



Family benefits in Austria

Information for university members coming from abroad

(Last update January 2025)

As international mobility increases, more and more people come from other countries to work or study at the University of Innsbruck, or are in relationships in which both partners come from/work in different countries. Many of them have or are planning a family/children and have questions about this. For this purpose, the Family Service team has compiled information*

The state of Austria grants financial benefits during pregnancy and after the birth of a child to support parents or to compensate for the loss of earnings.

Responsibility for family benefits (EU, EEA, Switzerland)

Generally, you are entitled to Austrian family benefits if the centre of your life is in Austria. A residence registration or Austrian/EU citizenship alone is not sufficient.

According to the [EU regulation](#), the benefit of the state in which the (parental leave) employment relationship exists applies. If there are two countries of employment, the benefit of the country in which the child lives with the parents applies.

If the family benefit is lower in the state of secondary responsibility (= the state in which the child or family lives), it may be possible to apply for supplementary payments of the same type of benefit in the state of primary responsibility (= state of employment) [\[Form\]](#).

If the living circumstances change (e.g. if the place of residence/employment changes), the responsibility of a state for family benefits may also change. It is recommended to check the responsibilities of the parents before applying for family benefits and to submit the application in the state with primary responsibility first.

! These regulations also apply to separated parents!

! Special regulations apply to some groups of people (e.g. civil servants, posted workers, etc.)

! Relevant changes must be reported to the health insurance institution.

» [Details about criteria for employment](#)

Advice on cross-border matters: European Department of the Tyrolean Chamber of Labour:

<https://tirol.arbeiterkammer.at/beratung/arbeitsrecht/Europaberatung/index.html> (website in German)

Family Benefits

Family allowance: One of the most important elements of the Austrian family support system. Family allowance is intended to compensate for costs that parents incur due to their obligation to support their children. Regardless of income/employment. **Requirements:** Parents,

- whose centre of life is in Austria (main residence/registration form), legal residence in accordance with the settlement and residence law for third-country nationals, and
- whose child (including adopted children, foster children, stepchildren and grandchildren) lives with them in the same household or for whom they mainly provide maintenance if they are not part of a household with either parent.

The amount of family allowance varies depending on the age of the child. The tax credit for children ("Kinderabsetzbetrag") is transferred along with the family allowance without requiring a separate application. In August, an additional school starting allowance is paid for every child between the ages of 6 and 15. [Find more information here](#)



If your child is not born in Austria, you must **apply for the family allowance** at the tax office. → **Finanzamt Innsbruck**: Innrain 32, Tel: +43 50 233 233

! For foreign citizens (including EU citizens): Proof of [legal residence](#).

LINK [Cross-border family benefits in the EU](#)

LINK [Information for Ukrainian citizens](#) (in German)

LINK [Checklist for third-country-nationals](#)

Childcare allowance: After the birth, parents in Austria can apply for childcare allowance, which is intended to compensate for the childcare costs proportionally. Parents can choose between two types: Flexible flat-rate childcare allowance or income-related childcare allowance.

LINK [Childcare allowance](#) (in English)

! Childcare allowance ≠ [parental leave](#) (= leave of absence from the employer under labor law.) The duration of parental leave does not have to coincide with the duration of childcare allowance.

Requirements:

- Entitlement to/receipt of family allowance for the child
- Identical main residence registration of recipient and child
- [Legal residence](#) and center of life in Austria (confirmation of registration!)
- Proof of [parent-child health passport examinations](#)* Women without health insurance must obtain an entitlement voucher from the Austrian health insurance fund responsible for the area where they live in order to be examined.

*Recognition of examinations carried out abroad: If no entry is made in the parent-child pass, a medical confirmation is also sufficient as proof that the respective examination was carried out. In order for the childcare allowance to be granted in full, the examinations can only be recognized if they correspond exactly to the prescribed Austrian Parent-Child Pass examinations in terms of type, number and time of performance and if this is also stated accordingly in the medical confirmation. Certified translations may have to be submitted.

