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**Unmarried couples** 



# 10 Insurances

# **10.1** AHV (old-age and survivors' insurance)

Each partner is considered an individual for social security purposes. Separation or death does not trigger any pension benefits. While the entitlement to widow's/widower's pensions linked to the marriage certificate, in the case of orphan's pensions it is irrelevant whether the parents were married.

# **10.2** Household goods

All movable items for private use are insured at replacement value. Insured persons are the policyholder and the persons living with him/her in the household. The respective General Conditions of Insurance, vary from company to company.

Please refer to these and consult them if necessary.

#### 10.3 Illness

In Liechtenstein, insurance is compulsory for everyone. Basic health insurance can only be taken out with approved health insurers. Children up to the age of 16 are exempt from paying the premium for compulsory health insurance; young people pay half the premium up to the age of 20. For employed persons, the employer is responsible for ensuring that employees are covered with daily sickness benefits. People who do not earn a certain amount of income can apply for a premium reduction for low-income insured persons. Further information is available from the Liecht. Krankenkassenverband (Liechtenstein's Health Insurance Association), the approved health insurance funds www.lkv.li and from the Office of Public Health www.ag.llv.li > Insurance.

#### 10.4 Pension fund

While spouses can divide pension fund assets (withdrawal benefits) in the event of divorce, unmarried partners have a considerable pension gap in the event of separation, as there is no division of pension fund assets between the partners. However, some pension funds, for example for widows' or orphans' pensions, now treat life partners and spouses equally. It is advisable to ask the pension fund concerned whether and under what conditions pension benefits or one-off lump-sum settlements are paid out to life partners.

#### **10.5** Private liability

The insurance covers the legal liability of the policyholder and co-insured persons in their capacity as private individuals for bodily injury and property damage (e.g. damage caused by tenants, pet owners, head the household, etc.). Depending on the insurance company, the driving of third-party motorized vehicles is included in the basic insurance, otherwise this can be included as additional insurance.

Depending on the agreement, the policyholder and his/her family (family insurance) or the policyholder alone (individual insurance) are insured. In the case of family insurance, the policyholder, his/her spouse, registered partner or cohabiting partner and their children are insured. Depending on the insurance company, the name of the partner may have to be listed in the policy.

- Please read the insurance documents and ensure the necessary insurance coverage with the company.



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# 10.6 Accident

If a person works a minimum of eight hours a week for the same employer, he or she is compulsorily insured against occupational and non-occupational accidents. Persons who are not gainfully employed and those who work less than eight hours a week can take out an accident insurance with their health insurer.

# **10.7** Special social insurance for foreigners

You must insure yourself and your family with a Liechtenstein health insurance fund no later than three months after arriving or taking up employment in Liechtenstein. Cross-border commuters residing in certain EU countries (e.g. Austria) have the right to choose to insure themselves in their country of residence instead of Liechtenstein.

