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## Family

### Parent-school cooperation

Parents often receive letters from the school that their children bring home. It is important that you read this information. If you do not understand the letters, ask for help, for example, at the [office of administrative affairs](#).

Parent-teacher conferences are held regularly at the school.

All parents meet together with the class teachers and talk about what is important in the current school year and which activities are being planned.

It is important that you go to these meetings as you will receive important information there.

You will be helping your child, and also the class teachers.

If you do not yet speak good German, then you can bring a friend or a relative to translate, or you can ask at the school whether they can organise a translator. The school can contact the [Social Integration Office](#) of the community of Artland, which will look for a suitable interpreter in the volunteer interpreter pool.

Another important date is the parent-teacher day. This will take place twice a year. Here, you will meet your child's teachers. You can talk about what your child is good at, and where they need help.

It is important that you go to this meeting as it is important place to exchange information. You can thus help your child to have as few problems as possible in the school.

If you do not yet speak good German, then you can bring a friend or a relative to translate, or you can ask at the school whether they can organise a translator. The school can contact the [Social Integration Office](#) of the community of Artland, which will look for a suitable interpreter in the volunteer interpreter pool.

### Education and Participation Package (BuT; Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket)

The education and participation package supports children, youth and young adults.

#### Who is entitled to BuT?

Children from families receiving the following benefits have a legal right to participation and educational support:

- SGB II (German Social Code II) – Jobcenter
- SGB XII (German Social Code XII) – Sozialamt (Social Welfare Office)
- Wohngeld (Housing Allowance) – Sozialamt (Social Welfare Office)
- Kinderzuschlag (Child Benefit Supplement) – Familienkasse (Family Benefits Office)
- Leistungen nach dem Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz (AsylbLG) (Benefits according to the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act) – Sozialamt (Social Welfare Office)

#### What services are included in the education and participation package (Bildungs- und Teilhabepaket)?

- One-day school and kindergarten excursions
- School trips lasting several days: necessary expenses (e.g. train ticket) except pocket money and personal equipment (e.g. rubber boots)

- **personal school equipment:**  
Pupils receive 100 euros each year on August 1 and 50 euros on February 1. This money is used to buy schoolbags, sports equipment, writing, calculating and drawing materials, for example.  
Be sure to keep all bills, as you may have to hand them in to the Jobcenter or Sozialamt (Social Welfare Office) later!
- **School transport**  
Travel expenses to the nearest school are reimbursed, usually the cost of public transport.
- **Nachhilfe (after-school learning support):**  
If a student has poor grades and the educational objective is at risk, an application for learning support can be made. This must be confirmed by the school. School offers come first.
- **Subsidy for common lunches**
- **Participation in social and cultural life:**  
These include, for example, activities in the fields of sport, games, culture and teaching of artistic subjects (for example, music lessons). The budget is 15 euros per month.

## How does it work?

The application for benefits to secure subsistence under SGB II at the Jobcenter includes the application for education and participation benefits.

A separate application is only necessary for learning support.

Families who receive benefits under SGB XII, housing allowance or child benefit supplement apply for BuT benefits at the Sozialamt (Social Welfare Office) in their [city or municipality](#).

Families who receive asylum seeker benefits can also apply to the Social Welfare Office for education and participation benefits in their [city or community](#).

Note: For children between the ages of 7 and 14 years who receive benefits according to SGB II, SGB XII, AsylbLG, the lump sums for personal school needs are paid automatically.

You can get the application forms from the relevant [Job Centre](#), [Social Welfare Office](#) or [here](#).

## Schools

In the community of Artland you will find excellent school infrastructure for your children. Six Grundschulen, one Gymnasium, one Förderschule, one Oberschule and two music schools.

### Grundschulen (primary schools)

Grundschule Badbergen

📍 [Jahnstraße 10, 49635 Badbergen](#)

☎ [05433/535](#)

@ [info@gs-badbergen.de](mailto:info@gs-badbergen.de)

🌐 [www.gs-badbergen.de](http://www.gs-badbergen.de)

Grundschule Menslage

📍 [Spiekstraße 20, 49637 Menslage](#)

☎ [05437/1221](#)

@[info@grundschule-menslage.de](mailto:info@grundschule-menslage.de)  
<https://wordpress.nibis.de/gsmenslage>

