



## Information Sheet No. 26

# Basic subsistence income for the elderly and for persons with reduced earning capacity

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Basic subsistence income is a benefit under the Social Security Code (SGB) XII for the elderly and permanently fully disabled persons who cannot afford their daily necessities from their income and personal assets.

### Eligibility requirements

Eligible is anyone who is:

- 65 years of age or
- 18 years of age and are permanently fully disabled

The income and the assets of applicants and cohabiting spouses or partner must not exceed the amounts for **needs** and **allowance** referred to below.

### Needs

1. Standard rate in Berlin as of 01/01/2022
  - For singles € 449.00
  - For spouse or cohabiting partners, per person € 404.00
  - For persons in an in-patient facility € 360.00
2. Reasonable expenses for accommodation and heating  
For persons in an in-patient facility, a pre-determined average amount will be calculated.
3. Premiums for health insurance and nursing care insurance
4. Increased need for holders of a disabled pass with codes G or aG in the amount of:
  - Head of household € 76,33
  - Spouse or partner € 68,68
5. Increased need for dietary expenses
  - Defined protein foods, whole foods € 44,60
  - Dialysis diet, gluten-free food € 22,30

In addition, as part of the basic subsistence income, there may be a claim for additional increased need during pregnancy, for single parents or when integration aid are being claimed.

### Income

The income and assets of cohabiting spouses or life partners as well as partners in a consensual union are considered in determining the amount of the basic subsistence income.

Basic pension is not considered income under the Federal Pension Act or similar benefits under the Federal Compensation Act. Deductions from income include, for example, taxes, social security payments and certain other insurance premiums.



**Asset exemption amounts**

single/head of household	€ 5,000.00
spouse, life partner or partners in a consensual union	€ 5,000.00
each additional primary household earning person	€ 500.00

**Additional benefits**

Claims can be made for one-time aid for initial furnishing of the home, clothing, school trips, rental or energy debt to secure the home, as well as for supplemental loans for necessary purchases of indisputable need.

**Benefits in facilities**

Benefits under basic subsistence income are also paid to persons living in facilities such as nursing homes. In addition to the costs for accommodation and food, you will also receive a cash allowance for personal use - a so-called "pocket money" amounting to € 121,23.

Home residents can also apply for a yearly flat-rate clothing allowance:

- Care aid for bedridden patients € 129.00
- Care aid for mobility € 214.00

**Conditions of basic subsistence income**

Support claims against parents or children are exempt, provided that the total income of the individual paying support is less than €100,000.00 annually (taxable total income minus all allowances).

In the case of divorced or separated applicants, the potential for support claims must be clarified before a decision on basic subsistence income is made.

Basic subsistence income is only provided on application!

Basic subsistence income beneficiaries may apply for exemption from public radio and television fees and apply for the subsidized rates from Telekom. They are also entitled to the BVG Kundenkarte "Berlin Ticket S" (customer ticket Berlin S).

The co-payment limits at the health insurance are € 53.88 (1%) and € 107.76 (2%). Information on the co-payments for health insurance benefits can be found in information sheet 7.

**The staff at the Consulting Centre are happy to help you.**

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