SELF-EMPLOYED

Presentation

If you want to work as a self-employed you will need to go through several formalities and are responsible for paying your own advance on income taxes and social security contributions.

- Contact a **business one-stop shop** (the so-called » guichet d'entreprise-ondernemingsloket »).

 economie.fgov.be/en/entreprises/life_enterprise/Starting_a_business/Guichets_entreprises_agrees/#.Vkn_9__wuUk
 They will discuss the activities you are planning to undertake and will take care of the necessary applications for you.
- Be able to demonstrate that you possess business skills defined as: basic knowledge of business management, and professional knowledge
- Apply for an entreprise number.
 - Your business must be registered as a commercial enterprise in the Crossroads Bank for Enterprises (CBE) through a business one-stop shop. The CBE is a central database in which various authorities can consult data relating to your business activity (the commercial activities, the address, the business's bank account number...)
- Apply for a **VAT number** if this is required.
- Sign up to a social security fund for self-employed people and pay social security contributions.
 - A self-employed person has to pay his social security contributions himself. calculated on the basis of his annual net taxable income. For this purpose, you need to be affiliated with a social insurance fund that collects your social security contributions and immediately transfers them to the government. This is an important difference compared with an employee, for whom the social security contributions are automatically deducted from his wages every month. Moreover, as a self-employed person, you pay your contributions every quarter, and not every month.
- Sign up to a mutual insurance association ('mutualité') to benefit from healthcare services in the frame of the sickness-disability insurance.

If you decide to create a company and wish to invest in Brussels take contact with "Invest in Brussels", a department of the Ministry of the Brussels Capital-Region which provides advice to companies wanting to set up in the Brussels Capital Region.

More information on how to start your business

economie.fgov.be/en/modules/publications/general/zichvestigen_fr.jsp economie.fgov.be/en/entreprises/life_enterprise/Starting_a_business/#.Vkn9tf_wuUk

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