

Information sheet no. 26

Basic income support benefits for the elderly and people with a disability

Basic income support is a benefit established in the Social Security Code (SGB) XII for elderly or people with a long-term full disability who are unable to cover their essential living expenses from their income and assets.

Preconditions for claiming

To be eligible, beneficiaries must

- have reached the official retirement age (date of receipt of the regular old-age pension) or
- have reached the age of 18 and who are permanently disabled and
- live in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The income and assets of the applicant and the cohabiting partners (joint household) cannot exceed the following requirement and the asset allowance.

Requirement

1. the standard rate for adults living alone is € 563.00, for couples living together (married couples, life partners, persons in a marriage or life partnership-like community) € 506.00 per partner
2. reasonable expenses for accommodation and for heating
3. health and long-term care insurance premiums

additional requirements if you have a disabled person's pass in category

G or aG equal to:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| - Adults living alone | € 95.71 |
| - Couples living together per partner | € 86.02 |

In the case of particular medical conditions such as coeliac disease and cystic fibrosis or in the case of malnutrition associated with an illness (disease-associated), an additional requirement for an expensive diet may be granted. The prerequisite for this additional nutritional requirement is proof of medical necessity.

In addition, under certain conditions, further additional benefits such as decentralised hot water supply can be requested.

Income

The claimant's income and assets will be taken into account when calculating the entitlement to basic income benefits.

This income may include elements such as pensions, earned income, retirement income, rental income, maintenance payments from a separated or divorced spouse or income from capital assets

The basic pension established by the Federal Pension Act or a comparable benefit as defined by the Federal Compensation Act is excluded from income.

Also, the long-term care benefits according to the Long-Term Care Insurance Act (SGB XI) are not categorised as income. Taxes, social security contributions and certain other insurance contributions, for example, are deductible from the income.

Assets

Assets include, for example, cash, savings, bonds, cash value of life insurance policies or house and property assets.

The following asset allowances have been considered:

Adults living alone	€ 10.000
Couples living together	€ 20.000

Higher asset allowances apply in the event of simultaneous employment.

Other benefits

Checks may be carried out to assess whether there is an eligibility for non-recurring benefits for initial furnishing of the home, grants or loans for rent or energy debts to secure accommodation and for a loan for essential purchases.

Benefits in institutions

Basic income benefits are also paid to residents of institutions such as care homes. In addition to the costs for accommodation and meals, they also receive a cash amount for personal use, what is known as "pocket money" of € 152.01. In addition, care home residents can apply for an annual clothing allowance.

Special aspects of the basic income support

Claims for alimony from parents or children are not included, unless the total annual income of the person obliged to pay alimony is more than € 100,000.

Basic income support is only available if applied for and will not be granted on a backdated basis.

Basic income support recipients can apply for exemption from radio and television licence fees as well as the social tariff from Telekom. They are entitled to a reduced-price monthly ticket for local public transport, which is known as the "Berlin Ticket S".

In addition, an application for exemption from co-payment may be submitted to the claimant's health insurance company.

The co-payment limit for insured persons over the age of 18 is 2%, for chronically ill persons 1% of their annual gross income. Information about co-payments for health insurance benefits can be found in [Information sheet 7](#).

Staff at the care support centre will be happy to provide you with advice

Free service number: 0800 5950059

www.pflegestuetzpunkteberlin.de

The care support centres are operated by the state of Berlin and the care and health insurance companies based in Berlin