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Factsheet for case FI-2020-13/811

Mobilisation of healthcare professionals

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Country	Finland, applies nationwide
Time period	Temporary, 25 March 2020 - 13 May 2020
Type	Legislation or other statutory regulation
Category	Support for essential services – Mobilisation of a larger workforce
Case created	05 May 2020

Background information

The Emergency Powers Act (Valmiuslaki) (1552/2011) lays down provisions on the power of authorities in emergency conditions.

On 25 March 2020 The Finnish Government, in cooperation with the President of the Republic, declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak. As a result of this, parts of the Emergency Powers Act were activated.

One of the parts that were activated was section 14 of the Act which establishes an obligation to work when requested.

At the time of writing, the obligation to work covers healthcare professionals only. This was done in order to secure functioning of the healthcare system and an adequate level of labour force in the sector.

Content of measure

This measure applies to all health care professionals and students who have come far enough in their studies to be able to work in the sector. All healthcare professionals between the age of 18-67 who live in Finland are within the scope of this measure.

However, individual health care professionals experience, current job status and other circumstances also weigh in. Health care professionals who are caregivers to a child or other person cannot be obliged to work.

Public employment and business services (TE-services) are responsible for organising this measure and they create a database of eligible health care professionals. They will consult employers regarding their need for extra labour force.

Duration of work obligation is maximum two weeks long and it can be renewed once. Salaries are paid in accordance with collective agreements.

It is also important to point out that obliging health care professionals to work is treated as last resort and it shall be used only when other options such as regular recruitment are not enough to secure functioning of the health care system.

Use of measure

No information to date.

Actors, target groups and funding

Actors	Target groups	Funding
National government Public employment service	Particular professions	Local funds National funds

Social partners

Role of social partners	No involvement
Form of involvement	Not applicable

The social partners were not involved in the planning stage of this measure.

Sectors and occupations

This case is sector-specific.

Economic area	Sector (NACE level 2)
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

- 09 April 2020: Valmiuslain (1552/2011) 95 §:N 2 momentin mukaisen työvelvollisuuden toimeenpano (stm.fi)