Partnership bonus: If the parents split the childcare allowance approximately equally (50:50 to 60:40, at least 124 days each), each parent receives a one-off partnership bonus of 500 euros at the end of the total period of entitlement on application.

LINK: [Financial matters after birth](#)

Application for childcare allowance at the responsible health insurance provider. Possible entitlement to equalization payments (difference between foreign benefits (EU) and Austrian benefits, regardless of which parent receives the benefits).

[BVAEB](#)

[ÖGK Kundenservice Innsbruck](#)

Advice on cross-border childcare allowance matters: Competence Center for Childcare Allowance St. Pölten, Phone: 050405/23870, E-Mail: kinderbetreuungsgeld@bvaeb.sv.at

Childcare allowance information line: free service number 0800 240 014

Maternity/paternity benefits

Maternity allowance: In Austria, expectant mothers who start maternity protection (employment ban, usually 8 weeks before and 8 weeks after the birth, in justified cases "premature maternity protection" 12 weeks before the birth) after being in employment or receiving unemployment benefit receive [maternity allowance](#). Women who become pregnant again during parental leave and no longer receive childcare allowance are entitled to a special maternity allowance ("Sonderwochengeld").

Application to the social insurance institution: [BVAEB Tirol](#), [ÖGK](#)



Early parental leave for fathers ("Papamonat") Fathers (also same-gender couples) can, under certain conditions, receive a family time bonus after the birth of the child if they interrupt their employment for approx. 1 month within the first 91 days after the birth and devote themselves entirely to the family during this time (= "daddy month"). The "daddy month" is a leave of absence entitlement without continued pay of salary; the prerequisite for this leave of absence is a shared household with the child (also abroad). The [family time bonus](#) is a financial support for the time during this leave.

At the University of Innsbruck, you can arrange a "daddy month" for a maximum of four weeks to take advantage of the family time bonus.

LINK: You can find information about the "Papamonat" as well as the application form in the [UniWiki](#).

LINK: [Information of the Arbeiterkammer about the leave for fathers](#) (in German)

Responsibility for maternity/paternity benefits: Under EU law, maternity allowance and family time bonus are maternity/paternity benefits and are linked to the country of employment. The respective state in which the mother/father is employed is therefore responsible, irrespective of their place of residence. Austria is therefore always responsible for the maternity allowance/family time bonus if the mother/father is employed in Austria (or was employed in Austria immediately before maternity protection).

Tax benefits for families with children

Family Bonus Plus: Tax deduction for families (since 2019), which replaces the child allowance and the tax deductibility of childcare costs. Only granted on application! The Family Bonus Plus can be split between the parents.

Requirement: Receipt of family allowance for the child; permanent residence of the child in the EU, EEA or Switzerland.

You can claim the Family Bonus Plus either via your employer's payroll (form E30) or retrospectively in your tax return/employee assessment (using form E1/L1k).

» Information on the Family Bonus Plus for employees of the University of Innsbruck on [Uniwiki](#) (in German)

You can find **further tax benefits** for families (e.g. sole earner deduction, additional child allowance, additional child allowance, maintenance deduction, childcare costs for single parents, etc.) on the [portal of the Chamber of Labor](#) (in German). LINK: [FAQ: Family Bonus](#)

Tip: Tyrolean Family Pass/EuregioFamilyPass: Free entitlement card with which families living in Tyrol receive discounts and benefits at selected companies in the entire Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino European region. Main residence must be in Tyrol. You can apply for it using the online form at the Province of Tyrol.
» [Information on the Family Pass Province of Tyrol](#) (in German)

Subsidies from the Tyrolean government for families

Childcare subsidy, child benefit plus, school cost subsidy, etc.: » <https://www.tirol.gv.at/gesellschaft-soziales/generationen/foerderungen/> (in German)

Where to go, brochures and links

Within the university:

