

# Who is eligible for parental leave in Finland?

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Parental leave is granted to parents, usually after maternity and paternity leave, allowing mothers and fathers to take care of their young children without losing their jobs. Such a policy exists in all EU Member States and in Finland it is called Vanhempainvapaa/Föräldraledighet. The policy design and eligibility rules vary across the EU and not all women and men in the EU are eligible for parental leave.

**Parental leave in Finland is:**

- € Paid benefit is just a 30% of annual average net earnings between 2015 and 2017.
- 6.7 months
- Leave is a family entitlement

**Almost all women and men in employment are eligible for parental leave.**

This factheet is based on an eligibility study of how many women and men aged 20-49 would be eligible for parental leave if they had a child in 2017 and the reason behind their non-eligibility (1). For Finland, it is not possible to calculate all the conditions that apply due to data restrictions.

Parental leave in Finland is a residence-related right. It is available for every parent who lives in Finland, or has been insured in another EU or EEA Member State, Switzerland or Israel, for at least 180 days immediately before the birth of the child. In situations where the mother does not meet the 180-days residence criterion, fathers are entitled for parental leave and their leave starts on the 71st day after the birth of the child.

**Who is eligible for parental leave in Finland?**

- ✓ Employees
- ✓ Self-employed
- ✓ Same-sex parents
- ✓ Non-citizens (2) (and EU citizens)

**In the EU-28 (3):**

- 25 countries restrict access to employees with short working duration before birth (see Finland)
- The self-employed are not eligible in 10 countries (see Finland)
- 11 countries do not allow access for same-sex parents (see Finland)
- 18 limit access to refugees or asylum seekers (including no access for asylum seekers in Finland)

(1) Information for certain groups (refugees and asylum seekers) where this applies is included in the attachment to the methodology on eligibility.  
 (2) Women share categories multidimensional and cover all EU-28 countries, the country residence, refugees and asylum seekers.  
 (3) The facts available before the launch of the European Union.

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## Read more

[Factsheet: Who is eligible for parental leave in the EU-28?](#)



[Factsheets: Eligibility for parental leave in EU Member States](#)



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# Downloads



**Who is eligible for parental leave in Finland?**

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