



# Varma supports entrepreneurs

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**If you remain in working life as an entrepreneur following an illness, we may grant you a business subsidy for carrying out entrepreneurial activities, and a rehabilitation allowance, for example, during a work trial.**

A business subsidy can be granted for the purpose of establishing a company or for changing entrepreneurial activities. The subsidy can be used to purchase aids to help you perform your work, to make modifications or to acquire new tools. The subsidy is based on a needs assessment, and it must be accompanied by other forms of financing.

## Applying for a business subsidy

In addition to a rehabilitation application and medical statement from a physician, the applicant must provide Varma with the following:

- an informal account of what the business subsidy is needed for, and
- an account of your business operations and the type of business it is or a business plan.

A new entrepreneur must also submit to Varma:

- a statement from the Finnish Enterprise Agencies on the applicant's conditions for being an entrepreneur and on the company's operating conditions ([uusyrittyskeskus.fi](http://uusyrittyskeskus.fi))
- financial and profitability statements, and
- an account of a completed or planned entrepreneur training course.

On the basis of these documents, we will determine:

- whether the acquisition of a special tool or aid is justified due to an illness or
- whether the new entrepreneur's business project is realistic and suited to his or her state of health and workability.

## Work trial supports the entrepreneur's return to work

We can support your return to work following a long period of disability through a work trial. A work trial aims to facilitate a return to work through a lighter work load and in accordance with the person's workability and recovery. Daily working hours can vary between 4–8 hours and can be increased gradually during the trial work.

The usual duration of a work trial is 2–3 months. If the grounds are justified, a work trial can be extended to a maximum of six months.

## New or modified entrepreneurial operations through job coaching

Job coaching can be used to start a new business or to develop an existing business.

The contents and duration of the coaching are agreed on individually and it generally consists of on-the-job learning and further training.

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