her spouse or cohabiting partner.	3 days to be chosen by the worker from the period beginning on the day of death and ending on the day of the funeral.
Brother, sister; brother-in-law, sister-in-law; grandparent, great-grandparent; grandchild, great-grandchild; son-in-law or daughter-in-law ; of the worker or his or her spouse or cohabiting partner.	If the deceased lived with the worker: 2 days to be chosen by the worker from the period beginning on the day of death and ending on the day of the funeral.
	If the deceased did not live with the worker: the day of the funeral.
Child of the worker or his/her spouse or cohabiting partner placed in short-term foster care.	The day of the funeral.

LEAVE FOR COMPELLING REASONS

You are entitled to 10 days' absence per year for compelling reasons. It could be any unforeseeable event, independent of work, which requires the urgent and indispensable intervention of the worker. In principle, these days are unpaid, unless the rules in force in your sector or company state otherwise.

INFORM YOUR EMPLOYER

Remember to inform your employer beforehand (or, if this is not possible, as soon as possible) and to keep proof of this communication (an e-mail, for example). Your employer may also ask you for evidence of the reasons given.

CHECK THE CONDITIONS IN YOUR AREA AND YOUR COMPANY

In some sectors and companies, trade unions have been able to negotiate even better conditions: don't hesitate to ask your company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region for information.

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Last update : July 2026

You are resigning?

The CNE supports you

YOU WANT TO RESIGN? YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THERE ARE A FEW RULES TO OBSERVE, WHICH ALLOW THE EMPLOYER TO "COPE", WHILE PROTECTING YOU DURING THIS PARTICULAR PERIOD. THE CNE TEAM REVIEWS YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS IN THE EVENT OF RESIGNATION, AND ASSISTS YOU IN THIS DECISION.

NOTIFICATION OF THE RESIGNATION

You must notify your employer of your resignation in writing, either by registered letter or by hand-delivered letter with proof of receipt. This letter must specify the **start date** and **duration** of your notice period. Your notice period starts on the first Monday after the notification. If you send your notice by registered letter, the notification takes place on the 3rd working day (every day except Sundays and public holidays) after the registered letter is sent, the postmark being taken as proof. In practice, you should send the registered letter by the Wednesday of the previous week at the latest for the notice period to take effect on the following Monday (make sure there are no public holidays during this period!).

DURATION OF NOTICE

If you have an open-ended contract, your notice of resignation is half the notice period for dismissal, up to a maximum of 13 weeks. See [our website](#) for the exact length of your notice period.

DOCUMENTS TO BE REQUESTED

Do not forget to ask your employer for: a certificate of employment, holiday certificates (for the past year and the current year), the last payslip, the individual account for the current year and the documents for calculating any bonuses. You will need these for your endeavours with the unemployment office or your next employer.

YOUR NOTICE IS NOT INTERRUPTED

In the event of resignation, your notice period continues to run when the contract is suspended (in the event of annual holidays, illness, maternity leave, etc.). It means your notice period does not stop during these events.

ABSENCE TO LOOK FOR A NEW JOB

You have the right to be absent from work, with full pay, to look for a new job. Which is called the solicitation leave. During the notice period, the duration of solicitation leave is one day or two half-days per week. It will be prorated if you work part-time. It cannot be carried over from one week to the next, unless the employer agrees.

RISK OF 'UNEMPLOYMENT' SANCTION

Caution: if you leave the company without finding another job, the ONEM may consider that you have resigned for illegitimate reasons and deprive you of unemployment benefit for a longer or shorter period (4 to 52 weeks). Therefore, check with the unemployment service of the CSC in your region before you resign.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

See also our sheet "Are you leaving the company? The CNE is there to help you", available from your company's CNE team or on our website www.lacsc.be/cne.

ENVIE D'EN SAVOIR PLUS ? NEED ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR PROCEDURES?

Consultez notre fiche « Vous quittez l'entreprise ? La CNE vous accompagne », disponible auprès de l'équipe CNE de votre entreprise ou sur notre site www.lacsc.be/cne.

The resignation system is a complex matter, with many specific rules. For personalized, precise and complete information, we advise you to consult us directly.

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Last update : July 2026

You are dismissed? The CNE supports you

IF YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF YOUR DISMISSAL, YOU WILL, IN THE VAST MAJORITY OF CASES, BE GIVEN NOTICE. THE TRADE UNIONS HAVE IN FACT OBTAINED A BAN ON THE EMPLOYER GETTING RID OF THEIR EMPLOYEES OVERNIGHT: YOU ARE THEREFORE ENTITLED TO A CERTAIN PERIOD OF TIME TO "TURN AROUND". THE CNE TEAM SUPPORTS YOU THROUGH THESE DIFFICULT TIMES.

NOTIFICATION OF DISMISSAL

The employer must notify you of your dismissal in writing, by registered letter or bailiff's writ, and must specify the date on which your notice period begins and the duration of that period. Your notice period starts on the first Monday following the notification. The notification takes place on the third working day (every day except Sundays and public holidays) following the sending of the registered letter. To check the exact duration of your notice period, consult the CNE team at your company or the CNE secretariat in your region.



MR and Engagés' Arizona adopted a law that limits the notice period to 52 weeks in the event of termination for contracts signed on or after June 1, 2026. Previously, the notice period—which depended on length of service—was not limited. This is a step backward for the protection of workers with significant seniority. But above all, it's a great gift for employers! Like all of Arizona's attacks on the working class, we will neither forget nor forgive! Now more than ever, we must organize, fight, and defend a more just and united society together. To learn more and join the fight: click [here](#) or scan this QR code.



