



Meal voucher reform in France

Véronique Louwagie, Minister Delegate for Trade, Small Businesses, and the Social and Solidarity Economy, presented the reform of the meal voucher system yesterday evening.

The proposed measures, resulting from the consultations, will contribute to modernize a system that is widely recognized as the French people's favorite social benefit. In particular, the proposal to fully digitalize the sector, at the latest on January 1, 2027, will significantly simplify the management of meal vouchers, especially for restaurant owners.

As is stands, this reform reflects the common desire of all stakeholders to continue developing the meal voucher system.

It is an essential social policy tool that addresses the dual challenges of public health, by promoting healthy eating at work, and equity between employees who have access to company catering and those who do not.

Its modernization should help strengthen support for the local economy and job creation, particularly in the restaurant industry, while taking into account changing consumption patterns.

Edenred France also points out that only 27% of French employees currently benefit from meal vouchers.

Now that the legislative process can begin, Edenred France firmly believes that the modernization of the system introduced by the text that will be voted on will enable more employees to benefit from it.

Ilan Ouanounou, General Manager of Edenred France, says: *"The proposals for reforming meal vouchers presented by the Minister include measures that the sector has been waiting for, such as the full digitization of the scheme. We are convinced that this text will help reinforce the many positive effects of meal vouchers: support for high-quality food for employees, additional revenue for restaurants, and a tool for companies to build employee loyalty."*

The meal voucher scheme in figures

The meal voucher is the French people's favorite social advantage, benefiting **5.4 million employees, 146,000 companies** and local authorities, and **235,000 partner merchants** in France (source: Commission Nationale des Titres-Restaurant - CNTR).

It represents a direct contribution of **€9.4 billion** per year spent in the local economy and around **€14 billion** when taking into account the additional spending it generates for partner restaurants and merchants (source: C-Ways study for the CTNR, 2024).

The meal voucher scheme supports employment and growth throughout the country, creating more than **99,000 jobs**, three-quarters of which are in the restaurant sector (76,000), or one job for every 54 beneficiaries (source: C-Ways study for the CTNR, 2024).

The meal voucher scheme has a positive impact on public finances, generating around €845 million per year for the State (source: C-Ways study for the CTNR, 2024).

It addresses a real public health issue, as 81% of meal voucher beneficiaries believe that it enables them to eat properly during their lunch break (source: Viavoix study for the CNTR, 2024). For an employee on the minimum wage, meal vouchers represent a 7% increase in purchasing power each month (source: C-Ways study for the CTNR, 2024).

About Edenred

Edenred is a leading digital platform for services and payments and the everyday companion for people at work, connecting more than 60 million users and more than 2 million partner merchants in 45 countries via 1 million corporate clients.

Edenred offers specific-purpose payment solutions for food (such as meal benefits), engagement (such as gift cards and engagement platforms), mobility (such as multi-energy solutions, including EV charging, maintenance, toll and parking) and corporate payments (such as virtual cards).

True to the Group's purpose, "Enrich connections. For good.", these solutions enhance users' well-being and purchasing power. They improve companies' attractiveness and efficiency, and vitalize the employment market and the local economy. They also foster access to healthier food, more environmentally friendly products and sustainable mobility.

Edenred's 12,000 employees are committed to making the world of work a connected ecosystem that is safer, more efficient and more responsible every day.

In 2024, thanks to its global technology assets, the Group managed close to €45 billion in business volume, primarily carried out via mobile applications, online platforms and cards.

Edenred is listed on the Euronext Paris stock exchange and included in the following indices: CAC 40, CAC 40 ESG, CAC Large 60, Euronext 100, Euronext Tech Leaders, FTSE4Good, DJSI Europe Index, DJSI World Index, and MSCI Europe.

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