



Child supplement: entitlement, amount, duration

Families with low incomes are entitled to child allowance under certain conditions – in addition to child benefit.

Good to know: The child allowance has been increased to up to 250 euros per child per month as of January 1, 2023. The immediate surcharge introduced in 2022 is already included in this. If you have already received or applied for child allowance, you do not have to worry about anything. The amounts will be automatically adjusted and paid out in the new amount from January 2023.

If the income is not sufficient for the whole family, parents or legal guardians can receive the child allowance (colloquially: child benefit supplement) in addition to child benefit. However, the **application** for child allowance must be submitted separately to the family benefits office.

As a rule, you will receive child allowance **for 6 months**. If the approval period has expired, you must reapply for child allowance.

You are entitled to child allowance if you meet certain requirements. Whether you receive child allowance depends on **how much income and considerable assets** you, your partner and your child have.

If you receive a child allowance, you must inform the child benefit office of [any changes in your personal circumstances](#) and those of your family.

Requirements for child allowance

- positive: Your child lives in your household, is under 25 years old and is not married or in a registered civil partnership.
- positive: You will receive child benefit (or a comparable benefit) for your child.
- positive: The gross income of your family is at least 900 euros (couples) or 600 euros (single parents).
- positive: You would have enough money to support your family if you received child allowance and possibly housing benefit in addition to your income.

Tip: If you want to know quickly whether you can receive child allowance: Simply enter personal data in the interactive [video tool "KiZ-Lotse"](#) and determine your entitlement!



Amount and payment of the child allowance

The child supplement is calculated **individually** for each child. You will receive a **maximum of 250 euros per child per month**. If there are several children, a total amount will be paid out. It is usually transferred to the person who also receives the child benefit.

Child benefit and child allowance are paid **on the same day**. The exact payment dates can be found on the page Child [benefit 2023: Payment dates](#).

No child allowances are paid retroactively.

Apply for child allowance online

Apply for child allowance at your local family benefits office. They will then send you a letter (technical term: notice) to inform you whether your application has been approved or rejected.

You can apply for child allowance **directly online**.

[Apply for child allowance](#)

Answers to frequently asked questions about the child allowance

You can conveniently fill out the application for child benefit supplement and the associated attachments for your partner and your child online.

In addition, you will usually need the following documents:

- several proofs of your income,
- a statement of your assets, and
- Proof of your housing costs.

If further documents or evidence are required, you will be informed of this during the application process.

Parents must provide proof of their **income for the last 6 months prior to applying**. For example, if you submit your application in October, you must declare the income received in the months of April to September.

The income of the parents is primarily the earnings from **self-employment or employment subject to compulsory insurance**.



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In addition, parental income includes, for example:

- Short-time work allowance
- Unemployment benefit
- Parental
- BAföG

Families with low incomes are entitled to KiZ. Whether and to what extent the KiZ is paid is **calculated individually** for each family and depends on several factors – above all on one's own income, housing costs, the size of the family and the age of the children.

The following **examples** show when families can receive child allowance (housing costs and salaries per month):

- If a **single parent** pays about 490 euros in rent from a child, the KiZ can be drawn if the earnings are around 1,200 euros to about 2,700 euros gross (child: 6 years). With a warm rent of around 790 euros, the gross salary for 2 children may be around 950 euros to around 3,900 euros. (Children: 6 and 8 years). Maintenance or advance maintenance were not taken into account.
- In the case of a **couple family with 2** children and a warm rent of about 690 euros, the joint gross income may be around 1,200 euros (single earners) to about 4,100 euros (double earners) (children: 6 and 8 years). With a warm rent of about 990 euros, the gross salary may be around 1,450 euros (single earners) to about 4,350 euros (double earners) (children: 6 and 8 years).
- If a **couple family with 3** children pays a warm rent of about 990 euros, they may earn around 950 euros (single earners) to about 5,100 euros (double earners) gross (children: 6, 8 and 10 years).

Your assets will only be audited if they are significant. **Considerable assets** are available from the following amounts for the entire community of needs:

- 2 persons: 55,000 euros
- 3 persons: 70,000 euros
- Increase of 15,000 euros for each additional child.

Assets are the **totality of goods measured in money at the time of application**. Your **own** assets and also the assets of the **relatives living with you in the household** are important, regardless of whether the assets are located at home or abroad.

Assets include only realisable assets, in particular:

- Pros:Cash
- Positive:Bank and savings balances



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- Positive:Securities
- positive:Building savings credit
- positive:Equities and fund units
- Positive:Receivables
- positive: movable property (e.g. household effects, works of art)
- positive: House and real estate as well as other rights to land (for example, a mortgage)

Assets do not include:

- negative: adequate household contents
- negative: an owner-occupied property (house or condominium) of reasonable size
- negative: an adequate car or motorcycle for each employable person in the community of need
- As soon as we have received your application, we will check your information and documents. If something is missing, for example a certain **proof**, we will contact you.
- If you haven't heard from us after 6 weeks, you can call to ask about the status of the processing:
- [0800 4 555530](tel:08004555530) (toll-free)
- **Tip:Good to know:** The processing time does not change the period for which you receive child allowance. You will receive outstanding amounts at the earliest possible date.
Example: You applied for child allowance in March. You will receive the approval notice at the end of April. If you pay out in May, you will also receive the additional payments for March and April.
- At the end of a decision, you will be informed of your rights (technical term: legal remedy instruction). For example, you have the right to appeal against the decision and to take legal action against it.
- However, the first thing to do is to contact [your local family benefits office](#). Your contact person there will answer your **questions** and check the decision again.
- You have one month from the date of receipt of the letter to appeal against the decision. To do this, use our eService [to file an objection](#). Alternatively, you can send your objection by post to the sender of the decision.
- If your objection has been rejected, you can file a **lawsuit** against the decision. You will find more detailed information on this in the information on legal remedies – for example, which court has jurisdiction over your claim.

If you have received too much child allowance (technical term: **overpayment**), you must repay the corresponding amount.

The debt collection service of the Federal Employment Agency is responsible for such repayments. You can find out more on the page [Debt collection service: How to react correctly](#).



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Important: **Important:** Please transfer the amount due only after we have asked you to do so in a letter.

If you can no longer secure your family's livelihood even with child allowance and housing benefit, you can [supplement your income with citizen's allowance](#) (colloquially: top up). To do this, contact [your job centre](#).

Tell your contact person there that you will receive child allowance. This is important because child allowance counts as income when calculating the citizen's allowance.

Important: **Important:** If you receive **housing** benefit, you must report to the competent authority that you are receiving supplementary citizen's benefit.

Free daycare places and other help

If your family receives child allowance, you are entitled to further assistance and financial support. For example, if your child attends a daycare center, you can be **exempted from the fees for the daycare place**.

In addition, your family can apply for [benefits for education and participation](#) (also known as the "education package"). Among other things, you can receive subsidies for your child's school supplies or lunch meals at daycare and school. On the website of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) you can find out where you can go if you have any questions about the education package: Website of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Additional offers that you and your family can take advantage of, as well as special information for single parents, can be found on the page [Parental allowance and other help for parents](#).



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