NOTIFICATION OF DISMISSAL WITH COMPENSATION

If your employer dismisses you without complying with the formalities of dismissal with notice (verbally, by text message, by email, etc.), they must pay you compensation corresponding to the salary they would have paid you during the notice period to which you were entitled. In this case, the contract is terminated immediately and you are no longer required to report to work.

IF YOUR NOTICE IS WORKED OUT

If your employer chooses to require you to serve notice, you should be aware that your notice period is suspended in the event of annual holidays, sickness, maternity leave, birth leave, adoption leave, time credit (only in case of complete suspension of benefits), thematic leave (only in case of complete suspension of benefits), compensatory rest, leave for compelling reasons and temporary unemployment. This means that your notice period stops during these periods and starts again when you return. The end of the notice period is therefore postponed.

ABSENCE TO LOOK FOR A NEW JOB (SOLICITATION LEAVE)

You have the right to be absent from work, with full pay, to look for a new job. It's called the solicitation leave. For the period corresponding to the last 26 weeks of notice, you may be absent from work one day or two half-days per week. For the period before the last 26 weeks, you

are entitled to only one half-day's absence per week. The duration of this solicitation leave is prorated if you work part-time. It cannot be carried over from one week to the next, unless the employer agrees.

COUNTER-NOTICE

If you wish to leave the company early, for example to start a new job, you must give the employer counter-notice. The length of this counter-notice depends on your seniority, with a 4 weeks maximum.

OUTPLACEMENT

If you have more than 30 weeks' notice (or equivalent compensation) or are aged 45 or over and have at least one year's seniority, you are entitled to an outplacement. Ask your CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region.

DOCUMENTS TO BE REQUESTED

Do not forget to ask your employer for a certificate of employment, holiday certificates (for the past year and the current year), the last payslip, the individual account for the current year and the documents for calculating any pro rata bonuses. You will need these for your endeavours with the unemployment office or your next employer.

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You leave the company?

The CNE supports you

YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER IS TAKING A NEW TURN? FIRST OF ALL, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU, AS AN MEMBER, FOR THE TRUST YOU HAVE PLACED IN US SO FAR. YOU PROBABLY HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, THE STEPS TO TAKE, AND ADVICE ON HOW TO MAKE THIS CHANGE A SUCCESS. YOU CAN COUNT ON US: THE CNE TEAM IS AT YOUR SIDE.

ARE YOU LEAVING OR BEING DISMISSED?

See the sheet "You are resigning? The CNE supports you" or the sheet "Are you dismissed? The CNE supports you", available from the CNE team in your company or on our website www.lacsc.be/cne.

STARTING A NEW JOB?

If you start a new job, do not forget to tell your new employer your seniority at the time of hiring. Generally the salary is calculated on the basis of this seniority. If in doubt, contact us first!

DOCUMENTS TO BE REQUESTED

Do not forget to ask your employer for: a certificate of employment, holiday certificates (for the past year and the current year), the last payslip, the individual account for the current year and the documents for calculating any bonuses. You will need these for your endeavours with the unemployment office or your next employer.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOLLOWS YOU

If your new job is still a salaried one, your trade union membership is still very useful. As an employee, you will remain affiliated with us, with the Centrale Nationale des Employés.

Changing your status? Whether you are in the public sector, in education or as a workman, another CSC professional centrale will efficiently take over your membership and give you access to the same individual and collective services.

CONTACT YOUR CNE REGIONAL SECRETARIAT

To enable us to serve you in the best possible way, please remember to update your details with your regional CNE secretariat, either on site, by telephone or by e-mail. You can also contact the CNE team at your company, which will do the necessary for you.

THE CNE, ALWAYS AT YOUR SIDE

Once you have settled in, do not hesitate to introduce yourself to the CNE team at your new company. They will organize your welcome and support you in your new working environment. If there is no CNE team in your new company, do not hesitate to contact your regional CNE secretariat; behind the CNE delegates, more than 160 people are working for the members.

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Last update : July 2026

Pensioner and worker?

The CNE supports you

YOU RECEIVE A RETIREMENT OR SURVIVOR'S PENSION AND WANT TO CONTINUE WORKING? THIS IS PERMITTED. YOU PROBABLY HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, THE STEPS TO TAKE AND THE ADVICE TO FOLLOW. YOU CAN COUNT ON US: THE CNE TEAM IS AT YOUR SIDE.

YOU WILL SOON RECEIVE YOUR PENSION?

If you have any questions about your (early) pension, please refer to the "soon-to-be pensioner" information sheet. You can also contact your company's CNE team.

WHAT STEPS SHOULD I TAKE TO WORK?

In principle, if you are a pensioner and you want to continue or resume paid work, you do not need to complete any formalities. As an exception, you must make a prior declaration to the Federal Pensions Service (FPS) in three cases: if you are awaiting the very first payment of your pension, if you are engaged in a scientific or artistic activity, or if you are working abroad. The declaration must be made within a specific but relatively broad time frame: before the start of the activity, within 30 days of the start of the activity, or within 30 days of the granting of the pension. Your employer does not have to make any particular declaration.

WHAT IMPACT DOES YOUR PROFESSIONAL INCOME HAVE ON YOUR PENSION?

When you receive a retirement pension, if you are at least 66 years old (65 if you are born before 1960) or have worked for at least 45 years, you can combine your salary with your retirement pension without limit. However, there is a limit to how much you can earn if you are under 66 (65 if you are born before 1960) and have not worked for 45 years: in 2026, the limit is €10,432 gross per year. If you exceed the limit, the amount of your pension will be reduced proportionately. If you exceed the limit by 100% or more, your pension will be suspended entirely. Please note that any amounts unduly paid by the FPS will be recovered, so if you think you have exceeded the limit, inform the FPS.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO PROTECT YOU

Pensioners benefit from a reduction in contributions and remain covered by our services (information, advice, legal defense in case of conflict with the FPS, etc.). If your income is so high that your pension is suspended, you remain a worker and pay the normal contributions.