Grundschule Nortrup

📍 [Schulstraße 4, 49638 Nortrup](#)  
☎ [05436/1033](tel:054361033)  
@[info@grundschule-nortrup.de](mailto:info@grundschule-nortrup.de)  
🌐 <http://grundschule-nortrup.de/>

Grundschule Am Langen Esch

📍 [Am Langen Esch 10, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)  
☎ [05431/902719](tel:05431902719)  
@[grundschule@gs-am-langen-esch.de](mailto:grundschule@gs-am-langen-esch.de)  
🌐 <http://www.gsale.de/>

Grundschule Hengelage

📍 [Schulstraße 11 A, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)  
☎ [05431/2144](tel:054312144)  
@[info@gs-hengelage.de](mailto:info@gs-hengelage.de)  
🌐 <http://www.gs-hengelage.de/>

Grundschule Neustadt

📍 [Gänseweg 1, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)  
☎ [05431/7329](tel:054317329)  
@[info@gs-neustadt-quakenbrueck.de](mailto:info@gs-neustadt-quakenbrueck.de)  
🌐 <https://www.gs-neustadt-quakenbrueck.de/>

### Secondary schools

Artland Gymnasium Quakenbrück

📍 [Am Deich 18, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)  
☎ [05431/18090](tel:0543118090)  
@[sekretariat@artland-gym.de](mailto:sekretariat@artland-gym.de)  
🌐 <https://www.artland-gymnasium.de/wordpress/>

Oberschule Artland

📍 [Jahnstraße 24, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)  
☎ [05431/922900](tel:05431922900)  
@[info@obs-artland.de](mailto:info@obs-artland.de)  
🌐 <https://www.obs-artland.de/>

### Förderschule (special needs school)

Hasetalschule (Förderschule with focus on "learning" and "mental development")

📍 [Prof.-von-Klitzing-Straße 3, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)  
☎ [05431/2424](tel:054312424)  
@[hasetalschule@t-online.de](mailto:hasetalschule@t-online.de)  
🌐 <https://www.hasetalschule.de/>

### Music school

Kreismusikschule Osnabrück community of Artland regional branch

📍 [Lange Straße 45, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)

☎ [05431/4057](tel:054314057)  
☎ [0541/5012190](tel:05415012190)  
✉ [@kreismusikschule@lks.de](mailto:@kreismusikschule@lks.de)  
🌐 <https://www.kreismusikschule-osnabrueck.de/>

Musikschule der Burgmannskapelle Quakenbrück

📍 [Danziger Straße 4, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)  
☎ [0160/93510530](tel:016093510530)  
✉ [@burgmannskapelle@gmail.com](mailto:@burgmannskapelle@gmail.com)  
🌐 [www.burgmannskapelle.de](http://www.burgmannskapelle.de)

## Special educational needs

Special educational support in Lower Saxony takes place in Förderschulen and in all other general education schools.

The Förderschulen are divided according to the following focal points:

- Emotional and social development,
- Mental development
- Hearing (hard of hearing, deaf),
- Physical and motor development
- Learning,
- Sight (visually impaired, blind),
- Language,
- Hearing/sight (deafblind).

The Förderschule also supports integration into mainstream schools as a Support Centre (Förderzentrum) through education and teaching, counselling, therapy, care and support. This is done by deploying special school teachers, in individual cases also pedagogical staff or support staff. The scope and duration of the assignment depend on the special educational needs. As part of the work in the Support Centre (Förderzentrum), teachers are deployed in basic special needs education, in integration classes, in the mobile service or in a cooperation class in the general school.

Source: Lower Saxony service portal (portal network of the federal and state governments)

## Pregnancy and childbirth

### Pregnancy and birth

Pregnant women in Germany enjoy special protection and are entitled to advice, medical care and support with obtaining baby products. If you are pregnant, the first step is to visit a gynaecologist (women's doctor). The doctor will carry out a medical check-up. You will then receive a maternity card. The maternity card is a document with important information about

your pregnancy, your health, and your child's health. Always take your maternity card with you in case of emergencies.

## Midwife

Midwives are there to support women and their families from the beginning of pregnancy up until the end of breastfeeding. Midwives provide counselling during pregnancy and give professional advice, help with pregnancy complaints and prepare for the birth.

During the birth, she conveys security and confidence to the woman giving birth. She is a companion and support during childbirth.

## Childbirth and aftercare

After the birth, further medical care and support by a midwife is possible. She gives practical guidance in caring for the child, gives advice to breastfeeding mothers and provides help with uncertainties in dealing with the child. Postnatal exercise, baby massage, etc. are often offered by midwives.

