

Child benefit for persons granted asylum and for recognised refugees

Welcome to the Family Benefits Department of the Federal Employment Agency!

In this flyer we would like to provide you with an initial overview of the entitlement to child benefit held by persons granted asylum and recognised refugees.

Who can receive child benefit?

Anyone who has permanent or habitual residence in Germany is entitled to child benefit. In addition, in the case of foreign nationals living in Germany the entitlement to child benefit is dependent on their residential status.

Persons who are granted asylum or recognised as refugees as defined in the Geneva Refugee Convention may claim child benefit **from the date they gain such status** by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees. Before that date those persons are not entitled to child benefit.

Please, therefore, do not apply for child benefit until asylum or refugee status has been granted.

Tip: unaccompanied children may receive child benefit for themselves ([Leaflet](#) "Kindergeld für Vollwaisen oder Kinder, die den Aufenthaltsort ihrer Eltern nicht kennen").

For which children can you receive child benefit?

Child benefit is paid for your own or adopted children, as well as for the children of your spouse, if their place of residence or habitual abode is in Germany. Furthermore child benefit is paid for grandchildren and foster children living in the applicant's household.

Which additional requirements must be fulfilled by children who are over the age of 18?

Parents are entitled to child benefit for their child, until the child reaches 18.

Upon completion of 18th year of age child benefit is paid up to a maximum age of 25 if the child is, for example:

- in school, higher education or vocational training,
- seriously seeking for professional training/university education,
- not in employment and registered as a job-seeker with an Employment Agency (until the age of 21).

You will find more detailed information on this subject in the [child benefit leaflet](#) (www.arbeitsagentur.de > Startseite > Familie und Kinder > Kindergeld, Kinderzuschlag > Merkblätter zum Kindergeld > Merkblatt Kindergeld in anderen Sprachen).

How much is child benefit?

Child benefit at the following rates is paid monthly:

for each of the first two children	€ 190
for the third child	€ 196
for each additional child	€ 221

Which documents do you need in order to apply for child benefit?

The following documents must be submitted as an absolute necessity:

- A fully completed and signed [application for child benefit](#) (www.arbeitsagentur.de > Startseite > Formulare > Kindergeld),
- [Appendix Child](#) (one for each child),
- Birth certificate/Household membership confirmation ("Haushaltsbescheinigung"),
- For children over the age of 18: proof of fulfilment of the additional requirements (for example school attendance certificate),
- Proof of having been incontestably granted asylum/recognised as a refugee (for example residence title – "Aufenthaltstitel"),
- Proof of the day on which you entered Germany.

How can you contact us?

Service number child benefit: 0800 4 5555 30
Service hours: Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. till 6 p.m.
Internet address: www.familienkasse.de