Do you want to get involved in the defence of pensioners? Join the CSC Seniors, our movement of (pre)retired workers (www.lacsc.be)!

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Last update : July 2026

Soon-to-be a pensioner?

The CNE supports you

YOUR PROFESSIONAL CAREER IS COMING TO AN END? FIRST OF ALL, WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU, AS A MEMBER, FOR THE TRUST YOU HAVE PLACED IN US SO FAR. YOU PROBABLY HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, THE STEPS TO TAKE, AND ADVICE ON HOW TO ENJOY YOUR WELL-DESERVED RETIREMENT. YOU CAN COUNT ON US: THE CNE TEAM IS AT YOUR SIDE.

AT WHAT AGE CAN YOU TAKE YOUR PENSION?

In Belgium, the statutory pension age was 65. In 2014, Charles Michel's MR-NVA government has decided to raise it to 66 for pensions that start between February 1, 2025, and January 1, 2030. From February 1, 2030, it will be 67.

Your pension starts on the first day of the month following the month in which you turn 66 or 67. Under certain conditions, it is possible to stop working earlier, by taking an "early pension". The age and career requirements for obtaining an early retirement pension have been tightened up several times. Ask your company's CNE team or the Federal Pensions Service (www.sfpf.fgov.be) for information.



Starting January 1, 2027, the MR and Engagés' Arizona has tightened the eligibility requirements for early retirement.

Worse still: it has introduced a penalty (-5% for each year the retirement is taken early) for people who take early retirement (unless certain career-related conditions are met)! This is yet another attack on workers and on the right to a dignified retirement. Now more than ever, we must organize a response to shift the balance of power and demand real retirement measures that are fair and accessible to all! To learn more and join the fight, click [here](#) or scan this QR code.



WHAT STEPS TO TAKE?

If you wish to receive a retirement pension, you must stop your professional activities. You can resign (see the sheet entitled "You are resigning? The CNE supports you") or ask your employer to dismiss you (see the sheet entitled "Are you dismissed? The CNE supports you") or terminate your contract by mutual agreement. To receive your monthly pension, if you take your pension at the legal age, you do not have to do anything: the Federal Service (SFP) will send you a letter with the calculation of your pension (66 or 67 years old). All you have to do is check the data in the calculation. If you have any doubts, you can contact the INAS (www.patronatoinas.be/sieges/), which offers this service to all CSC members. If you take your pension before or after the statutory age, or if you live abroad, you must submit an application to the local authority, to the FPS regional office or online (www.demandepension.be), between one year and one month before you retire. We advise you to do this a few months in advance, so that you can be paid as soon as your working life ends.

HOW MUCH WILL YOUR PENSION BE?

The SFP calculates the amount of your pension on the basis of the length of your career and the income for each year of your career. In case of doubt, you can also contact the INAS (www.patronatoinas.be/sieges/), which provides information free of charge to members of the CSC.



MR and Engagés' Arizona has reduced the pension amount not only for those who take early retirement (penalty) but also for workers who have accumulated too many "assimilated" periods, such as periods of unemployment or end-of-career time credits. Let's reject a cut in pensions! Let's organize resistance and demand a decent pension based on solidarity for all.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO PROTECT YOU

Once you are a pensioner, you benefit from a reduction in your CNE membership fees and remain fully covered by our services (information, personalised advice, legal defence in the event of a dispute with the FPS, etc.). Do you want to get involved in the defence of pensioners?

Join the CSC Seniors, our movement of (pre-)retired workers (www.lacsc.be)!



**DID YOU
KNOW ?**

Workers had to fight long and hard to secure an income guarantee for their old age. Until 1900, there was no universal pension system.

Workers were required to contribute personally to their pensions. As wages were too low to allow them to save, people who were too old to work could only rely on their families or charity.

After World War I, the ruling class feared that the Russian Revolution of October 1917 would spread. Workers' organizations made unprecedented gains. The power relations shifted, becoming more equal between workers and employers. In 1924 (for manual workers) and 1925 (for white-collar workers), compulsory pension insurance was introduced. This was an individually funded pension: contributions paid by each worker and their employer, together with a state contribution, were used to finance an individual pension. The retirement age was set at 65 for men and 60 for women. Although imperfect, this system was a victory for workers: it was now possible to maintain one's livelihood when one was no longer able to work.

In 1944, representatives of employers' and trade union organizations concluded the Social Pact with the aim of reviving the country's economy once the war was over. The pension system gradually shifted from a capitalization principle to a pay-as-you-go principle. Current employee contributions are distributed to finance today's pensions. Based on solidarity, the pay-as-you-go system provides greater financial security and a better match between living standards and pension levels.

Since the late 1980s, the neoliberal idea that we should fear a demographic shock, which would lead to an imbalance between the active (too few workers) and inactive (too many pensioners) populations, has been the basis for successive reforms that have reduced pension amounts and raised the retirement age. Behind the different ways of financing pensions lie ideological issues: a fair distribution of income and an economy that invests in the future and in a just transition *versus* indecent incomes for a privileged minority.

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Last update : July 2026

Fixed-term contract?

The CNE supports you

YOU HAVE BEEN OFFERED A FIXED-TERM CONTRACT OR YOU HAVE ALREADY SIGNED ONE? WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS? TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR FIXED-TERM CONTRACT, FOLLOW THE CNE'S ADVICE!

A WRITTEN CONTRACT

As the name suggests, a fixed-term contract (FTC) is an employment contract concluded for a limited period. The fixed-term contract must be drawn up in writing (on paper or electronically with a secure signature) and signed at the latest when you start work. The contract specifies the date on which it begins and the date on which it ends. If the end date of the contract is not mentioned, the contract is automatically considered to be of open-ended.

