

2018

THE UNEMPLOYMENT FUND FOR ENTREPRENEURS - AYT



AYT
YRITTÄJIEN
TYÖTTÖMYYSKASSA

Usually people become entrepreneurs in order to earn a livelihood and gain independence. In our ever-changing and uncertain world, however, success is not necessarily guaranteed, even with lots of know-how, a great idea or hard work. At some point, you may need to close down your business due to changed family circumstances, personal wellbeing or increased competition. As an entrepreneur you have the freedom to make such choices, and as a member of AYT you can ensure that decisions concerning your future are also in your hands.

“I had to work seven days a week, because the shopping centre demanded that all shops be open during opening hours. I was just about able to cover the rent, but I didn’t make enough to hire personnel. I’m glad that we had the courage to quit before I burned out. It is enough to get by, but I am still actively looking for a job.”

“Thanks to the fund’s daily allowance I have been able to focus my energies on looking for business premises in my new home town. It seems I will be able to continue my business operations. Luckily I was able to leave my company in the trade register during my period of unemployment, which makes it easier and cheaper to continue later! My kids are happy too, even though the geographical move was a big change for the whole family. This was the only way to keep the family together.”

“As an engineer in the IT industry, I went through years of cooperation negotiations. I drifted into self-employment, and my former employer became my client. I have been an entrepreneur for several years now. My work is project-based, and uncertainty about the future always starts to creep in towards the end of a project. I have not had to resort to the daily allowance so far. It is nevertheless comforting to know that my family’s livelihood is secure and that we will be able to keep paying off our mortgage even if I become unemployed.”

Why join AYT?

By joining the AYT fund you guarantee yourself an income in difficult times. Joining AYT doesn't mean that you're planning to close down your business. It is wise to join now, because there is always a risk of unemployment and even the most successful entrepreneurs may fall on hard times. Sometimes it is easier to continue as an entrepreneur with the knowledge that quitting would not be a financial disaster. Knowing that your finances are secured and that they are nothing to lose sleep over gives you more energy to focus on your business.

As a member, you will have the ability to take your time to plan your future if unemployment hits. Thanks to the unemployment allowance paid out by the fund you could retrain in a new field, for example, ready for a new success story. Optimally, membership in the fund can pay for itself within a short period of unemployment.

Based on an insurance level of EUR 30 000 you get almost EUR 10 000 more per year in unemployment benefit from AYT than Kela.



Who should join AYT?

Joining AYT is worth it for any self-employed person permanently residing in Finland. Besides business owners, AYT provides coverage for those working in or holding shares in a family business. Even though family members and part-owners employed by a family business may be classed as salaried employees according to pension legislation, they cannot insure themselves against unemployment with wage-earners' funds.

YOU CAN JOIN AYT IF YOU ARE:

- a self-employed person under Finland's YEL or MYEL pension scheme with a statutory pension insurance income of at least EUR 12 576,00 per annum, or
- a part-owner of a company or a family member of a business owner and your TyEL income from the business is at least EUR 1 048,00 per month

Additionally, you must:

- work in a company of which you and your family together or your family own at least 50%, or
- hold a leading position (ordinary board member or managing director) in a company of which you yourself own at least 15%, or
- hold a leading position in a company of which you and your family together or your family own at least 30%

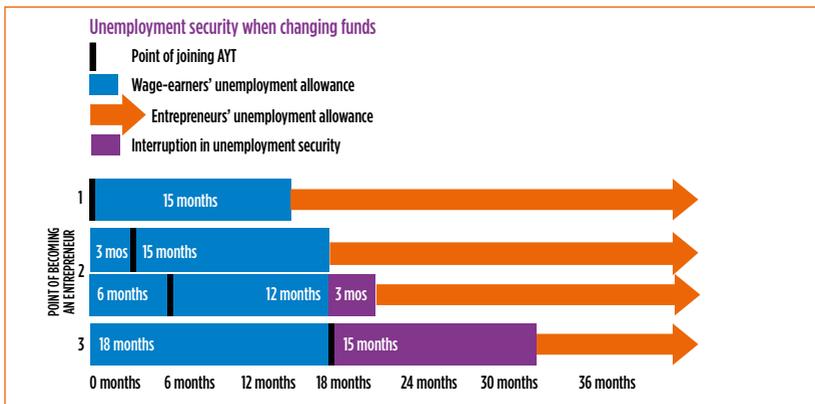
For the purposes of the unemployment insurance, a family member of the entrepreneur is defined as a spouse or cohabitee, child, grandchild, parent or grandparent living in the same household as the entrepreneur.

When should I join AYT?

