



renkuosi
lietuva

**Great to see
you again!**



SOCIAL SUPPORT

Unemployment benefits,
financial social assistance,
social services



VIDAUS REIKALŲ
MINISTERIJA

When returning to Lithuania from the European Union (EU) member states or the European Economic Area (EEA) (Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein), Ukraine or Belarus, the insurance or employment record earned by Lithuanian citizens does not go to waste as it is included or aggregated, where necessary. It is important to note that social benefits awarded abroad can often be transferred (exported) to Lithuania.

Here you will find information on the requirements for receiving and access to social benefits in Lithuania and on how they can be transferred from abroad.

Do you have any questions about returning to or coming to live in Lithuania? Visit the Migration Information Centre's "I choose Lithuania" website at renkuosilietuva.lt, ask burning questions using our live chat, by giving us a call or dropping an email and we will be happy to respond.

Photograph by Lina Klimašauskienė

The leaflet uses works of creative Lithuanians - photographs that capture modern day life and naturalness.

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UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

RIGHT OF LITHUANIAN CITIZENS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS IN LITHUANIA

Unemployment benefits are paid in Lithuania if the following conditions are met:



#1. a person must register with the Employment Services (*Užimtumo tarnyba*) (uzt.lt) and make a claim for unemployment benefit to be awarded;



#2. a person's last job must be in Lithuania;

#3. a person must have been in employment for at least 12 months in the past 30 months before making a claim;



If a person has not been in employment for 12 months in Lithuania over the past 30 months, but has worked in another EU/EEA member state, Switzerland, Ukraine or Belarus during this period, they may present a statement of unemployment insurance and employment periods, to the Employment Services, from a competent institution of that country.

Unemployment benefit is calculated only on the basis of income received in Lithuania.

TRANSFERING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FROM ABROAD

If a person in receipt of unemployment benefits abroad has come to Lithuania to seek employment, they may be able to transfer the benefits to Lithuania.

A person in receipt of unemployment benefits in an EU member state may transfer the benefits when they come to Lithuania (the benefits will be paid for a period of up to 3 months) if:

- #A a person was entitled to unemployment benefits in the country from which they come to Lithuania;
- #B unemployment benefits were awarded to a person no more than 4 weeks before the date of application for the unemployment benefit transfer;
- #C prior to leaving, a person requested authorisation from the employment service of the country of departure to have the unemployment benefit transferred, i.e. the unemployment social insurance benefit (*nedarbo socialinio draudimo išmoka or NSDI*) export document PD U2;
- #D following return to Lithuania, a person registered with the Employment Services within 7 days and followed their instructions.

AGGREGATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE RECORD

A person who has worked in an EU/EEA member state or Switzerland may obtain a document in their country about their unemployment insurance and employment periods (European U1 form or equivalent forms issued in Ukraine and Belarus).

If a person does not have such a document available, they may present other documents about their employment abroad to Sodra. In such a case, the person needs to contact Sodra for more details.

EMPLOYMENT RECORD REQUIRED FOR A LITHUANIAN PENSION

- The minimum employment record required for a Lithuanian retirement pension is 15 years. If a person has the necessary record for a retirement pension, but has no insured income, and there are no more than 5 years left until their retirement age, they may make a claim to Sodra for an early pension to be awarded.
- Persons residents in an EU/EEA member state and Switzerland are subject to the principle of benefit export. If a person moves from one of the said countries to another, their pension continues to be paid by the awarding country. An export of employment record for retirement pension purposes is also possible from Canada, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova.

SOCIAL SUPPORT OFFERED BY MUNICIPALITIES

To ensure basic living conditions for people with insufficient income attributable to objective reasons, municipalities may award financial social support and make arrangements for social services to be provided.

- #1. **Financial social support** is financial assistance to disadvantaged people (family and social benefits, reimbursement of heating, cold and hot water costs, etc.).
- #2. **Social services** mean assistance to individuals in a variety of non-financial ways and through care allowances to give them back their ability to take care of themselves and integrate into society (home care, meal arrangements, provision of essential supplies, care home services for the elderly and the disabled, etc.).
- #3. A claim for social support and social services needs to be made to the municipality of the declared place of residence. The social support to be awarded is determined by the municipality on an individual basis depending on the personal/family income.



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PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

FOR ALL AGE GROUPS

PERSONAL EMPLOYMENT PLAN

To help maximise jobseekers' access to employment, the Employment Services offer professional development opportunities, funded training, etc. based on personal qualifications and the needs of the labour market.

- EMPLOYMENT SUBSIDIES

Persons who are in difficulties finding a permanent job because of their disability, level of unfitness for work, elderly age, long-term unemployment, etc. may be awarded a wage subsidy. The employer that employs a person in difficulties is paid a compensation for the employed person's wages.

- MOBILITY SUPPORT

Unemployed persons registered with the Employment Services may have their costs of travel to and from the place of work or internship reimbursed.

The costs may be reimbursed for a period of up to 3 months from the start of employment/internship. Reimbursement is offered to those people whose residence is outside the place of internship or work.

Mobility support equals 19.39% of the minimum monthly salary (minimalis mėnesinė alga or MMA), where the salary is in excess of 1 MMA. If the salary is under 1 MMA, the mobility support is 26.6% of the MMA.

A person wishing to claim mobility support must submit a claim to the Employment Services within 3 working days of the start of employment/internship.

For more information, please visit: uzt.lt/darbo-ieskantiems.

FOR THE YOUTH

- IMPROVING YOUTH SOCIAL COMPETENCES

The project is designed for young people aged between 15 and 29 years. It aims to engage young people in active social life and reduce youth unemployment. Young people are offered access to educational opportunities and employment as well as meetings with career advisors to help them discover a line of activity that would be dear to them, etc.



- PROMOTING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The project is designed for young people aged between 16 and 29 years. They are offered opportunities to take part in the measures related to vocational training, apprenticeships, traineeships, recognition of competences through non-formal methods, support for the acquisition of occupational skills and employment through subsidisation.

For more information, please visit: jaunimogarantijos.lt