



## VM SICKNESS FUND

Provides financial support in the form of sick pay and other benefits from VM Sickness Fund to its members with various grants.

Grant applications can be submitted electronically on 'My Pages' (**MINAR SIÐUR**), or by submitting an application to the VM office at Stórhöfði 29.

Payments from the fund are made monthly, on the last working day of the month. Applications must be submitted to the fund by the 20th of each month.

Members who are absent from work due to illness are encouraged to familiarize themselves with their entitlement to illness benefits from Sjúkratrygging Íslands..

### **Sick pay**

Sick pay is paid on the basis of 100% of the average earnings on which union fees have been paid for the last 6 months; in the event of illness, accident or loss of earnings due to the need to care of a sick person (spouse or child) , up to a maximum of ISK 900,000. The calculation may be based on 12 months' earnings if the member's income has significantly decreased or increased during that period.

If a member of the Fund loses the right to unemployment benefit due to illness, he or she is entitled to sick pay from the VM Sickness Fund in the amount equal to the amount of the benefit.

#### Needed documents:

- Physician's exemption (**Sjúkradagpenigavottorð**)
- Confirmation from the employer that all sick days have been used (*form on vm.is*)
- Filled out application

## **Residence allowance**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

The Fund may grant accommodation subsidies to its members (a portion of the rental or other accommodation costs) for costs related to the hospitalization/treatment of a spouse or child under 18 in Iceland outside of their current area of residence, if the hospitalization/treatment is not covered by the Icelandic Social Insurance Agency. The partial payment will be calculated on the basis of the weekly rental costs of the apartments owned by the VM Sickness Fund and may be paid twice in a 12-month period.

You must provide:

*Receipts containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and the buyer of the services, the relevant note from the doctor and a declaration from the Icelandic Social Insurance Agency stating that it does not cover said costs.*

## **Travel costs**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

The fund is allowed to participate in the unavoidable travel costs of a fund member within the country if he, his spouse and/or a child under the age of 18 need medical treatment or hospitalization outside of their home area and the Icelandic Health Insurance does not pay the travel costs. The maximum number of trips is 4 per 12-month period, but the board of the fund is authorized to pay extra trips after a well-reasoned request to the board. The fund reimburses 2/3 of the cost of the fare with a scheduled trip, or if your own car is used, the mileage fee must take into account the advertised mileage fee of SÍ, and reimbursement will amount to 2/3 of the member's cost, up to a maximum of ISK 30,000. every trip

You must provide:

*Receipts containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and the buyer of the services, the relevant note from the doctor and a declaration from the Icelandic Social Insurance Agency stating that it does not cover said costs.*

## **Preventive examinations**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

The fund reimburses 100% of the costs incurred by the fund members for cancer screening, lungs and heart tests, as well as hearing examination. Grant is in the amount of 33,000 once every 12 months

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the service and proof of payment

## **Fertility treatment/adoption**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

Grants may be issued for the cost of fertility treatment or adopting a child. The maximum grant is ISK 160,000, although never exceeding 50% of the cost.

The grant can be claimed once for adoption or three times for fertility treatment

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the service and proof of payment

## **Fitness passes**

Conditions: Payments are made to the union continuously for at least last 6 months.

Fund members can receive co-financing for training at gyms, swimming passes, dance schools (courses) and sports clubs. The subsidy is up to 60% of the costs, but never exceeds ISK. 50,000 for a period of 12 months.

You must provide:

Receipts containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the services and proof of payment

## **Treatment at health institutions**

Conditions: Payments are made to the union continuously for at least last 6 months.

Grants may be issued for treatment at a licensed health institution, subject to evaluation by the VM Sick Pay Fund board.

The maximum grant is ISK 1,700 per day for 30 days per five-year period.

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the service and proof of payment

## **Hearing tests**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

Sick fund pays a maximum of 100% of the cost of hearing tests.

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the service and proof of payment

## **Glasses, support aid and hearing aid grants**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

Grants may be issued for the purchase of glasses / contact lenses / laser treatment, support aids and hearing aids. Grants are issued once for each claimable benefit every three years. The maximum grant for eyeglasses is ISK 80,000, although never exceeding 50% of the cost. Grants will NOT be issued for damage to glasses that employers or insurance companies are liable for.

