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Factsheet for case **FR-2020-11/509**

Work stoppage to care for a child under 16 years of age

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Country	France, applies nationwide
Time period	Open ended, started on 11 March 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Change of work arrangements to ensure business continuity – Support for parents and carers (financial or in kind)
Case created	12 April 2020 (updated 24 April 2020)

Background information

An employee who is not ill and who has to look after a child under the age of 16 as a result of the closure of a school may be granted sick leave, provided that his or her job does not allow for teleworking. An employee who wishes to be placed on sick leave simply has to send a certificate to his employer. The latter then makes an online declaration on the Health Insurance website so that the benefits can be paid.

Content of measure

If the job does not allow teleworking, the employer makes a declaration on the health insurance website (ameli.fr). The employee receives the sickness benefit without any seniority condition. In order to ensure equal treatment between insured persons who are ill, those who are placed in isolation and those who are forced to care for their children under 16 years of age, the waiting period for entitlement to compensation for work stoppages is abolished during the period of a state of health emergency. The measure applies to all compulsory schemes: general, agricultural and special schemes, including the civil service scheme. The insured persons concerned will therefore receive their compensation from the first day of the stoppage.

This measure has been in effect since March 11 and remains in force until the end of the closure of the schools (whose reopening date has not been set).

Only one parent at a time (or holder of parental authority) may be issued a work stoppage. It is possible to

split the stoppage or to share it between the parents for the duration of the closure of the establishment.
Periods of absence from work to care for children under the age of 16 do not give entitlement to paid leave.

The measure applies to employees, seamen, clerks and employees of notaries, artists-authors, self-employed persons and contract civil servants. It is also intended for the liberal professions and health professionals benefiting from the payment of exceptional flat-rate daily allowances.

Use of measure

Potentially all employees of the private sector with a child under 16 years old or a child with disabilities without age limit. No data available.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
Company / Companies Social insurance	Employees Self-employed Workers in non-standard forms of employment Children (minors) Parents All companies One person or microenterprises	National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	No involvement
Form of involvement	Not applicable

Social partners have reached a consensus on this measure.

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 31 January 2020: Décret n° 2020-73 du 31 janvier 2020 portant adoption de conditions adaptées pour le bénéfice des prestations en espèces pour les personnes exposées au coronavirus (www.legifrance.gouv.fr)
- 09 March 2020: Décret no 2020-227 du 9 mars 2020 adaptant les conditions du bénéfice des prestations en espèces d'assurance maladie et de prise en charge des actes de télémedecine pour les personnes exposées au covid-19 (www.legifrance.gouv.fr)
- 23 March 2020: Loi no 2020-290 du 23 mars 2020 d'urgence pour faire face à l'épidémie de covid-19 (www.legifrance.gouv.fr)