

# INFO SENIOR



DG HR Newsletter

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2019 #23

## Table of contents

Please note, the school year has just ended ... What you need to know	1
Insurance cover for a member's spouse/recognised partner	2
Payment of hospital bills in Luxembourg	3
JSIS: do you wish to receive your statements, prior authorisations, invitations, etc. by post OR electronically?	4
EU Login Mobile Application	5
Proof of payment of your medical expenses	5
The new website of the SEPS-SFPE	6
Information about HOSPI SAFE for retired staff	6
Additional travel insurance	8
The Finnish presidency of the Council of the EU	8

## Please note, the school year has just ended ... What you need to know

You have received or will soon receive the forms for requesting an extension for dependent child allowance, education allowance and the orphan's pension. These forms are also available on the website:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/pmo/education-allowances.htm>



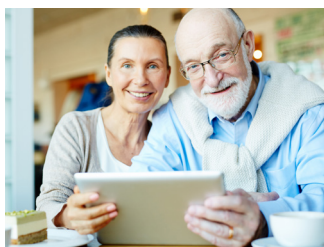
You should return them:  
preferably by email to [PMO-PENSIONS-EDUCATION-DECLARATION@EC.EUROPA.EU](mailto:PMO-PENSIONS-EDUCATION-DECLARATION@EC.EUROPA.EU)  
or by post to:

**i** European Commission  
PMO.4 - Pensions  
MERO 07/011  
B-1049 Brussels

**If you are an orphan who has reached the age of majority:** the forms were sent to you in June 2019. In order to avoid a significant suspension of payment, you should send back these documents, duly completed, dated and signed, as soon as possible.

**If you receive allowances on behalf of your child who has reached the age of majority:** the forms will be sent to you in August 2019. These documents, duly completed, dated and signed, must be sent back by 31 October 2019.

## Insurance cover for a member's spouse/recognised partner (period of cover concerned: 1.07.2019 – 30.06.2020)



Administrative Notice No 18-2019 / 28.05.2019 concerns those members of the Joint Sickness Insurance Scheme (JSIS) whose spouse/recognised partner benefits or could be entitled to benefit from the JSIS cover, with reference to the conditions under Articles 13 and 14 of the Joint Rules on sickness insurance for officials of the European Communities. JSIS primary cover for spouses/recognised partners is stipulated in Article 13 of the Joint Rules and in Article 2, Chapter 2, Title I of the [General Implementing Provisions \(GIP\)](#).

Spouses/recognised partners benefit from the JSIS primary cover if they have no income of their own from present or previous gainful employment, nor a pension or indemnity of any kind (unemployment, disability, etc.) Likewise, spouses/recognised partners receiving a taxable annual income from gainful employment of less than 20 % of the annual basic salary in grade AST2/1 (see [Annex 2](#) - Ceilings by country) may request primary cover provided that they prove the impossibility to be covered by a legal or statutory health insurance scheme of the country where the activity is or has been exercised or of the country of residence. The request has to be submitted to the PMO together with the supporting documents. This cover is reviewed each year. JSIS complementary top-up cover for spouses/recognised partners is stipulated in Article 14 of the Joint Rules and in Article 3, Chapter 2, Title I of the [GIP](#).

If spouses/recognised partners are in receipt of income from gainful employment, they may be entitled to complementary top-up cover with the JSIS, until the next annual update, provided both of the following conditions are fulfilled:

- the annual taxable income, before tax and after deduction of social welfare contributions and professional charges, does not exceed the basic annual salary of an official in grade AST2/1 multiplied by the correction coefficient for the country in which the income is received (see [Annex 2](#) - Ceilings by country), and
- they are fully covered for the same risks under any other legal or statutory provisions.

**The detailed arrangements for updating the rights of a spouse/recognised partner** are as follows:

1. The spouse/recognised partner already benefits from complementary cover:

In order to extend the spouse/recognised partner's complementary cover, you must send to the PMO (see [Annex 1](#) - How to submit the supporting documents) before 30 June 2019 the official tax certificate on your spouse's income for the year 2018. If the last available tax certificate refers to income for the year 2017, it will also be accepted. In the absence of this certificate, you may send any other document issued by the competent national authorities indicating your spouse/recognised partner's annual taxable income. Please note that the document must be submitted in its entirety. The amounts relating to unearned income such as income from savings or property dealings, etc. may be obfuscated.

