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Applying for Unemployment Benefits in an EU-country

Information about the PD U1 form

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What is a PD U1?

The PD U1 is required in order to apply for unemployment benefits in an EU-country. It provides information on how long you have worked in Switzerland and on your pay level. It is issued by the Swiss Unemployment Insurance Fund.

Who needs it?

Citizens of EU countries who have worked in Switzerland and want to register as unemployed in an EU country need the PD U1 form. It confirms the contribution period to Swiss unemployment insurance. This insurance period is then taken into account abroad.

What do you need to submit?

Your Unemployment Insurance Fund requires the following documents:

- » «Antrag auf Ausstellung eines PD U1» («Request of a PD U1»)¹
- » «Arbeitgeberbescheinigung international» («International Employer Statement»)¹
Important: A separate Employer Statement is required for every company you worked for in Switzerland. The number of years for which you must provide proof of employment in Switzerland varies depending on the country in which you apply for unemployment benefits. For more information, refer to the second page of the form «Request for Issue of a PD U1».
- » Pay slips or salary statements for the past 3 years
- » Copy of your identity card (passport / ID)

1) You can find the forms at www.alk.unia.ch/internationales

Where do you send your documents to?

If you were previously entitled to unemployment benefits in Switzerland, you must request the PD U1 from the payment office which was responsible for your benefits during your unemployment. Otherwise, you are free to choose. For the addresses of all Unia payment offices, see www.alk.unia.ch/zahlstellenverzeichnis.

Apply in good time!

Order the PD U1 in good time – preferably during the notice period. Unemployment benefits are paid only from the date of registration, and not retroactively. You must therefore register as unemployed in your country of residence as soon as possible.

Once the Unemployment Insurance Fund has received all your documents, the PD U1 will be sent to you within a week. You can also order the form if you are already living abroad.

Any other questions?

For more information, visit www.alk.unia.ch or contact an Unia payment office.