UNINTERRUPTED UNEMPLOYMENT SECURITY WHEN CHANGING FUNDS

Entrepreneurs can insure themselves against unemployment with AYT, while employees go to a wage-earners' fund. Staying in the wrong fund usually causes an interruption in unemployment security.

Join AYT within three months of starting your business to ensure no interruption in your unemployment security. Make sure you join AYT within one month of leaving the previous one. As an entrepreneur you should not stay on in a wage-earners' fund, as it does not count towards your entrepreneurs' employment condition and your right to daily allowance based on your salary as an employee will end after 18 months of self-employment. You retain the right to wage-based daily allowance for a maximum of 18 months from the point of starting business operations. You fulfil your right to entrepreneur's daily allowance once you have operated as an entrepreneur for at least 15 months during your membership in AYT.



We recommend joining AYT when your business is doing well. In order to receive daily allowance, you must have been a member of the fund while being a full-time entrepreneur for at least 15 months.

Membership fee and daily allowance

As a member of AYT, you get to choose at what income level you insure yourself. The chosen level of insurance will determine the size of your membership fee and of any allowance to which you are entitled. As a rule, we pay daily allowance for a maximum of 400 days. The daily allowance paid out by the fund comprises a basic component (EUR 32,40), an earnings-related component, a possible increased earnings-related component and a possible child increase (EUR 5,23 per day for one, EUR 7,68 for two and EUR 9,90 for three or more children). The daily allowance may be raised for a period during which you take part in an employment promotion measure, such as labour market training listed in your employment plan.

EXAMPLES OF DAILY ALLOWANCES AND MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2018

Income EUR/year	Membership fee		Daily allow- ance EUR/day	Daily allowance EUR/year	
	EUR/month	EUR/year		AYT	KELA
12 576	14,96	179,56	39,75	10 335,00	8 424,00
15 000	20,32	243,80	43,98	11 434,80	8 424,00
20 000	31,36	376,30	52,70	13 702,00	8 424,00
30 000	53,44	641,30	70,15	18 239,00	8 424,00
40 000	75,53	906,30	84,62	22 001,20	8 424,00
60 000	119,70	1 436,30	100,12	26 031,20	8 424,00
100 000	208,03	2 496,30	131,13	34 093,80	8 424,00

Go to our website www.ayt.fi to use our handy daily allowance calculator.

In 2018, the AYT membership fee is 2,65% of the portion of the stated insured income level that exceeds EUR 5800 per year. The membership fee is collected for each month of membership, but invoiced in one, two, four or twelve annual instalments according to your preference.

Note, however, that the AYT membership fee is wholly tax-deductible, which makes it very affordable when you consider the advantages!

Unemployment insurance for entrepreneurs in brief

The self-employed can receive an income-related daily allowance upon becoming unemployed. The reason for the termination of entrepreneurial activities is not important as long as the employment and economic development office (TE-toimisto) has certified the termination of business operations or self-employment. In addition you must have fulfilled the employment condition.

EMPLOYMENT CONDITION

The employment condition is that you must have been an AYT member while being a full-time entrepreneur for at least 15 months, with a statutory pension insurance income of at least EUR 12576 per annum. The annual earned income is raised annually according to the wage coefficient.

If a member does not fulfil the employment condition when becoming unemployed, i.e. they have been self-employed for less than 18 months, the fund will investigate whether they may have the right to receive an allowance based on their previous employment.

PROOF OF UNEMPLOYMENT

In order to receive a daily allowance, the member must have registered as an unemployed jobseeker at an employment and economic development office (TE-toimisto). Usually proof of unemployment requires that the company be removed from tax registers (not required from a self-employed person or a business name) and that the entrepreneur's YEL pension scheme is stopped. In certain circumstances it may be possible to receive an allowance if your employment finishes but the company continues operating.

Join AYT online at ayt.fi/en or call our customer service 09 2535 3100

AYT is an independent non-profit unemployment fund for entrepreneurs and the self-employed, started by entrepreneurs. Our members are entrepreneurs and self-employed people of all ages across Finland working in various fields. Some are independent entrepreneurs or freelancers, others are part-owners of businesses, and the rest are employed by family-run companies.

The cornerstones of our operations are quick and effective payment of allowances and expert customer service. In terms of payments, we have a track record of having some of the shortest processing times among unemployment funds in Finland. Typically, daily allowance applications are processed on the day they arrive.

All entrepreneurs, regardless of your line of business or company form: AYT welcomes you as members!

CUSTOMER SERVICE NUMBER 09 2535 3100

Customer service opening hours are available on our website www.ayt.fi

WEBSITE

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AYT

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Book your appointment in advance



Thanks to our long opening hours we are easy to reach when you need us.