2. The spouse/recognised partner begins to work:

If the spouse/recognised partner has recently taken up gainful employment, he/she will no longer be entitled to primary cover. Complementary top-up cover can only be granted from the start of the gainful employment upon receipt of two salary slips and a copy of the contract.

3. The spouse/recognised partner starts to receive a pension:

If the spouse/recognised partner starts to receive a pension, please inform the PMO immediately and provide the documents issued by the competent authorities stating the grant date of the pension and its monthly taxable amount. Depending on the amount, the spouse/recognised partner's JSIS cover will be established: complementary cover or exclusion from the JSIS cover if the income exceeds the JSIS ceiling in force.

4. The spouse/recognised partner stops working:

If the spouse/recognised partner stops working, he/she could be entitled to primary cover from the day on which he/she ceases his/her professional activity on condition that he/she receives no further income deriving from a professional activity: no allowance, no indemnity, no pension.

If the spouse/recognised partner who was in receipt of professional income which previously exceeded the ceiling

is made redundant or retires, he/she could benefit from complementary cover from the 1st of July following the change in situation, on condition that his/her income resulting from the new situation does not exceed the ceiling. For points 2 to 4, please inform the PMO as quickly as possible and provide them with supporting evidence of the change of position.

Please note that you must notify the PMO of any change in the situation of the persons insured under your name (Article 22 of the rules on sickness insurance and Article 72(4) of the Staff Regulations).

**The JSIS reserves the right to recover any amounts unduly reimbursed if upon receipt of the required documentation, it appears that the spouse/recognised partner's professional situation does not correspond to the one declared previously.**

**If your spouse/recognised partner moves to join you at your place of work, he/she is required to transfer his/her social security rights, including health insurance rights, from his/her country of origin to the host country. The transfer is made by means of an S1 form issued upon request by the competent national authorities before leaving the country of origin. This form will allow your spouse/recognised partner to register with a compulsory legal or statutory sickness insurance scheme in the host country. The European Health Insurance Card is to be requested at the same time as the S1 form since it is the country of origin which is competent for issuing it.**

- i** Administrative Notice No 18-2019 / 28.05.2019:  
<https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/retired/en/Pages/index.aspx> > **Statutory rights > Administrative notices > 2019**
- i** Information on recognised partners: see the second subparagraph of Article 72(1) of the Staff Regulations, Article 28 and Article 95 of the Conditions of Employment of other servants of the European Communities, as well as Article 1(2)(c) of Annex VII to the Staff Regulations.  
[https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/hr\\_admin/en/staff-regulations/Pages/index.aspx](https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/hr_admin/en/staff-regulations/Pages/index.aspx)
- i** General Implementing Provisions (GIP):  
<https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/staff/Documents/health/sources/dge-en.pdf>
- i** Annex 1 - How to submit the supporting documents:  
[https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/infoadm/en/2019/Documents/ia19018\\_annex1\\_en.pdf](https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/infoadm/en/2019/Documents/ia19018_annex1_en.pdf)
- i** Annex 2 - Ceilings by country:  
[https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/infoadm/en/2019/Documents/ia19018\\_annex2\\_en.pdf](https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/infoadm/en/2019/Documents/ia19018_annex2_en.pdf)

## Payment of hospital bills in Luxembourg

Following the [judgment of the General Court in the case of Wattiau v European Parliament \(T-737/17\)](#), the **management of hospital bills in Luxembourg will be provisionally modified.**

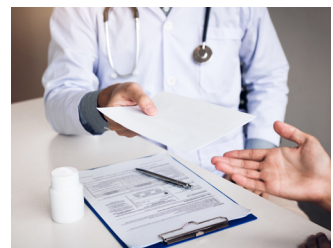
Firstly, **direct billing will provisionally be applied on invoices for hospital services** in accordance with Chapter 4 of Title III of the [General Implementing Provisions](#).

Then, **your share of the costs**, i.e. 15-20% in the case of a normal reimbursement, **will be recovered from you once the new hospital tariffs in Luxembourg are established or once a new invoice is issued**, in accordance with the abovementioned judgment.

In the case of outpatient care, the PMO recommends that you consult the doctor preferably at his/her private practice so you do not have to pay a hospital bill.

