AKADEMIKERNES
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Get an overview of the new rules starting from July 1st, 2017

The second part of the new unemployment benefit reform becomes effective from July 1st, 2017 and in this letter, we will inform you of the new rules. This letter contains general information to all of our members, who are unemployed. We will let you know, in case the new rules have a specific influence on your right to benefits.

We will pay out the benefits for one month at a time
From now on you will receive payment for a whole calendar month. One month is equivalent to 160.33 hours. This means that you will receive the same amount, if you do not work in that same period.

The rate of your unemployment benefits will also be converted into a monthly rate. Today, the maximum rate is 849 DKK, which from July 1st will be equivalent to a monthly rate of 18.403 DKK.

You spend your unemployment benefits in hours
From July 1st we will pay your benefits by hours instead of weeks. Today, you will use up a whole week of unemployment benefits, regardless of how many days a week you have been unemployed. From July 1st, you will only use up the hours of unemployment benefits during which you have actually been unemployed. This way, your unemployment benefits will last longer.

On July 1st, your remaining weeks of unemployment benefits will be converted into hours. For instance, if you have 30 weeks of unemployment benefits left, you will have 1.110 hours of unemployment benefits left.

You can fill in the benefit card one week before the end of the month at the earliest
If you fill in the benefit card one week before the end of the month, the money will be on your Nemkonto no later than on the last working day of the month. For instance, in July you can fill in the card from July 24th. This way, you will have the money on your account no later than on July 31st. At aka.dk you will be able to see the payment period and at which date you can fill in the benefit card.

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You must fill in the benefit card no later than 1 month and 10 days after the end of the month
You have been used to a deadline of 3 months to fill in the benefit card. This will now be changed to 1 month and 10 days after the end of the payment month. Within this deadline, you can also re-send the benefit card if you wish to share some new information with us. For instance, the deadline for the benefit card in July is September 10th. If you do not meet this deadline, we cannot pay you your benefits.

We will compare your information with the Danish Customs and Tax Administration (SKAT)
You can fill in the benefit card before the whole month has passed. You must therefore fill in the last few days as well as you can from your knowledge of any work being done.
When the payment period ends, your information on the benefit card will be compared to the information, your employer has reported to the Danish Customs and Tax Administration (SKAT).
You will receive a letter from us, if we have to regulate your benefits.

Unemployment benefit reader - keep track of how much of your unemployment benefits, you have used
On July 1st we will launch a new page at aka.dk which is called the Unemployment benefit reader (Dagpengetællere). When you are signed in, you will be able to see how many hours of unemployment benefits you have left. This way you can regularly keep track of how much unemployment benefits you have used.

The unemployment benefit reader will also show, how many hours you have worked and how many hours it can be converted into in case you need to extend your period with benefits.

You can also see the unemployment benefit reader on your page at jobnet.dk

How to avoid waiting days, for which you do not receive benefits
As unemployed, every 4 months you will get a so-called waiting day. That is one day, for which you do not receive unemployment benefits. You can avoid the waiting day if you work for more than 148 hours within a period of 4 months.
At aka.dk under the Unemployment benefit reader, you will be able to see how many hours of work you lack to avoid the waiting day.
The first time you can risk getting the waiting day is the payment period in October and if this is the case, you will receive a letter from us.

We will shorten the period of unemployment benefits if you are unemployed for more than a total of 4 years
Finally, there is a new rule. If you have received unemployment benefits for 4 years in total within a period of 8 years, your period with unemployment benefits will be shortened by 1 month. We will inform you, if we can see that this will happen in your case.

Best regards and have a nice summer,
Akademikernes A-kasse