SUCCESSIVE CONTRACTS

In principle, the employer cannot hire you on several fixed-term contracts that follow each other. Instead, they must offer you a open-ended contract. However, the law allows four exceptions:

- You can conclude up to 4 successive fixed-term contracts, provided that each one lasts at least 3 months and that their total duration does not exceed 2 years.
- You can conclude several successive fixed-term contracts, provided that each one lasts at least 6 months and that their total duration does not exceed 3 years, and this with the prior agreement of the Social Law Control.
- You can conclude successive fixed-term contracts without limit, if you request it yourself, for personal or other reasons.
- You can conclude successive fixed-term contracts if the employer can demonstrate that this is justified by legitimate reasons (for example, for several performance dates, for a temporary project intrinsically linked to a temporary grant for which it is not known whether it will be renewed or not, etc.).

DO YOU GET AN OPEN-ENDED CONTRACT?

If you obtain a open-ended contract in the same company, your seniority under a fixed-term contract must be taken into account for the calculation of your salary and other rights (notice, holidays, bonuses, etc.).

WORKING CONDITIONS

Workers on fixed-term contracts may not be treated less favorably because they work on a fixed-term basis, unless there are objective reasons for such differences in treatment.

BREACH OF CONTRACT

Except in the case of serious misconduct, the employer or worker who terminates the contract before the scheduled date must pay compensation equivalent to the salary due for the remaining duration of the fixed-term contract, with a ceiling of twice the compensation that would have been due if it had been a permanent contract. By way of exception and for the first fixed-term contract only: if the contract is terminated during the first half of the fixed-term contract (without this period exceeding 6 months), notice of dismissal or resignation may be given (instead of a termination allowance).

WORK INCAPACITY

For fixed-term contracts of less than 3 months, the employer may terminate the contract after 7 days of uninterrupted incapacity to work, after the expiry of the period during which notice is possible, without compensation. For fixed-term contracts of 3 months or more, the employer may terminate the contract after 6 months of incapacity to work, in return for compensation equivalent to the salary due for the remaining duration of the fixed-term contract, capped at 3 months' salary and reduced by any guaranteed salary already paid.

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Last update : July 2026

Replacement contract? The CNE supports you!

YOU HAVE BEEN OFFERED A REPLACEMENT CONTRACT OR YOU HAVE ALREADY SIGNED ONE? WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS? TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CONTRACT, FOLLOW THE CNE'S ADVICE!

A WRITTEN CONTRACT

As the name suggests, a replacement contract is concluded to replace one or more workers who are absent from work for any reason (except temporary unemployment, strike or lock-out). The replaced worker(s) must have completely suspended their work or have partially reduced their working hours as part of a time credit or thematic leave, or have been authorized to return to work partially with the agreement of the health insurance's medical officer (medical part-time).

Furthermore, the contract must be drawn up in writing (paper or electronic with a secure signature) at the latest when you start work and must specify: the duration of the appointment (fixed-term or indefinite), the reason(s) for the replacement, the name of the worker(s) being replaced. In the absence of a written document containing these compulsory details, the rules governing open-ended contracts apply.

DURATION AND SUCCESSIVE CONTRACTS

The duration of the replacement contract is limited to two years. In the case of successive contracts, their total duration is also limited to two years. If the contract exceeds this two-year period, the rules for open-ended contracts apply. There is one exception: a replacement contract may last longer than two years if it was concluded to replace a worker on time credit or thematic leave.

END OF CONTRACT

The employer may stipulate in the replacement contract that it will be terminated with reduced or no notice in the event of the return or effective termination of the contract of the replaced worker(s). In other cases, the rules for open-ended contracts apply. If nothing is specified in the replacement contract concerning the end of the contract, the rules for open-ended contracts apply (notice or dismissal compensation).

YOU GET ANOTHER CONTRACT?

The employer who wants to keep you in the company after the replacement contract can only offer you a fixed-term contract if the replacement lasted less than two years. If the replacement lasted two years or more, they can only offer you a permanent contract. Furthermore, your seniority under a replacement contract must be taken into account when calculating your salary and other entitlements (notice period, holidays, bonuses, etc.).

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You want to follow a training course? The CNE supports you!

BECAUSE PEOPLE LEARN AT ANY AGE AND THE WORLD OF WORK IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING, TRADE UNIONS HAVE NEGOTIATED THE OPPORTUNITY FOR WORKERS TO TRAIN THROUGHOUT THEIR CAREERS. YOU HAVE A JOB AND WANT TO DO SOME TRAINING? HERE ARE THE POSSIBILITIES AVAILABLE TO YOU.

PAID EDUCATIONAL LEAVE

Certain training courses, such as social education, university courses or higher education courses, are covered by paid educational leave (CEP). This educational leave applies to all workers in the private sector who are employed full-time; at least 80% ; at least 50% on a fixed-time basis (only for training taken during normal working hours) ; at least 33% on a flex time basis ; at least 25% and working in Brussels.

The purpose of paid educational leave is to give you the opportunity to follow a training course by giving you time to attend courses, study, do homework, take exams, etc. With paid educational leave, you can be absent from work for a certain number of hours, while maintaining your normal pay (capped if it exceeds €3,714 gross (from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026). Employers, for their part, can obtain total or partial reimbursement of the remuneration due for these training hours from the competent public administration. To find out all the details of the CEP, consult the CNE team in your company, the CNE secretariat in your region, or our website: <https://www.lacsc.be>.

If your workplace is located in Flanders, the rules have changed. The "Flemish educational leave" (Vlaams opleidingsverlof, VOV) applies. Ask your company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region for information.

