



# Student info on unemployment benefits

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THE UNEMPLOYMENT FUND FOR HIGHLY EDUCATED



# The Unemployment fund for highly educated KOKO

- The 2nd largest unemployment fund in Finland with more than 270 000 members
- Founded in 1969
- Responsible for the tasks set out in the Unemployment Funds Act




# Why belong to an unemployment fund?

- The membership of a fund is an insurance
  - hopefully it will not be needed
  - you cannot take an insurance, once the accident has already happened
- Being a member of an unemployment fund pays off, because
  - ✓ you may not land on a dream job right after graduation
  - ✓ in the beginning of a career it is common to have temporary employment contracts
  - ✓ if an employment relationship ends suddenly, it is rarely caused by the employee
  - ✓ the recruiting processes for the highly educated are lengthy
  - ✓ on earnings-related allowance, you can take your time looking for a job matching your education



# Joining the unemployment fund

- Via the membership services of your trade union
  - You can join in through SAFA's website: [safa.fi](https://safa.fi) → Membership
- Your membership starts on the day the application is received
  - You cannot join retroactively
- You must be in paid work when you join a fund
- Membership fee for KOKO in 2025 is 63 euros



63 €/year



# Benefits paid by the unemployment fund

Earnings-related  
allowance

Mobility assistance

Transition security  
allowance (for people  
aged 55 and over  
whose employment  
was terminated for  
financial and  
production-related  
reasons)

# To get earnings-related allowance, you must have fulfilled (from 2.9.2024):



- ✓ Membership condition  
12 months as a member of an unemployment fund
  
- ✓ Employment condition 12 calendar months of work, where the salary is at least 930 euros per month:
  - The work is done while you are a member of the unemployment fund
  - The work is carried out in an employment or service relationship
  - Social insurance-covered and liable to taxation
  - The salary must be at least the set minimum (in accordance with the collective agreement or 1 430 €/month in 2025 for full-time work)
  - The employment condition can also be accrued in half months if the salary is 465-929 euros per month

# Employment condition

The work does not have to be of a single duration, nor for a single employer

Work does not have to be in your own field to qualify for employment condition

Employment condition must be met within 28 months review period (2 years and 4 months)

The review period can be extended by up to seven years if you have an acceptable reason to be absent from the labour market (for example if you have been studying, on a grant period or taking care of a child aged 3 or younger)



# Earnings-related allowance is composed of

- basic component 37,21 €/day
- earnings-related component (based on your salary)
- For 5 days a week
- For a maximum of 300-500 days, depending on the length of your work history





# The unemployment security system (figures of 2025)

Unemployment funds pay allowance to their own members

| Monthly salary | Allowance/month |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 000 €        | approx. 860 €   |
| 2 000 €        | approx. 1 300 € |
| 3 000 €        | approx. 1 740 € |
| 4 000 €        | approx. 2 090 € |
| 5 000 €        | approx. 2 280 € |

Kela pays out the allowance for those, who are not members in an unemployment fund

Approx. 800 €/month, regardless of the amount of your salary.



# Staggering of earnings-related allowance

- Staggering means that the amount of earnings-related allowance decreases the longer the unemployment lasts and the allowance is paid.
- The amount of the daily allowance decreases:
  - after 40 days of paid daily allowance (about two months) to 80% of the original level,
  - after 170 days of paid daily allowance (approx. 8 months) to 75% of the original level.
- The staggering applies to all recipients of earnings-related allowance Päiväraha
- Full daily allowance can be paid again when you meet the employment condition again and you start an entirely new period of daily allowance payment

Example:

