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Factsheet for case NO-2020-12/714

Temporary exemption from pension reduction for health professionals

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Country	Norway, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, 17 March 2020 - 01 November 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Support for essential services – Mobilisation of a larger workforce
Case created	17 April 2020 (updated 05 May 2020)

Background information

In connection with the outbreak of coronavirus the government wanted to facilitate mobilisation of qualified and necessary personnel to work in the public health sector. Old-age pensioners with qualifications were regarded as a target group. The government proposed a change in the regulation of pension schemes to prevent that mobilised personnel will experience loss of pension when they receive labour income. The regulation suspends some of the public pension scheme rules on specified terms for a limited period.

Content of measure

The current rules on the reduction and termination of pensions in connection with employment income are clear and absolute in their form, so that any exceptions in general should be limited and well justified. In a pandemic situation, the overall purpose is that the public health service maintains necessary health care. In order to realize this purpose, the Ministry proposes that income from voluntary work in public health services or with private persons who, according to law or agreement, offer health services to the population, should not, however, result in a reduction or loss of pension. To prevent pension reduction for health professionals taking on extra work during the crisis connected to covid 19, amendments to three pension scheme regulations were passed. The measure cover health and social standby and service, and the regulations comprise The Norwegian Public Service Pension Fund, pension fund for nurses and pension fund for employees in pharmacies. The measure will not require any specific funding.

Use of measure

No information to date

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government Social insurance	Particular professions	No special funding required

Social partners

Role of social partners	Consulted
Form of involvement	Direct consultation

Social partners have been consulted regularly during design and implementation of the measure.

Sectors and occupations

This case is sector-specific.

Economic area	Sector (NACE level 2)
G - Wholesale And Retail Trade; Repair Of Motor Vehicles And Motorcycles	G47 Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles
Q - Human Health And Social Work Activities	Q86 Human health activities
	Q87 Residential care activities
	Q88 Social work activities without accommodation

This case is occupation-specific.

Occupation (ISCO level 2)
Health professionals

Sources

- 13 March 2020: Prop. 53 LS (2019–2020) Endringer i skatteloven og skattebetalingsloven mv. (økonomiske tiltak i møte med virusutbruddet) (www.regjeringen.no)

- 17 April 2020: Tidsbegrenset unntak fra avkorting i pensjon for helsepersonell (www.regjeringen.no)