If you have any questions or encounter any problems, do not hesitate to contact the PMO via the [STAFF Contact page](#) or by telephone.

- i** Judgment of the General Court in the case of Wattiau v European Parliament (T-737/17):  
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A62017TJ0737>



**i** General Implementing Provisions (GIP):  
<https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/staff/Documents/health/sources/dge-en.pdf>

**i** Staff Contact:  
<https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/staff/EN/Pages/index.aspx?ln=en>

**i** JSIS telephone assistance:  
**Luxembourg : + 352 4301 36100**  
 (until 31/08/2019 : from 10.00 to 12.00 – from 01/09/2019: from 9.30 to 12.30)  
**Brussels: + 32 2 29 97777**  
 (until 31/08/2019: from 10.00 to 12.00 – from 01/09/2019: from 9.30 to 12.30))  
**Ispra : + 39 0332 78 57 57**  
 (until 31/08/2019: from 10.00 to 12.00 – from 01/09/2019: from 9.30 to 12.30)

## JSIS: do you wish to receive your statements, prior authorisations, invitations, etc. by post OR electronically?



If you do NOT use the 'JSIS online' IT application, you receive all your documents by post.

But even if you use 'JSIS online' for your requests and you receive the documents from the JSIS electronically, **you can always choose to also receive paper versions of statements and other JSIS documents at home, by post.**

Although that is the default option when you create your EU Login and 'JSIS online' account, this has not always applied due to technical issues, so if you do not receive these documents as you wish, all you need to do is check/modify

a setting directly in the JSIS online application, as shown below.

- In the menu of the 'JSIS online' application, click on 'My Preferences' and then 'My communication preferences'.
- If you wish to receive your documents by post, ensure that the Yes is activated next to the option 'Paper mail enabled'.
- If you wish to only receive them electronically, ensure that the No is activated next to the option 'Paper mail enabled'.
- Confirm by clicking on the 'Submit' button.

If you subsequently notice that you are not receiving your statements and other documents as requested, do not hesitate to use 'Staff Contact' on My Intracomm so that the PMO can check/remedy the situation.

**i** JSIS online:  
<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/RCAM/>

**i** Staff Contact:  
<https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/staff/EN/Pages/index.aspx?ln=en>

**i** JSIS telephone assistance:

**Brussels: + 32 2 29 97777**

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## EU Login Mobile Application

The EU Login Mobile application is an application developed by the Commission to make it easier to identify yourself when you connect to applications protected by EU Login, using an Android or iOS mobile device. The EU Login application can be installed only on a mobile device i.e. a smartphone and/or tablet, and not on a PC/Mac.

The application enables you to identify yourself with a mobile device by simply entering a PIN number (or by using the 'Touch ID' function) instead of receiving a text message. This solves the problems encountered by some people as a result of poor quality mobile phone network coverage or failure by some mobile phone operators to relay the Commission's text messages. It is also much faster than receiving a text message, especially if you only use one mobile device.



The AIACE has drawn up a guide on connecting to EU Login via a mobile application for smartphones and tablets. The text (in English and French) can be found on the AIACE international website.

**i** More info can be found on the AIACE website, in the '**Services**' menu on the '**EU Login**' page

<http://aiace-europa.eu/eu-login/?lang=en>

and in the following documents:

- in English:

[http://aiace-europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Authenticate-with-EU-Login-Mobile-App\\_V4.pdf](http://aiace-europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Authenticate-with-EU-Login-Mobile-App_V4.pdf)

- in French:

<http://aiace-europa.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Authentication-avec-lappli-EU-Login- V34.pdf>

## Proof of payment of your medical expenses

When you submit your requests for reimbursement, whether on paper or via JSIS online, you no longer need to provide proof of payment of your medical expenses. However, you must still keep this proof of payment in order to prove that the payment was made if checks are carried out.



Do not forget to attach all other supporting documents to complete your requests for reimbursement.

**i** For more information on the reimbursement of your medical expenses:

<https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/staff/EN/health/reimbursement/Pages/index.aspx?ln=en>

**i** JSIS online:

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/RCAM/?language=en>

**i** JSIS telephone assistance:

**Brussels: + 32 2 29 97777**

(until 31/08/2019: from 10.00 to 12.00 – from 01/09/2019: from 9.30 to 12.30)



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(until 31/08/2019: from 10.00 to 12.00 – from 01/09/2019: from 9.30 to 12.30)

## The new website of the SEPS-SFPE

The SEPS-SFPE has had a new website since 6 June 2019: [www.sfpe-seps.be](http://www.sfpe-seps.be) which is more user-friendly than the previous site.