Full allowance  
is 100 €



After 40 days the  
allowance is 80 €



After 170 days  
the allowance is  
75 €

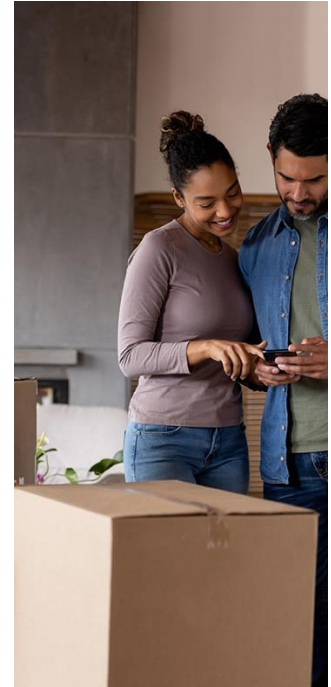
Estimate the  
amount of your  
allowance, using  
KOKO's calculator!

[kokokassa.fi](https://kokokassa.fi) >  
Allowance calculator



# Mobility assistance

- The mobility assistance reimburses the costs of commuting or moving to another place of work
- You may be eligible for a mobility allowance if you find a new job further away and:
  - you have received unemployment benefit just before starting your new job
  - your new job lasts at least 2 months
  - your daily commute to and from work is more than 3 hours a day for a full-time job or more than 2 hours a day for a part-time job
- The mobility allowance is the same amount as the basic allowance, i.e. 37,21 euros per day in 2025 (around 800 euros per month)



# More information

- More information is available on KOKO website:

[Information for students – KOKO](#)

[KOKO-kassa | unemployment fund](#)



[Membership](#) [Current news](#) [Allowance](#) [Contact us](#) [Allowance calculator](#) [More](#) [Search](#) [EN](#)



## Sense and sensibility in one fund

Choosing the KOKO fund is a sensible decision, when preparing yourself for a possible unemployment period. It is also a sensitive decision, providing a humane approach and support to carry you through the harder times.

[Read more about membership](#)

[Read more about allowance](#)

[Frequently asked questions](#)

[Changes to the unemployment security system 2024](#)

[Payment status](#)



10.3.2025



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### News

24.1.2025 [News](#)



**Tax cards become valid in January instead of February – Order a revised tax card for your allowance**

The Tax Administration has changed the date when tax cards become valid, and as of 2025, tax cards are already valid on 1 January instead of 1 February.

Order a revised tax card for your allowance in MyTax to make sure that your tax rate is right.  
The regular tax card...

21.1.2025 [News](#)



**Employment rate of KOKO members worsened in 2024**

During the year, the fund received a total of 161,209 earnings-related daily allowance applications, which is 57% more than in 2023. Discontinuation of alternation leave increased the number of employees taking alternation leave

20.12.2024 [News](#)



**Are you becoming unemployed at the turn of the year? Register as a jobseeker by 29 December 2024 at the latest**

The E-services of Job Market Finland will be down for maintenance at the turn of the year from Monday, 30 December 2024 at 8 am until Thursday, 2 January 2025 at 8 am. During the outage, it is not possible to log in to the service and register as...

10.12.2024 [News](#)



**Staggering of earnings-related unemployment allowance has started to affect people**

Due to an amendment to the Unemployment Security Act, earnings-related unemployment allowance is staggered from now on. The effects of the staggering system began to show in October and November, as the first individuals to whom this system applies had accumulated 40 allowance days.



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[Homepage](#) / [Membership](#) / Information for students

## Information for students

Did you know that you can and should already join an unemployment fund during your studies?

As a student, you can join the unemployment fund if you are in paid employment. When starting a summer job, for example, it's a good time to check the status of your unemployment fund membership and join if you are not already a member.

### Safeguard for your working life

When you are a member of the fund and work during your studies, you accrue earnings-related allowance for yourself during your studies. If you do not find employment immediately after graduation, you have the opportunity to receive earnings-related unemployment allowance paid by the fund.

#### Membership

[Becoming a member](#)

[Membership fee](#)

[Information for students](#)

[Termination of membership](#)

[Switching funds](#)

[Going from employed to an entrepreneur](#)

[KOKO fund's membership \(FAQ\)](#)



**Thank you for listening  
and all the best for the future!**



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