TIME CREDIT FOR TRAINING

If you have at least two years' seniority, you can also benefit from a training time credit for a maximum of 36 months, which allows you to be absent from work while receiving benefits from the ONEM. Two types of training are covered: training recognised by the Communities or by the sector, amounting to at least 360 hours or 27 credits per year (or 120 hours or 9 credits per quarter) and training provided in a basic education centre or geared towards obtaining a secondary education diploma or certificate, amounting to at least 300 hours per year (100 per quarter).

To find out about all the terms and conditions of time credit training, consult your company's CNE team or our website <https://www.lacsc.be>

INDIVIDUAL RIGHT TO TRAINING

Since 2023, in all companies with at least 10 employees, each employee has an individual right to training.

If the company has between 10 and 19 employees, you are entitled to at least 1 day of training per year if you have been employed full-time throughout the year. If the company has 20 or more employees, you are entitled to at least 5 days of training per year if you have been employed full-time throughout the year. Please note that a sectoral collective labor agreement may reduce this number to a minimum of 2 days. Training days not used by the end of the year are carried over to the following year. The balance of the available training credit is reset to zero every 5 years. You can take the training during your working hours or outside of these hours with normal pay, without overtime.

In addition, every employer with at least 20 employees is required to draw up an annual training plan by March 31 of each year, after consulting with the works council, union representatives, or employees. This training plan lists the training courses offered and explains how they contribute to the overall investment in training. You must be informed by your employer at least once a year, in writing, of the number of training days to which you are entitled.



MR and Engagés' Arizona plans to reduce individual rights to training by "collectivizing" them and excluding students and flexi-jobbers. It has also eliminated the Federal Learning Account, which was intended to allow workers to check their training balances. In response to all of Arizona's attacks on the working class, it is more necessary than ever to organize, fight, and stand together to defend a more just and compassionate society. To learn more and join the fight: click [here](#) or scan this QR code.



**DID YOU
KNOW ?**

Paid educational leave (CEP) is not a benefit granted by employers: it is a social achievement!

For a long time, access to education was a privilege reserved for those who could afford it.

Thanks to union demands and the struggle for workers' emancipation, a specific right to training was gradually established beginning in the 1960s. Its current form was enshrined in law in **1985**.

The CEP allows private-sector workers to pursue accredited training while continuing to receive their pay. Notably, the training does not necessarily have to be related to their current occupation. This recognizes that workers have the right to training for their personal, social, cultural, or union-related development—and not just to meet the needs of the labor market.

This right is now under threat. It has already faced several restrictions since 2015 and continues to be the target of political attacks. Unions believe that everyone should have access to lifelong training, regardless of their working hours or employment status.

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Involuntary part-time work?

The CNE supports you!

IN SOME SECTORS IT IS VERY DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE TO GET A FULL-TIME CONTRACT. THIS IS KNOWN AS 'INVOLUNTARY' PART-TIME WORK. IF THIS IS YOUR CASE, HERE ARE THE RULES TO KNOW AND THE PITFALLS TO AVOID... TO GET THE BEST OUT OF YOUR CONTRACT, FOLLOW THE CNE'S ADVICE!

CONTRACT

Your employment contract is said to be 'part-time' if the weekly working time is less than that of a person employed under a full-time contract in your company. The employment contract must state the agreed part-time working regime (i.e. the number of hours worked per week). In theory, this number of hours may not be less than one-tenth time, nor may it include work of less than 3 hours per day. The employment contract must also specify the working hours (fixed or variable). In case of variable working hours, your employer must give you at least 7 days' notice of your working hours (some company and sector agreements provide for a longer period).



MR and Engagés' Arizona has replaced the ban on employing workers for less than one-third of a full-time schedule with a ban on employing workers for less than one-tenth of a full-time schedule. This opens the door to extremely precarious contracts of just a few hours per month. Arizona also wants to reduce the deadline for communicating work schedules from seven days to five. This is a direct attack on work-life balance. Facing this deterioration in working conditions—which benefits only employers—it is more necessary than ever to organize a response to shift the balance of power and secure stable jobs, predictable schedules, and the right to make a decent living from one's work! But to do so, we must organize, fight, and defend a more just and united society together. To learn more and join the fight: click [here](#) or scan this QR code.



PRINCIPLE OF PROPORTIONALITY

A part-time worker receives remuneration in proportion to that of a full-time worker. This principle of proportionality applies, in principle (unless otherwise agreed), to all elements of remuneration, including therefore extra-legal benefits, such as the number of meal and eco-vouchers, the amount of group or hospital insurance, the company car.

ADDITIONAL HOURS

Overtime is time worked in excess of the agreed working hours (the working hours of the employee) but not in excess of the working hours for full-time work. The employer cannot impose them on you: your agreement is essential. These hours are paid at 100%. Once a certain number of overtime hours has been worked, the law provides for three possibilities for you: compensatory rest, additional pay or a revision of the contract. Do not hesitate to consult your company's CNE team or the secretariat in your region for more information.

VACANCIES

The law allows you to obtain more working hours by being given priority for vacant positions or additional hours that become available in the company. To do so, you must submit a written request to your employer. Feel free to consult your company's CNE team or your regional office for more information.

BE CAREFUL TO MAINTAIN YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY RIGHTS!

If you accept a part-time job to avoid unemployment, do not forget to apply to the ONEM for 'maintenance of your rights' within 2 months of taking up the job (form C131A). This is necessary in order to receive full unemployment benefit if you subsequently lose your part-time job or become temporarily unemployed. On the same form, you can also apply, under certain conditions, for an income guarantee allowance (AGR) to supplement your part-time income. Please note that in this case, because of the decision of the Michel government, you are subject to the control of the unemployed and must therefore prove that you are actively seeking a second part-time job or a full-time job.

