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Factsheet for case NO-2020-14/724

Temporary income assurance scheme for self-employed and freelancers

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Country	Norway, applies nationwide
Time period	Open ended, started on 30 March 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	17 April 2020 (updated 23 April 2020)

Background Information

The outbreak of viruses and measures introduced to prevent infection have had major effects in the labor market, and several measures have been implemented to ensure income for those affected. The Storting (parliament) asked the government to introduce a temporary scheme for self-employed and freelancers who are now losing all or part of their income base as a result of the corona pandemic. The regulation (FOR-2020-04-08-735) takes effect immediately and the payments will be disbursed as soon as NAV gets a technical solution in place for the scheme.

Content of measure

An compensation scheme for self-employed persons and freelancers who have lost all or part of their income was approved by the government on 8 April. The new temporary scheme covers up to 80 per cent of income, limited up to an annual income of 6G (aprox. EUR 50700) (1G = the basic amount in the national insurance), and applies to income that does not entitle to unemployment benefit. The scheme includes those who have lost income on or after March 16. The compensation is given from day 17 after the loss of income. One must apply in arrears for the loss of income the month before, so that The Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration will know about any income for the month in which the application applies. As a general rule, the basis for compensation for freelancers is calculated on the basis of an average of the income reported to the Tax Administration via the current "a-scheme" in the last 12 months before March 2020. A shorter period can be used for newly established freelancers. As a general rule, the basis for compensation to self-

employed persons is calculated on the basis of business income over the past three income years. The application is due in early May. The Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration is already in the process of creating a digital solution that allows payments to be made automatically. The application is due in early May. Those applying for the new scheme will receive detailed guidance along the way in the application process.

Use of measure

No information to date

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government Public employment service	Self-employed Workers in non-standard forms of employment Solo-self-employed One person or microenterprises	National funds

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 not sector-specific.

This case is not occupation-specific.

Sources

- 20 March 2020: Prop 67 S (2019–2020) Endringer i statsbudsjettet 2020 (www.regjeringen.no)
- 31 March 2020: Innst. 216 S (2019–2020) Innstilling fra finanskomiteen om Endringer i statsbudsjettet 2020 (www.stortinget.no)
- 17 April 2020: New compensation scheme for self-employed and freelancers (www.nav.no)