The maximum grant for support aids is ISK 35,000, although never exceeding 50% of the cost.

The maximum grant for hearing aids is ISK 80,000 per device, although never exceeding 50% of the cost. The hearing aid grant takes into account your entitlement to claim back a share of the cost from the Icelandic Social Insurance. If a member's hearing ability exceeds 30 dB and the member wishes to apply for a hearing aid grant, the application will be assessed by an audiologist appointed by the VM Sick Pay Fund. *Members who retire due to old age or disability may apply for hearing aid purchase grants every three years for the remainder of their lives.*

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the service and proof of payment

## **Doctor's appointments**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

Grants may be issued to Fund members for doctor's appointments. The maximum grant is ISK 40,000 once per 12- month period, although never exceeding 50% of the cost.

Mental health treatment, appointments with a psychologist and laser treatment falls also all under this category.

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the service and proof of payment

## **Dental treatment**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

The grant for dental treatment is ISK 40,000 for once per 12-month period, although never exceeding 50% of the cost.

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the service and proof of payment

## **Fitness passes**

Conditions: Payments are made to the union continuously for at least last 6 months.

Fund members can receive co-financing for training at gyms, swimming passes, dance schools (courses) and sports clubs. The subsidy is up to 60% of the costs incurred, but never exceeds ISK. 60,000 for a period of 12 months.

You must provide:

Receipts containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the services and proof of payment

## **Physiotherapy**

Conditions: Payments are made to the union continuously for at least last 6 months.

Grant is for physical therapy, medical massage, chiropractic, acupuncture or lymphatic massage. It is permitted to pay fund members up to ISK 4,000. per visit, but never a higher than amount paid. The maximum number of refunded visits is 36 over 12-month period.

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the services and payment confirmation

## **Therapy**

Conditions: Payments are made by the fund member continuously for at least last 6 months.

Members of the fund can claim a portion of the cost of therapy with an approved psychologist, social worker or psychiatric nurse. Treatment must be carried out by a certified person. 40% of the cost is reimbursed, up to a maximum of ISK. 9900 per visit. Refunds are valid up to 20 times in a 12-month period.

You must provide:

Bills containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the services and payment confirmation

## **Childbirth benefit**

Conditions: Payments are made to the union continuously for at least the last 6 months.

The amount of the benefit is determined by the percentage of hours worked by the parent, and its maximum amount is ISK 154,000. In the case of multiple births, the benefit is increased by ISK 154,000 for each additional child. Both parents are entitled to the benefit, provided that they are members of the Fund and meet the conditions for membership in it.

You must provide:

Birth certificate and last salary slip (*launaseðill*)

## **Funeral benefit**

Upon the death of an active member, next of kin may apply for burial grants, provided the person was a member of the fund for at least 6 months at the time of death. The amount is ISK. 250.000

In the event of the death of a member who is not on the labor market but has been a member of the union for at least 5 years at the time of retirement, the fund management board is entitled to pay a death benefit.

### *You must provide:*

Document confirming death from the relevant office and filled out application

## **Benefits in event of sudden death**

*Conditions: Payments are made to the union continuously for at least the last 6 months.*

In the event of the death of an active, paying Fund member (sudden death), a death benefit proportional to the working hour percentage will be issued to any surviving spouse/children under the age of 18 equivalent to full sick pay for three months.

### *You must provide:*

Document confirming death from the relevant office and filled out application



## Education fund

### Professional courses

Conditions: Payments are made to the union continuously for at least the last 6 months.

The fund covers 75% of the cost of the course, but not more than the union member has in his education fund.

You must provide:

Receipts containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the services and proof of payment

### Recreational courses

Conditions: Payments are made to the union continuously for at least the last 6 months.

The fund covers 65% of the cost of the course, but not more than the union member has in his education fund.

You must provide:

Receipts containing the name and identification number (kennitala) of the seller and buyer of the services and proof of payment

### Set of laws for the fund:

New members receive the basic right of ISK.100,000 after paying union fees to the fund for 6 months. Each member gets ISK.25,000 added to their education fund each year. This amount is added in the month of August each year (if membership fees have been paid for at least nine months.)

The highest amount you can accumulate in your fund is ISK 225,000.

Anytime grant is calculated (ISK 100,000) + Accumulation - Withdrawal.