## Office for Economy

#### **Economic Development**

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#### Overview of the Social Security System

The social security system in Switzerland is essentially a three-pillar system. It aims to safeguard a reasonable quality of life for the elderly, in the event of invalidity, illness and accident. In addition, the social insurance system provides financial support for family members if the insured person dies. Further, the insurance system covers risks such as the cost of illness and accidents, unemployment as well as family allowances. The following list provides an overview of the various social insurance pillars in Switzerland.

#### **Three-Pillar System**

Provisioning within the three-pillar system

First pillar: State provisioning

Instruments:
AHV
IV
EO
MSE / VSE

Objective: safeguarding minimum standard of living Second pillar:
Occupational provisioning

Instrument: BVG

Objective: maintaining accustomed standard of living Third pillar: Private provisioning

Instruments: 3a pillar 3b pillar

Objective: voluntary independent provisioning

Old age Invalidity	Death	Illness	Accident
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**AHV** Old-age and survivors' insurance [Alters- und Hinterlassenenversicherung]

**IV** Invalidity insurance [Invalidenversicherung]

EO / MSE / VSE Income loss insurance, maternity and paternity compensation [Erwerbsaus-

fall-, Mutterschafts- und Vaterschaftsentschädigung

**BVG** Occupational pension funds [Berufliche Vorsorge]

**3a + 3b pillars** Private pension funds [Private Vorsorge]

#### First Pillar: State Provisioning (AHV / IV / EO / MSE / VSE)

(AHV Alters- und Hinterlassenenversicherung [Old-age and survivors' insurance], IV Invalidenversicherung [Invalidity insurance], EO / MSE / VSE Erwerbsausfall-, Mutterschafts- und Vaterschaftsentschädigung [Income loss insurance, maternity and paternity compensation])

Brief descrip-	AHV / IV. Covers	the minimur	n standard of livi	ng once income lanses due to
tion	AHV / IV: Covers the minimum standard of living once income lapses due to old age, death and invalidity.			
tion	EO / MSE / VSE: Governs the income loss compensation for persons providing			
	maternity.	military, civilian or civil protection service and income compensation during		
Circle of indi-	,			
	With mandatory i			ـا
viduals		_	ing in Switzerlan	
		_	oad for a specific	period
	- Self-employe			
0 1 11 11	- Persons not	gaintully em		
Contributions	For employees:	0.7.0/	For the self-en	•
(monthly)	AHV	8.7 %		8.1 %
	IV	1.4 %		1.4 %
	EO / MSE / VSE	0.5 %	EO / MSE / VS	E 0.5 %
	Total	10.6 %	Total	10.0 %
	Basis of assessme			-
	Other rates apply	-		
Funding	Contribution procedure. Employers are obliged to settle the entire AHV / IV /			
	EO / MSE / VSE contribution (10.6 % of the paid gross monthly salary) with			
	the registered compensation office. However, they may deduct half of this			
	(5.3 %) from the salary of the employee.			
	Self-employed persons must bear the entire contributions themselves.			
Legal entity	Compensation office Schwyz or recognised compensation offices of industry			
	associations			
Contact	Compensation Of	fice / IV Offi	ce Schwyz	
	Rubiswilstrasse 8	Rubiswilstrasse 8 / P.O. Box 53		
	CH-6431 Schwyz			
	Tel. +41 41 819 04 25			
	www.aksz.ch			

#### Second Pillar: Occupational Provisioning (BVG)

(**BVG** Bundesgesetz über die berufliche Alters-, Hinterlassenen- und Invalidenvorsorge [Swiss federal occupational, survivors' and invalidity pension act])

