

# **Start-up grants for entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial training**

## **1. Start-up grants – employment subsidies for entrepreneurs to be**

Start-up grants aim to promote the independent employment of unemployed jobseekers by securing their livelihood during the time estimated for starting and establishing entrepreneurship. At the same time, the creation of new entrepreneurship is promoted.

### **Who can receive start-up grant?**

Start-up grant may be granted an unemployed jobseeker, who by the employment office has been considered an appropriate alternative for getting self-employed.

### **Preconditions for receiving start-up grant:**

- the applicant has experience of self-employment or necessary training for entrepreneurship. Training can also be arranged during the period when the subsidy is paid,
- the applicant is estimated to have sufficient skills for the intended entrepreneurship,
- the enterprise to be started has the preconditions for profitable activities,
- the entrepreneurship will not start until decision has been made on the granting of subsidy. Minor measures related to the starting of the entrepreneurship, such as application for business licences, registration of the company form and hiring of premises, do not prevent the granting of start-up grant,
- persons applying for start-up grant do not simultaneously receive other state subsidy for their wage costs, nor do they receive any daily unemployment allowance or labour market support,
- the entrepreneurship would obviously not start without start-up grant,
- the start-up grant does not distort the competition between other parties providing the same products or services.

### **How much subsidy can you get?**

The amount of the subsidy granted at the discretion of the employment office is about EUR 430 – EUR 770 per month. The maximum period for receiving subsidy is 10 months. The subsidy is paid for those days when the entrepreneur is working in his enterprise, yet for a maximum of five days a week.

### **Applying for start-up grant**

Application for start-up grant is made on a form available at the employment office. Inquiries of e.g. the operating and financing plans of the enterprise are made in the form. The application with enclosures shall be submitted to the employment office where the applicant is registered as an unemployed jobseeker. When writing the application, you should be in contact with experts, e.g. the municipal trade ombudsman or new enterprise agencies.

### **The employment office decides about the subsidy**

The employment office makes the decision on the granting of start-up grant. The employment office may ask outside experts to assess the skill of the applicant to work as an entrepreneur and to assess whether the business idea is profitable. When making the application, it would be advisable to

discuss with the employment office to find out whether the appropriations reserved for the start-up grant are available at that very moment.

## 2. Training for entrepreneurship

The employment offices provide diversified training for entrepreneurs to be and for those already working as entrepreneurs. Different **courses guiding to entrepreneurship** deal with the basic preconditions for entrepreneurship; i.e. the principles and demands of entrepreneurship as well as the qualities of the entrepreneur himself. When taking the courses, the entrepreneur to be can develop and assess his business idea.

**Training for establishing an enterprise** suits those who plan an enterprise of their own or those who have already started entrepreneurship. During the training, the business idea is being developed, and measures related to the establishment of an enterprise are being clarified. The courses provide basic information on e.g. accountancy, marketing, taxation and the risks involved in entrepreneurship. During the training, it is possible to establish an enterprise and start entrepreneurship.

**Training for developing an enterprise** is intended for already existing entrepreneurs and enterprises. The training aims at developing sectors of entrepreneurship and promoting cooperation between enterprises.

Flexible combination of start-up grant and entrepreneurial training is possible. You can for example start entrepreneurial training while drawing start-up grant.

## 3. Further information

**Job Line, phone 0203 66066, 0203 66022, 0203 66077, 0203 66011**

Nationwide telephone service on weekdays at 8 – 19 hours. The staff will answer questions concerning jobs, labour market training and employment services in Finnish. Call charge: line telephony 8.21 cents/call + 1.47 cents/min; mobile phone 29.26 cents/min.