It displays important announcements on the first page. Alongside a description of the organisation and key documents such as the vade-mecum, articles of association, minutes of the general assemblies, etc., a heading has been added for top-up health insurance policies. Access to all the internal documents via 'se connecter' is protected by a username and password which members can obtain from the Secretariat ([info@sfpe-seps.be](mailto:info@sfpe-seps.be)).



- i** SFPE - 175 rue de la Loi, Office JL 02 40 CG39, BE-1048 Brussels (by appointment)  
105 avenue des Nerviens, Office N105 00 010, BE-1049 Brussels (Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10.00 to 15.00 or by appointment)  
Telephone: **+32 (0) 475 472 470**  
<http://sfpe-seps.be/en/>

## Information about HOSPI SAFE for retired staff

**Hospi Safe is a top-up health insurance policy offered by Afiliatys, the administration of which will change on 1 January 2020.**

Many retired staff members have been wondering about the change of contract administrator for HOSPI SAFE and HOSPI SAFE +, the health insurance policy offered by AFILIATYS as a top-up to the Joint Sickness Insurance Scheme (JSIS). The 10-year contract concluded with CIGNA in January 2010 will end on 31 December 2019.

Following a call for tenders launched by AFILIATYS in line with the regulations, ALLIANZ CARE, which submitted the best tender in terms of finance and quality, will take over administration of the contract from 1 January 2020.

ALLIANZ CARE will take over the whole current insurance contract for all insured persons, including retired staff, both as regards the continuation of existing cover and the maintenance of current contractual conditions, including any existing exceptions.

Consequently, on 1 January 2020, ALLIANZ CARE will automatically take over the administration of all HOSPI SAFE and HOSPI SAFE + files, without any formalities required from insured persons.

From this date:

- The top-up health insurance policies offered by AFILIATYS will remain unchanged but with one additional option:
  - HOSPI SAFE: no change, covering hospitalisation as a result of illness or an accident as a top-up to the JSIS scheme
  - HOSPI SAFE ILLNESS: new option covering hospitalisation in connection with illness alone (valid for those who have specific accident insurance)
  - HOSPI SAFE +: no change.

The cover may be revised either upwards (HOSPI SAFE ILLNESS/ACCIDENT to HOSPI SAFE +) or downwards (HOSPI SAFE + to HOSPI SAFE ILLNESS/ACCIDENT or HOSPI SAFE ILLNESS; HOSPI SAFE ILLNESS/ACCIDENT to HOSPI SAFE ILLNESS).

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is strongly recommended that you keep the current HOSPI SAFE cover, which fully reimburses the costs of hospitalisation as a result of an accident, with the JSIS covering 80 to 85 % of the costs incurred for retired staff, who are not covered by Article 73 of the Staff Regulations, as it concerns only active staff.

- The premiums agreed for 10 years for these three options (see tables below) will be fixed as of the age of 61 (instead of 67 at present), excluding annual indexation on the basis of the EUROSTAT index or technical (negotiated) revision after five years.



- The arrangements for reimbursement will remain identical to the current arrangements, with strict alignment between the JSIS rules and the contractually-based top-up insurance rules. ALLIANZ CARE will supplement the JSIS reimbursement stricto sensu on the basis of the latter's reimbursement schedule.
- ALLIANZ CARE will set up a 'one-stop shop' to provide personalised case handling and the centralisation of requests for reimbursement and relevant questions, whether they are submitted electronically or in writing. ALLIANZ CARE will also hold oral consultations with insured members, each working day at its premises (2 rue du Samedi, near place Sainte Catherine in Brussels), and periodically at the AFILIATYS premises in Luxembourg.
- ALLIANZ CARE will supplement this system of information, administration and follow-up in Brussels and Luxembourg through the use of brokers specialised in this area, who are in the process of being appointed. They will be duly authorised to that effect and insured persons will be able to contact them directly.

The current administrator, CIGNA, will remain in charge until 31 December 2019 and the entry into force of the contract with ALLIANZ CARE, which means that:

- Requests for reimbursement for costs incurred up to that date will be borne by CIGNA, and
- Premiums falling due in 2019 will continue to be paid to CIGNA.

