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Factsheet for case FI-2020-15/254

Temporary recognition of entrepreneurs as recipients of unemployment benefits

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Country	Finland, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, 08 April 2020 - 30 June 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Income protection beyond short-time work – Extensions of income support to workers not covered by any kind of protection scheme
Case created	03 April 2020 (updated 02 May 2020)

Background information

In Finland, entrepreneurs are not entitled to labour market support. This is regulated in section 11 of the Unemployment Security Act (Työttömyysturvalaki) (2002/1290).

The outbreak of COVID-19 has had a major impact on entrepreneurial activities in Finland. In order to ease the pressure caused by the outbreak of COVID-19 on entrepreneurs, the Parliament approved an amendment that will give entrepreneurs a temporary right to labour market support under the Unemployment Security Act (2002/1290).

Content of measure

To be eligible for labour market support, the following conditions must be met:

- 1) the entrepreneur's full-time employment has ended or the income from the entrepreneurial activities is less than €1,089 per month
- 2) the reduction of income or full-time work is due to the COVID-19 outbreak

The entrepreneur may continue their business activities while receiving labour market support.

The support can be paid to entrepreneurs between 16 March 2020 and 30 June 2020. The support can be received retroactively.

The labour market support is €33.6 per day and it is paid 5 days a week. Income from entrepreneurial activities decreases the labour market support.

Use of measure

No information to date.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government Public employment service Social insurance	Self-employed Solo-self-employed One person or microenterprises	National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	No involvement
Form of involvement	Not applicable

Due to urgency of the epidemic, no round of comments was organised. Temporary recognition of entrepreneurs as recipients of labour market security was not part of the measures the peak level social partners presented to the government in March 2020.

Sectors and occupations

This case is not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 20 March 2020: Social partners' proposals to help businesses in the corona crisis (akava.fi)
- 02 April 2020: Yrittäjille oikeus työttömyysturvaan koronavirusepidemian vuoksi (tem.fi)
- 02 April 2020: Hallituksen Esitys HE352020 vp (www.eduskunta.fi)
- 08 April 2020: Yrittäjän väliaikainen työttömyysturva (Temporary labour market security of entrepreneurs) (www.kela.fi)

- 08 April 2020: Laki työttömyysturvalain 11 luvun väliaikaisesta muuttamisesta (" temporary amendment of section 11 of the Act on Labour Market Security")