FIND OUT MORE

Check out our comprehensive brochure, "Working part-time: rules to know and pitfalls to avoid²," available from your CNE team, at www.lacsc.be/cne , or by scanning the following QR code:



² Only available in French under the name : « Travailler à temps partiel, les règles à connaître, les pièges à éviter »

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You are a victim of stress or harassment at work? The CNE supports you

YOU ARE SUFFERING FROM STRESS OR BURN-OUT BECAUSE OF WORK? YOU ARE BEING SUBJECTED TO MORAL OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR VIOLENCE DURING YOUR WORKING HOURS? THE LAW PROTECTS EMPLOYEES AGAINST WHAT IT CALLS "PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS". THE CNE HELPS YOU UNDERSTAND THE SOLUTIONS AND APPEALS AVAILABLE FOR YOU.

PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS

There are five categories of psychosocial risks in Belgian labor law:

- **Stress** is a negative state resulting from an excessive workload.
- **Burn-out** is a state of professional exhaustion and demotivation, often resulting from permanent stress.
- **Bullying** is a pattern of abusive behavior that violates your integrity and dignity or makes your working environment intimidating or offensive.
- **Sexual harassment** is a case of moral harassment that has a sexual connotation and requires only one behavior to be punishable.
- **Workplace violence** is every situation when you are threatened or physically attacked at work.

These situations can be linked (e.g. stress causes burn-out, harassment causes stress).

THE IMPORTANCE OF EVIDENCE

If you believe you are a victim of a psychosocial risk, it is important to preserve as much objective evidence as possible. We recommend keeping a journal of events that includes the dates, times, locations, circumstances, and witnesses to the incidents. Even if certain incidents seem insignificant, their repetition can be crucial in demonstrating the existence of harassment or another problematic situation. If there are any written records (emails, text messages, messages, social media posts, or any other relevant documents), it is essential to keep them.

Furthermore, never face such a situation alone: report it promptly to a union representative or someone you trust.

ACTORS WHO CAN HELP YOU

We recommend you to contact a member of the Prevention and Protection at Work Committee (CPPT) or a trade union delegate. This person will be able to provide you with information about your rights and direct you to the right people, such as the psychosocial risks prevention adviser or the trusted person.

The psychosocial risks prevention adviser is a prevention adviser, like the occupational physician, who specializes in psychosocial risks. Every employer must have a psychosocial risks prevention adviser, who is either part of the external service or the internal service for prevention and protection at work. His or her contact details are written in the work regulations or can be found on this website : <https://www.seed-connect.be/fr/home>).

The appointment of a trusted person is compulsory in companies with more than 49 employees. In companies with fewer than 50 employees, it is optional, unless required by the employee delegates. The trusted person is generally a member of staff who has undergone specific

training in dealing with victims of psychosocial risk. This person listens to you, inform you and may intervene or attempt to mediate with other people.

INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PROCEDURES

If you are experiencing a psychosocial risk, you can turn to the company's **internal procedures** with the trusted person or the psychosocial risks prevention adviser (PRPA). The trusted support person or the PRPA will interview you within 10 days and inform you of the options available. There are two possible courses of action: informal and formal.

An informal intervention consists of seeking a solution informally by means of interviews, discussions with another person in the company or attempts at conciliation.

A formal intervention is analyzed by the PRPA, who classifies them according to whether they are collective or individual. The request is of a collective nature when other workers may also suffer harm as a result of the problem and when it concerns an organizational problem rather than an individual problem. The employer has to examine the situation and takes the necessary collective measures to resolve it. In practice, the responses provided are not always sufficient. It is therefore helpful to stay in touch with the union delegation or the CPPT to ensure that effective measures are actually being implemented.

The request is of an individual nature when the problem mainly concerns the applicant, without involving other workers. Requests related to cases of violence or moral or sexual harassment are automatically considered as individual requests. Requests of an individual nature are dealt with by the PRPA, who draws up an opinion for the attention of the employer in which he or she proposes measures to be put in place.

If the problem is not solved, for example because the employer has taken no action or has taken inappropriate action, you can start the **external procedure**. This involves turning to the Monitoring of Well-being at the Workplace, a branch of the Federal Public Service (SPF) for Employment. An inspectorate checks whether the employer has applied the internal procedure correctly and examines whether he or she has taken the appropriate measures. They may impose measures on the employer. Legal action could only be considered afterwards, if the intervention by the Office for Workplace Well-Being is unsuccessful.

PROTECTION AGAINST RETALIATION

People who have filed a **formal** request for intervention for acts of violence or moral or sexual harassment at work or who have made a complaint with the Monitoring of Well-being at the Workplace because the employer is not complying with its legal obligations regarding psychosocial risks, are protected against the risk of reprisals for a period of 12 months.

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You have travel expenses?

The CNE supports you

YOU USE YOUR CAR OR PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR YOUR HOME-TO-WORK JOURNEYS? YOU TRAVEL FOR YOUR EMPLOYER DURING YOUR WORKING HOURS? YOUR EMPLOYER MUST CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR EXPENSES.

COMMUTING TO WORK

If you use public transport to get to work, your employer must contribute to your travel costs. However, if you use your own car to travel to work, there is no legal minimum: the employer's contribution will depend on the rules of your sector or company.

- **TRAIN (SNCB)**

Your employer must pay a certain percentage of the total cost of your season ticket (weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual). The exact amount depends on the number of kilometers between the departure station and the arrival station. It is set out in a jointly agreed scale. It is also possible to practice "third-party payment". In this case, your employer pays 80% of the cost of your season ticket directly to the SNCB and the remaining 20% is offered by the State (via the SNCB). The system is compulsory in some (rare) sectors and optional in others.

