

# Unemployment

All employees living in Switzerland are insured against unemployment. Generally, persons who become unemployed receive financial support over a certain period of time. Unemployed persons must contact the regional employment center (RAV | ORP). The center will help with finding employment.

## Unemployment Insurance

Unemployment insurance (ALV | AC) is a state institution and compulsory for all employees. The contributions are deducted directly from employees' monthly wages. The employer covers half of the contributions. Self-employed persons cannot receive unemployment insurance. Persons who become unemployed receive monthly compensation for loss of income (unemployment benefits, Arbeitslosengeld | allocation chômage). If, when, and how much money is paid depends on various factors. For example, duration of employment or reasons for unemployment.

## How to Proceed when Unemployed

Persons who become unemployed must contact their community of residence as soon as possible. Ideally, this is done before the last day of work and no later than the first day of unemployment. At the same time, one must register with the responsible regional employment center (RAV | ORP). The center will describe further procedures.

## Regional Employment Centre

The regional employment center (RAV | ORP) helps persons quickly reenter the workforce. Counseling is compulsory if one is receiving unemployment benefits. RAV | ORP also offers classes or employment programs. Some of these are compulsory. Persons who have never worked in Switzerland and are looking for a job can also contact RAV | ORP. However, they will not receive unemployment benefits.

## Additional information (links, addresses, information sheets, brochures)

[www.hallo-bern.ch/en/social-security/unemployment](http://www.hallo-bern.ch/en/social-security/unemployment)