

# Child benefit for persons who are recognized as 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 who are recognized as refugees.

### Who can receive child benefit?

In the case of foreign nationals living in Germany the entitlement to child benefit is dependent upon their residential status. Anyone who has his permanent residence or habitual place of abode in Germany is entitled to child benefit.

Persons who are recognized as refugees may claim child benefit immediately they gain such status.

**Please note:** those applying for political asylum **are not**, as a general rule, **entitled** to child benefit whilst their asylum procedure is ongoing.

**Please, therefore, do not apply for child benefit until asylum has been granted.**

Tip: unaccompanied children may receive child benefit for themselves ([Leaflet](#) "Child benefit for orphans or for children who do not know where their parents are staying" – not available in English yet).

### For which children can you receive child benefit?

Child benefit is paid for children if their place of residence where they usually live is located in Germany or in another member State of the European Union and the European Economic Area. You can receive child benefit for your own or adopted children. 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?

Child benefit is paid for all children until the completion of the 18<sup>th</sup> year of life. Upon completion of 18<sup>th</sup> year of life child benefit is paid up to the age of 25 if certain additional requirements are fulfilled, for example:

- child is attending school or engaged in vocational training,
- child cannot start or continue vocational training due to a shortage of vocational training places,
- child is not employed and registered as a job-seeker (until the age of 21).

You will find more information on this subject on the [child benefit leaflet \(www.arbeitsagentur.de > Start page > Benefits > Child Benefit\)](#).

### How much is child benefit?

Child benefit at the following rates is paid monthly into the applicant's bank account:

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?

- A fully completed and signed [application for child benefit](#), ([www.arbeitsagentur.de](http://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 conditions (e.g. school attendance certificate)
- Proof of having been incontestably recognized as a refugee or granted political asylum (e.g. residence permit "Aufenthaltserlaubnis"),
- Proof of the day on which you entered Germany.

### How may 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](http://www.familienkasse.de)