- **METRO, TRAM, BUS (TEC, STIB, DE LIJN)**

If the price of the subscription is proportional to the distance travelled (e.g. TEC/De Lijn), your employer's contribution will correspond to the amount that your employer would have paid if it were a train subscription for an identical distance (distance between the departure stop and the final stop). This contribution is limited to 75% of the actual price of the subscription.

If the subscription is a flat rate (e.g. STIB), your employer must reimburse 71.8%, with a ceiling of €45 per month. It is also possible to have reimbursements for combined train-metro-tram-bus transport.

- **PRIVATE VEHICLE**

There is no national provision for commuting by private car. However, in most joint committees and companies, trade unions have secured partial reimbursement of these individual transport costs. Please consult your company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region to find out what exists in your sector and company.

- **BIKE**

Your employer must grant you compensation if you travel to work by bicycle. This compensation is capped at a maximum distance of 40 kilometers per day and is generally equal to €0.30 per kilometer (amount for 2026), unless specific provisions apply in your sector or company.

MISSION COSTS

All journeys made for missions during working hours by private vehicle must be fully compensated by your employer. The usual rate is that applicable to the civil service: €0.4761 per kilometer travelled (amount as at July 1, 2026), unless otherwise stipulated in your sector or company.

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Your privacy is threatened at work?

The CNE supports you

YOUR EMPLOYER IS LOOKING AT YOUR EMAILS? A CAMERA IS INSTALLED IN YOUR WORKPLACE? YOUR INTERNET VISITS ARE MONITORED? YOUR FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS MUST BE RESPECTED IN YOUR COMPANY, INCLUDING YOUR RIGHT TO PRIVACY. THE CNE TELLS YOU WHAT LIMITS YOUR EMPLOYER HAS TO RESPECT.

PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

Under the GDPR, your employer may "process" (store, use, make available...) your personal data when this processing is necessary for the performance of your contract (e.g. requesting a medical certificate), to fulfil a legal obligation to which the employer is subject (e.g. recording your marital status to calculate your payroll tax), to defend a legitimate interest of the employer, etc. Apart from these cases, the employer may not process your personal data without your explicit and informed consent. In principle, it may only use your data for specific, expressly described, justified and communicated purposes. It may not collect more data than necessary. You can demand that your data be corrected or deleted.

SOCIAL NETWORKS

All your private exchanges are protected and cannot be monitored, regardless of the means of communication (business mobile phone, e-mail, etc.). On the other hand, all the content you post on your social networks, even if your employer is not in your contacts, is considered public. You are therefore responsible for them and your employer can hold their content against you.

CONTROL OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

When your employer provides you with a computer and/or mobile phone to do your job, a priori he cannot control the content of your communications. He can check the global data in the company, but not identify them personally. In order to specifically examine your communications, there are three conditions: they must have a legitimate objective (purpose), they must only collect the data necessary for the monitoring (proportionality), and they must inform all the persons concerned by the monitoring as well as your representatives in the consultation bodies (transparency).

CAMERA IN THE WORKPLACE

As with the monitoring of electronic communications, the installation of a camera in your workplace must comply with three conditions: there must be a legitimate objective (purpose), only as much filming as is strictly necessary to meet the objective (proportionality) and all persons affected by the camera and your delegates in the consultation bodies must be informed (transparency). Furthermore, if a camera is aimed at you personally to monitor your work, it may not film you continuously but must film temporarily.

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Last update : July 2026

All work deserves to be paid

The CNE supports you

THE COMPENSATION FOR YOUR WORK IS YOUR SALARY. THE AMOUNT DEPENDS ON YOUR SECTOR AND/OR COMPANY. YOUR PAY, IN THE BROADEST SENSE OF THE WORD, MAY CONTAIN RECURRING AND VARIABLE ELEMENTS. THE CNE GUIDES YOU THROUGH THIS MAZE OF REGULATIONS.

MINIMUM WAGE

The RMMMG (guaranteed average minimum monthly income) is a minimum income that must have been achieved on average on an annual basis. In other words, at the end of each year you must check whether the sum of the 12 monthly salaries you have received (plus any end-of-year bonus and other benefits to which you are entitled at the employer's expense) is at least equal to the sum of 12 times the RMMMG. The RMMMG is €2,233 (last indexed on September 1, 2026). There are other amounts for young people under the age of 18 and for people on student employment contracts.

SECTORAL MINIMUM REMUNERATION

In most joint committees, collective labor agreements provide for minimum wage scales and compulsory indexation of these wages. All these amounts are always minimums above which any company collective labor agreements or individual contract can go. For employees, pay generally depends on the position held and seniority. For more information on the scales that apply to you, ask the CNE team in your company or the CNE secretariat in your region.

PAID LEAVE

The trade unions have obtained double pay for holidays: your normal salary will be maintained for the days you are on holiday ("simple pay") and a bonus to enable you to take advantage of your leisure time ("double pay"). The double pay corresponds to 92% of your normal pay for the month (possibly prorated according to the number of months worked or treated as work during the previous year). In principle, your double pay should be paid during the month in which you take your longest holiday period of the year. In practice, the social secretariats pay it to everyone in May or June.

BENEFITS AND BONUSES

In addition to the salary, you may also receive benefits in kind (mobile phone, company car, etc.), cash benefits (meal vouchers, eco-cheques, mobility budget, etc.) and fixed or variable bonuses. For more details on your benefits, ask your company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region.

TERMS OF PAYMENT

Your salary must be paid in Euro (if you work abroad, you have the choice between Euro and local currency). Your salary must be paid in cash, i.e. your pay must be transferred to the bank account of your choice. Your pay must be paid by the fourth working day after the period for which the pay is due (a collective labor agreement or the work rules may provide for a different deadline). Your employer cannot restrict your freedom to dispose of your pay as you wish.