AFILIATYS is in constant contact with ALLIANZ CARE and CIGNA and will keep insured persons informed of developments in this matter.

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) No 2016/279, in force since 25 May 2018, when the time comes it will be the responsibility of insured persons to transfer their personal data to ALLIANZ CARE for the proper processing of requests for top-up reimbursement.

It should be noted that this information was sent to all members of AFILIATYS on 10 April. However, it seems that many retirees did not receive it, either because they do not have a computer or because they have not yet provided their new email address, which we kindly request them to do (<http://www.afiliatys.eu/en/index.cfm> or <http://sfpe-seps.be/en/> or by telephone at **+32 2 29 85000**).

This information was supplemented by an FAQ comprising the 24 main questions asked by the members of AFILIATYS. It can be consulted on the two websites mentioned above and will soon be distributed to all the members of AFILIATYS as set out in the SEPS-SFPE newsletter.

## ANNUAL PREMIUMS FROM JANUARY 2020 (INCLUDING TAXES):

### HOSPI SAFE (Hospitalisation due to illness/accident)

Age	0-2	3-18	19-35	36-50	51-60	61+
Annual premium (€)	0,00	72,33	86,78	130,15	173,56	242,99

### HOSPI SAFE ILLNESS (Hospitalisation due to illness only)

Age	0-2	3-18	19-35	36-50	51-60	61+
Annual premium (€)	0,00	52,51	64,21	96,15	128,32	178,41

### HOSPI SAFE PLUS (Hospitalisation and outpatient care)

Age	0-1	2-18	19-35	36-50	51-60	61+
Annual premium (€)	0,00	525,07	642,07	961,51	1283,20	1784,13

**i** If you have any questions, you can contact Afiliatys on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10.00 and 15.00 by telephone **+32 2 298 50 00** or by sending an email to: [info@afiliatys.eu](mailto:info@afiliatys.eu)

**i** AFILIATYS – 105, Avenue des Nerviens, office 00/09 – 1040, Brussels

Open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10.00 to 15.00 (from September 2019) - Telephone: **+ 32 2 29 85000** – <http://www.afiliatys.eu/en/index.cfm>

## Additional travel insurance

The summer holidays have arrived. If you are travelling, remember to take out additional travel insurance. This will cover costs not included in the JSIS direct billing arrangements (e.g. transport or repatriation costs) or, depending on the type of cover, the share of the costs to be borne by you.

This last part can turn out to be quite costly in some countries where healthcare is expensive (Norway, United States and Switzerland). Additional insurance can also be useful for hospitals which do not accept direct billing and require immediate payment.



## The Finnish presidency of the Council of the EU 1 July - 31 December 2019

Finland takes over the presidency of the Council of the European Union from 1 July to 31 December 2019. The priorities of the Finnish presidency are guided by the motto: Sustainable Europe, Sustainable Future.

The presidency's programme focuses on four main priorities:

- to strengthen common values and the rule of law;
- to make the EU more competitive and socially inclusive;
- to strengthen the EU's position as a global leader in climate action;
- to protect the security of citizens comprehensively.

The Finnish presidency will be the first to incorporate the new priorities of the [2019-2024 strategic agenda](#) into the work of the Council.



**i Website of the Finnish presidency:** <https://eu2019.fi/en/frontpage>

**i Programme of the Finnish presidency:**

<https://eu2019.fi/documents/11707387/14346258/EU2019FI-EU-puheenjohtajakauden-ohjelma-en.pdf/3556b7f1-16df-148c-6f59-2b2816611b36/EU2019FI-EU-puheenjohtajakauden-ohjelma-en.pdf.pdf>

**i Indicative calendar of meetings and sessions under the Finnish presidency:**

[https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/40090/fi-presidency-calendar-for-publishing\\_27-june.pdf](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/40090/fi-presidency-calendar-for-publishing_27-june.pdf)

**i Strategic agenda 2019-2024:**

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2019/06/20/a-new-strategic-agenda-2019-2024/>

**i SOURCE:** <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/>



## Apology - Info Senior No 22

As a result of circumstances beyond our control, you received Info Senior No 22 late. Consequently, the penultimate article (AIACE International annual conference) was no longer relevant. Please accept our apologies.