

2017

THE UNEMPLOYMENT FUND FOR ENTREPRENEURS - AYT

Includes
membership form



AYT

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.

The cost of the unemployment insurance is low, but its benefits could have a decisive impact on your entire life.

When unemployed, the daily allowance you will receive at the stated insured income level of EUR 3 000 per month is over EUR 10 000 more per year than the basic unemployment allowance from 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 12 564,00 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 1 047,00 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.

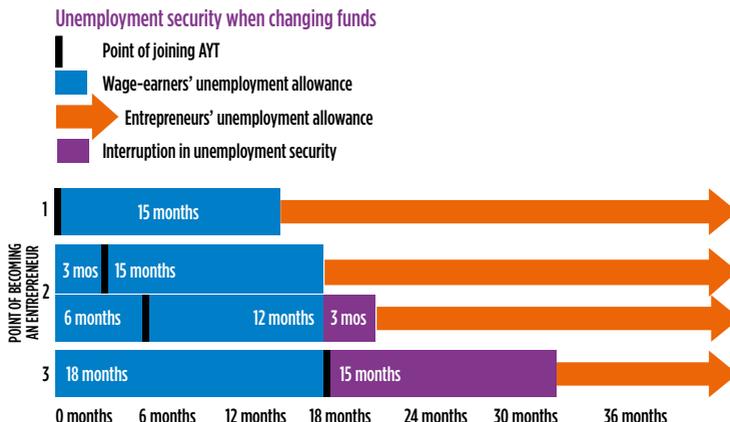
When should I join AYT?

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. Exceptions to this are former members of wage-earners' funds who have transferred to AYT when they changed from salaried employment to entrepreneurship.

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. If you didn't manage to join straightaway, do it now to ensure as short a break as possible in your unemployment security.



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.

The daily allowance paid out by the fund comprises a basic component, an earnings-related component, a possible increased earnings-related component and a possible child increase.

In 2017, the basic component is EUR 32,40 and the earnings-related component is 45% of any daily wage exceeding the sum of the basic component up to an income level of EUR 36 936 per year, plus 20% of any daily wage exceeding that.

Did you know that you decide how much daily allowance you'll receive from AYT?

Additionally, there is a child increase of EUR 5,23 per day for one, EUR 7,68 for two and EUR 9,90 for three or more dependants under your guardianship who are aged under 18. The daily allowance may not exceed 90% of the income on which the daily allowance is based.

The daily allowance may be raised for a period during which you take part in an employment promotion measure, such as self-motivated study or labour market training listed in your employment plan. This raise consists of 55% of the difference between the daily income and the basic component. If your annual income exceeds EUR 36 936, the raise is 25% of the daily income exceeding that. Participation in the employment promotion measure is also supported by a tax-free expense allowance of EUR 9 or EUR 18 per day. As an exception to the other employment promotion measures, no expense allowance is paid during self-motivated study.

EXAMPLES OF DAILY ALLOWANCES AND MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2017

Income EUR/year	Membership fee		Daily allow- ance €/day	Daily allowance EUR/year	
	€/month	€/year		AYT	KELA
12 564	20,85	250,27	39,73	10 329,80	8 424,00
15 000	28,37	340,40	43,98	11 434,80	8 424,00
20 000	43,78	525,40	52,70	13 702,00	8 424,00
25 000	59,20	710,40	61,42	15 969,20	8 424,00
30 000	70,45	845,40	70,15	18 239,00	8 424,00
35 000	81,70	980,40	78,87	20 506,20	8 424,00
40 000	92,95	1 115,40	84,62	22 001,20	8 424,00
50 000	115,45	1 385,40	92,37	24 016,20	8 424,00
60 000	137,95	1 655,40	100,12	26 031,20	8 424,00
100 000	227,95	2 735,40	131,13	34 093,80	8 424,00
173 625	393,60	4 723,27	188,20	48 932,00	8 424,00

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

In 2017, the AYT membership fee is 3,7% of the portion of the stated insured income level that exceeds EUR 5 800 per year, up to EUR 25 000 per year, and 2,7% of any portion exceeding that amount. The membership fee is collected for each month of membership, but invoiced in one, two, four or twelve annual instalments according to your preference. In 2017 the lowest possible basis for membership fees is EUR 12 564.

Entrepreneurs and the self-employed in Finland do not make statutory unemployment contributions to the state. Therefore, the daily allowances paid out by AYT, in contrast to the allowances received by wage-earners, are funded by the membership fees paid by members.

If you wish, you can change your insurance level in the AYT fund.

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

Retraining on daily allowance

"When I started as an entrepreneur in the forest industry, I took out a YEL insurance for a sum equal to what I earned before becoming self-employed. After all, the fact that I was now my own boss did nothing to diminish the value of my work. The YEL payments stung my wallet when times were bad, but I did not want to compromise my social security.

After some years of self-employment, my knees began suffering from unergonomic working positions. I was often only able to go to work with the help of painkillers, and the pain eventually forced me to take sick leave. If I'd been forced to continue doing the same work, I would probably have suffered from the pains for the rest of my life.

After a few months of sick leave, I decided to close down my company and was left unemployed. Inactivity does not sit well with me, and I soon started looking for a suitable place of study. I was eventually admitted onto a property manager training course. After I graduate, I will probably start a new business. I still have many working years in me, and I believe my new profession won't be hard on my knees".



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 12 564 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.

What is AYT?

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.

Need more information?
Call us at 09 2535 3100
or email us at
asiakaspalvelu@ayt.fi

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

ADDRESS

AYT
Ratavartijankatu 2 B
00520 Helsinki
Book your appointment in advance

FAX

09 2535 3131

EMAIL

asiakaspalvelu@ayt.fi



Mail this form to AYT or join us online at www.ayt.fi

Membership application

Surname	First name
Personal ID	Tel.
Address	Postcode and town
Email	
Company name	Date of starting business operations

Pension insurance, company ownership and position within company

Statutory pension insurance type and annual income YEL or MYEL

pension insurance income EUR _____ / year

TyEL Gross salary under TyEL EUR _____ / year

Position within company

board member managing director other, please specify: _____

Company ownership

I own _____% of the company Family members living in my household own _____% of the company

Indirect ownership through another company

Level of insurance and billing

The daily allowance and membership fee are based on the level of insurance you choose in the fund, which can be at most equal to your confirmed pension insurance (YEL, MYEL or TyEL) and must be at least EUR 12564 per year. Those whose confirmed pension insurance is less than EUR 12564 per year cannot join the fund.

My chosen level of insurance: EUR _____ / year.

I do not authorize AYT to raise my insurance annually according to the wage coefficient.

I want my membership fee to be billed in 1 2 4 12 instalments

Transfer from another fund

Name of previous unemployment fund _____

I hereby authorize AYT to terminate my membership in the previous fund.

I wish to join AYT and declare that I have pension insurance coverage at the level stated above, or that I intend to start it at the latest upon joining AYT.

Date	Signature
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Postage
paid
by recipient

AYT

TUNNUS 5009262

00003 VASTAUSLÄHETYS

Fold and close on sides

Fold and close on sides

The Unemployment Fund for Entrepreneurs – AYT

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