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You work overtime? The CNE supports you

YOU WORK A LOT? YOU ARE WONDERING IF YOU ARE EXCEEDING THE DAILY AND WEEKLY WORK LIMITS? YOU ARE NOT GETTING BACK ALL THE OVERTIME YOU WORK? THERE ARE MANY GUIDELINES, BUT THEY ARE OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD AND NOT RESPECTED. THE CNE GUIDES YOU THROUGH THE MAZE OF WORKING TIME RULES.

ARE YOU CONCERNED?

The rules on working time apply to workmen, employees and managers. However, they do not apply to sales representatives or to management and confidential staff. Your status can be found in your employment contract.

DURATION OF WORK

You can be at your employer's disposal for up to 8 hours a day and 38 hours a week. The daily limit is increased to 9 hours if you work a maximum of 5.5 days a week. A collective agreement, work regulations or your contract can always reduce your working time below the legal maximums.

OVERTIME

In certain situations (e.g. work in successive shifts, work carried out in order to deal with an accident that has occurred or is imminent), the daily limit is increased to 11 hours and the weekly limit to 50 hours. It is then possible that you will have to work overtime. The use of overtime is regulated by law: your employer cannot impose it on you as he sees fit. If you exceed these limits, you will be given time off in lieu of overtime and you will be paid 50% of your hourly pay (100% if it was a Sunday or a public holiday). In some flexible working arrangements (called "small flexibility"), the weekly limit of 38 hours can be exceeded as long as you work 38 hours per week on average. The worker can therefore be occupied for more than 38 hours one week if he works less than 38 hours another week (e.g. 40 hours one week and 36 hours the next). This average of 38 hours must be respected over a reference period of one year, unless there are exceptions. For more information on the scheme applicable to you, contact your company's CNE team or the CNE secretariat in your region.



MR and Enfagés' Arizona has introduced the option to work 360 hours of "voluntary" overtime per year (instead of the current 100 hours). This is a disguised extension of working hours, since it amounts to an additional 47 workdays—nearly 10 weeks. Behind the "voluntary" nature of these overtime hours often lies pressure exerted by the employer. In addition to reducing worker protections, this measure contributes to fatigue and burnout and prevents the available work from being distributed among all workers. In the face of all the attacks by Arizona against the working class, it is more necessary than ever to organize a response to shift the balance of power and enforce real protections against work that exhausts and makes people sick!

But to do so, we must organize, fight, and defend a more just and united society together. To learn more and join the fight: click [here](#) or scan this QR code.



CALCULATION OF THE EXTRA SALARY

When you are paid by the month, your hourly wage is obtained by multiplying your pay (gross + fixed and variable benefits) by three, then dividing it by thirteen and dividing the result by the number of hours to be worked under your contract. Overtime pay cannot be replaced by other benefits.

OTHER LIMITATIONS

The minimum daily working time is 3 hours, with some exceptions. Between two working days, you have a continuous rest period of at least 11 hours. Work on Sundays and work on public holidays are prohibited, with some exceptions. No work may be performed outside the hours specified in the work regulations.



Arizona has removed the requirement to include schedules in work rules.

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You're teleworking?

The CNE supports you

YOU WORK ONE OR MORE DAYS A WEEK OUTSIDE YOUR USUAL PLACE OF WORK? YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR HOURS, EXPENSES OR PRIVACY? FOLLOW THE CNE GUIDE TO FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS WHEN TELEWORKING.

PROVIDING FOR AND FRAMING YOUR RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Telework must be voluntary. Worker cannot be forced to telework and the employer can always refuse. If you telework occasionally (e.g. to wait at home for the heating engineer to come), this must be agreed between you and your employer (the agreement can only be oral). If you telework on a structural basis (e.g. one day a week), then this telework must be agreed in writing between you and your employer (with an amendment to your employment contract). In any case, telework can also be regulated by a company's collective labor agreement (CLA) or by the work regulations.

SOCIAL LAW PROTECTS YOU WHEN TELEWORKING

The teleworker has the same rights as comparable workers on the employer's premises. The workload and performance standards in telework must be comparable to those of workers on the company's premises. The company must carry out a workload analysis and a risk analysis of the psychosocial and ergonomic/physical consequences (potentially harmful, depending on various factors) of telework, at least once a year. If you have an accident, you are covered by the work accident insurance. By the way, this insurance also covers you on your way to work, especially if something happens to you when you take your children to school before you go home to telework.

ORGANISATION OF YOUR TELEWORK

Teleworking can take place in the teleworker's home or in any other place chosen by yourself. Unless otherwise agreed, your working hours are identical. Your employer may not take advantage of teleworking to increase his or her surveillance (e.g. calling you every half hour when he or she only contacts you twice a day when you are in the office). Nor can your employer install spyware on your computer without consultation, or read the contents of your e-mails without your knowledge. An employer can collectively monitor electronic communications in his company, but to see your communications in particular, he must respect three conditions: legitimate purpose; collect only the necessary data; inform the persons concerned and the trade union delegates. For more details, see our factsheet « Is your privacy threatened at work? ».

EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE COSTS

In the case of structural telework, the costs of equipment and maintenance (computer, internet, communication, etc.) are borne by your employer. The concrete modalities of this intervention can be specified in a company's collective labor agreement, in your work regulations or in your individual agreement. The authorities allow employers to pay for your actual expenses (with supporting invoices and without the expenses being of a luxurious nature) or on the basis of lump sums (the amounts of which are determined by the authorities). Any allowances paid by your employer are not remuneration and are not subject to tax or social security deductions.

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