Brief descrip-	The BVG is designed to safeguard the accustomed standard of living for the
tion	elderly.
Circle of indi-	The insurance is mandatory for employees subject to AHV once they have
viduals	reached the age of 18 with an (AHV) annual salary of at least CHF
	22'050.00. Self-employed individuals may insure themselves voluntarily.
Contributions	Premiums differ according to age and gender. They lie between 7 and 18 %
(monthly)	of coordinate income (yearly gross income minus deduction for coordination).
Funding	Capital accumulation procedure. BVG benefits are financed by salary premi-
	ums. The employer must assume at least 50 % of the premium for risks, sav-
	ings, special measures and security funds.
Legal entity	Various foundations, cooperatives and public-law bodies (supervised by can-
	tonal and Swiss supervisory authorities). Collective foundations or industry
	associations are recommended for smaller enterprises.
Contact	List of offices, foundations and other institutions:
	<u>www.vorsorgeforum.ch</u> >> Links

# Third Pillar: Private Provisioning (3a + 3b Pillars)

Brief description	Voluntary private provisioning. Can offset pension shortfalls or secure additional benefits. Interesting for self-employed individuals and businesspersons. A distinction is made between dedicated provisioning (3a pillar with tax benefits) and free provisioning (3b pillar).		
	Dedicated provisioning The law promotes this form of provisioning by providing tax incentives, i.e. individual provisioning contributions are deductible from the taxable income up to a certain level. The money can be withdrawn only once an insured event occurs (age, death or invalidity) or under certain conditions in order to acquire residential property.		
Circle of indi-	Free provisioning Free provisioning is open to everyone and is not subject to a limit on levels. There are no tax benefits.  Is open to everyone		
viduals	is open to everyone		
Funding	Individual saving		
Contact	Banks, insurance companies and further institutions		

## **Further Insurance Institutions**

## **Accident Insurance (UVG)**

(UVG Bundesgesetz über die Unfallversicherung [Swiss federal accident insurance act])

Brief descrip-	Mandatory for employees in Switzerland. Insurance against occupational acci-		
tion	dents, non-occupational accidents and industrial diseases.		
Circle of indi-	The insurance is mandatory for all employees in Switzerland. The UVG is vol-		
viduals	untary for self-employed individua	als.	
Contributions	Contributions in % of the insured	income. Companies are ranked in classes	
	and premium scales according to	their accident risk and operating conditions.	
	Maximal insured income: CHF 148'200.00 / year.		
Funding	The premiums for occupational accident insurance are borne by the employer;		
	premiums for non-occupational insurance are borne by the employee.		
Legal entities	Swiss Accident Insurance Agency (SUVA) or approved collective UVG accident		
	insurance institutions		
Contact	Districts of Höfe, March +	Districts of Schwyz, Küssnacht +	
	Einsiedeln:	Gersau:	
	Suva Linth	Suva Central Switzerland	
	Ziegelbrückstrasse 64	Löwenplatz 1	
	P.O. Box 60 P.O. Box 4330		
	CH-8866 Ziegelbrücke CH-6002 Luzern		
	Tel. +41 55 617 24 24 Tel. +41 41 418 86 86		
	www.suva.ch	www.suva.ch	
	Private accident insurance companies under <a href="https://www.svv.ch">www.svv.ch</a> >> Der SVV >>		
	Mitglieder		

#### **Health Insurance (KVG)**

(KVG Bundesgesetz über die Krankenversicherung [Swiss federal health insurance act])

Brief descrip-	The health insurance covers the medical costs of an illness. In the event of an		
tion	accident, the cost of medical treatment is covered by the health insurance,		
	insofar as no special accident insurance is available. Basic insurance cover		
	(health care) is mandatory, the supplementary insurances are voluntary.		
Circle of indi-	The insurance is mandatory for all persons resident in Switzerland.		
viduals			
Contributions	Premiums and benefits vary from health insurer to health insurer		
Funding	Individually by the policyholders (per capita premium)		
	Employers do not normally contribute towards the premium.		
Legal entities	Recognised health insurers, list under <a href="www.bag.admin.ch">www.bag.admin.ch</a> >> Versicherungen >> Krankenversicherung >> Versicherer und Aufsicht >> Verzeichnisse der		
	zugelassenen Krankenversicherer		
	Exemptions from the mandatory subjection to Swiss health care insurance for persons resident in Canton Schwyz may be requested from:  Compensation Office / IV Office Schwyz Rubiswilstrasse 8 P.O. Box 53 CH-6431 Schwyz Tel. +41 41 819 04 25  www.aksz.ch		
Contact	Various health insurance companies, an overview is available under: <a href="https://www.santesuisse.ch">www.santesuisse.ch</a> >> über santésuisse / Mitgliederverzeichnis		
	Comparison of health insurance premiums: www.comparis.ch		