- [Family Services of the University of Innsbruck](#)
- [Personnel Department of the University of Innsbruck](#) (labor law issues)
- [Welcome & Dual Career-Service of the University of Innsbruck](#) (Advice and support for newly appointed (international) professors on their arrival in Austria)



- [International Relations Office of the University of Innsbruck](#)
- LINK: [Welcome-Info of the University of Innsbruck](#)
- LINK: [Uniwiki](#) for employees (access via C-identifier and two-factor authentication: keyword search on topics from the administration)
- LINK: [Additional benefits for employees of the University of Innsbruck](#) (in German)

Outside the University:

- [Welcome Service Tirol](#)
- **Chamber of Labor Tyrol European Department**
<https://tirol.arbeiterkammer.at/beratung/arbeitsrecht/Europaberatung/index.html>
- **AST /ZEMIT**: Advice on living in Austria and recognition of foreign education/certificates
- LINK: **Migration platform of the Federal Government of Austria**: www.migration.gv.at
- LINK: [Entry and Residence | OeAD Austrian Agency for Education and Internationalisation](#)
- LINK: [Researcher's Guide to Austria](#) (Euraxess)
- LINK: [Information and services of the Austrian administration in English \(Österreich.gv.at\)](#)
- LINK: [Your Europe](#) (Questions on your rights/obligations in the EU)
- LINK: [ABA Immigration Guide - ABA Immigration Guide Austria \(workinaustria.com\)](#) **Austrian business agency**
- LINK: **Digital City Office of Innsbruck** <https://www.innsbruck.gv.at/en>

Broshures

- Broshure on family policy: [Family Guide - Services for Families in Austria](#)



Financial benefits for families in Austria and bordering countries - An overview -

Responsibility for family benefits (EU):

In principle, the benefit of the state in which the (parental leave) employment relationship exists applies. If there are two countries of employment (both parents work), the benefit of the country in which the child lives applies. Compensation payments may be due if the family benefits in the country of residence are lower than in the (other) country of employment.

When submitting an application, you usually have to provide the [E 411 form](#) from the other country in order to avoid abusive double payments.

Austria	Germany	Switzerland	South Tyrol/Italy
Familienbeihilfe (family allowance) (Depending on age and number of children; from approx. 140 € + approx. 71€ child tax credit) <u>Application:</u> Automatically upon the birth of a child without application. Otherwise at the tax office. <u>Information</u>	Kindergeld (child benefit) (approx. 255 €) <u>Application</u> (Bundesagentur für Arbeit/Familienkasse) <u>Information</u>	Familienzulage (varies depending on the canton; minimum CHF 215) Application and payment via employer Family equalization fund <u>Information</u>	Familienzulage assegno al nucleo familiare (Varies depending on the number of children and family income) Application via employer (L'Istituto Nazionale della Previdenza Sociale: (INPS)) <u>Information</u>
Kinderbetreuungsgeld (childcare allowance) Application at the health insurance (e.g. ÖGK; BVAEB) Partnerschaftsbonus	Elterngeld/Elterngeld plus (parental allowance) Antrag/Information Partnerschaftsbonus	does not exist	Familiengeld Südtirol <u>Information</u>
Special paternity benefits (responsibility of the country of employment)			
Wochengeld & Sonderwochengeld (Maternity allowance)	Mutterschaftsgeld /Maternity benefit	Mutterschaftsentschädigung	Mutterschaftszulage Südtirol/Bozen
Papamonat und Familienzeitbonus (Early paternity leave) (1 month)	Planned regulation on paternity leave (at least 10 days) is to come into force in 2025	Vaterschaftsurlaub und Vaterschaftsentschädigung (14 days)	Vaterschaftsurlaub Congedo di paternità (10 days)

*The Family Service at the University of Innsbruck has carefully researched and prepared the information and data collected here. The Family Service provides the data as a guide; it is for orientation purposes only and does not constitute legally binding information.