# **Unemployment Insurance (ALV)**

(ALV Arbeitslosenversicherung [Unemployment insurance])

Brief descrip-	Supports the continued payment of a part of the salary for a limited period in		
tion	the event of unemployment as well as the reintegration of unemployed per-		
	sons in the labour market. Also makes provision for short-working, bad weath-		
	er and insolvency compensation.		
Circle of indi-	Mandatory for employees; self-employed individuals cannot insure themselves		
viduals	against unemployment – not even on a voluntary basis.		
Contributions	Up to the annual salary limit of CHF 148'200.00, the ALV contribution		
	amounts to 2.2 % of the annual salary.		
	Maximum covered salary: CHF 12'350.00 / month		
Funding	Employees and employers each pay 50 % of the contributions		
Legal entities	Public cantonal unemployment offices, recognised private offices run by em-		
	ployment organisations		
Contact	Labour Office		
	Unemployment Office Department		
	Lückenstrasse 8		
	P.O. Box 1181		
	CH-6431 Schwyz		
	Tel. +41 41 819 16 41		
	www.sz.ch >> Unternehmen / Arbeit, Gewerbeaufsicht >> Arbeitslosen-		
	versicherung		

#### Family Allowances (FAK)

(FAK Familienausgleichskasse [Family compensation office])

Brief descrip-	Provides family allowances (excluding the agricultural sector)
tion	
Circle of indi-	Mandatory for all employers and self-employed individuals
viduals	
Contributions	Employers: 1.3 % of the gross AHV salary
	Self-employed individuals: 1.3 % up to an income from employment of CHF
	148'200.00 / year
Funding	Contributions are paid by employers (without the involvement of employees)
	and on a voluntary basis by self-employed individuals.
Legal entities	Family Compensation Office Schwyz as well as recognised family compensa-
	tion offices
Contact	Compensation Office / IV Office Schwyz
	Rubiswilstrasse 8
	P.O. Box 53
	CH-6431 Schwyz
	Tel. +41 41 819 04 25
	www.aksz.ch

#### **Summary**

 $(\mathbf{AG} = \mathsf{Arbeitgeber} [\mathsf{employers}]; \ \mathbf{AN} = \mathsf{Arbeitnehmende} [\mathsf{employees}, \ \mathsf{not} \ \mathsf{self-employed}]; \ \mathbf{SE} = \mathsf{Selbst"andigerwerbende} [\mathsf{self-employed}]; \ \mathsf{Constant} = \mathsf{Constant}$ 

	Mandatory / Voluntary	Contributions / Funding	Settlement
AHV / IV / EO /	Mandatory for AN / SE	AG and AN each pay half	Compensation office
MSE / VSE		of the 10.6 %, self-em-	
		ployed pay max. 10.0 %	
BVG	Mandatory for AN	AG pays at least 50 % of	Pension fund, indi-
		the premium	vidual
3a + 3b pillars	Voluntary	Individual	Individual
UVG	Mandatory for AN	Premium financed indi-	SUVA or other insur-
		vidually, but by AG	ance companies
KVG	Mandatory for AN / SE	Individual	Health insurers,
			individually by AN
ALV	Mandatory for AN	AG and AN each pay half	Cantonal or private
		of the 2.2 %	office
FAK	Mandatory for AG / SE	AG / SE pay 1.3 %	Compensation office