Home visits by the midwife are offered free of charge during pregnancy and after delivery from hospital up to 8 weeks after birth. As a rule, the health insurance funds cover the following pre- and aftercare services:

- Prenatal care
- Help with pregnancy discomforts
- Preparation for giving birth
- Pregnancy exercises
- Postpartum care at home
- Postnatal exercise
- Breastfeeding counselling until the end of the breastfeeding period
- Advice on dietary changes up to 9 months of age

### Midwives in the community and surrounding area:

Midwives can be contacted via the various hospitals and delivery rooms:

[Marienhospital](#), Osnabrück: ☎ [05413264202](tel:05413264202)

[Klinikum Osnabrück](#): ☎ [05414056801](tel:05414056801)

[St. Marienhospital](#), Vechta: ☎ [04441991720](tel:04441991720)

[Marienhospital](#), Ankum-Bersenbrück: ☎ [054628376](tel:054628376)

or from

Midwifery practice Wiesengrund - Ingeborg Wittchen

📍 [Wiesengrund 6, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)

☎ [05431902346](tel:05431902346)

You can get an up-to-date list of midwives in the area of the community at the advice centres for pregnant women and can be found at:


[Midwife Centre Osnabrück](#)

### Midwife consultation **Marienhospital Osnabrück:**

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 13:00 to 15:00

Registration required.

You can find the registration form [here](#).


You can register for the midwife consultation at **Klinikum Osnabrück** by telephone at  [05414059100](tel:05414059100).

### **Advice centres for pregnant women in the Artland community of Artland**


The counselling centres advise you on questions and conflicts related to your pregnancy. They inform you about legal claims (e.g. maternity leave, parental leave, maintenance, ALG II) and help you to enforce them. They arrange financial assistance (e.g. Federal Foundation "Mother and Child") and provide information on prenatal diagnostics (e.g. amniocentesis, ultrasound). They advise in connection with fertility treatment and also accompany you when you are grieving for your baby.


Unwanted pregnancies counselling - Evelin Müller-Goldbeck

 [Vehser Str. 2, 49635 Badbergen](#)


 [0543395000](tel:0543395000)


Pregnancy counselling for unwanted pregnancies - Donum-vitae e.V.

 [Hasestr. 5, 495953 Bersenbrück](#)

 [05439607784](tel:05439607784)

Pregnancy counselling - Sozialdienst katholischer Frauen (SKF)

 [Bürgermeister-Kreke-Straße 3, 49593 Bersenbrück](#)

 [054391773](tel:054391773) and [054391645](tel:054391645)

Pregnancy depression support group - Ankum Family Centre

 [Georg-Siemer-Str. 4, 49577 Ankum](#)

 [054628606](tel:054628606)

### **Registration at the Registry Office**

New-born babies must be reported to the Registry Office. The maternity hospital takes care of reporting the birth to the [Registry Office](#) at your local town hall. There, upon presenting your ID and the birth certificate from the clinic, you will receive either the Geburtsurkunde (birth certificate) or an extract from the Geburtenregister (birth register) for your child. If you have a marriage certificate, bring it with you too.

You will receive a Geburtsurkunde (birth certificate) for your child if you can prove your identity, i.e. you are in possession of your passport from your home country or you possess another document indicating civil status such as your birth certificate or an extract from the family register.

If you are not in possession of these documents and you can therefore not prove your identity, you will receive an extract from the birth register. You can also request Kindergeld (child benefits), Elterngeld (parental allowance) and additional services with the extract from the birth register.

### **Paternity declaration**

If the parents are married, the father and mother are registered as the parents. If the parents are not married, the father must make a paternity declaration at the Standesamt (Registry Office) or the Jugendamt (Youth Welfare Office). The mother of the child must agree with the paternity declaration.

The paternity declaration gives the father both rights and obligations: For example, the father may be obliged to pay child support, which means that he must pay financial support to ensure the child's care. In return, he has the right to interact with the child. This is particularly important if the parents of the child do not live together or if they separate before the birth.



If you have any questions about the alimony or access rights, please contact the [Jugendamt \(Youth Welfare Office\)](#).

## Paediatrician



There are ten screening tests (U1-U9 and J1). Until the age of 6, children are regularly examined and supported in their development. The U1 (examination after birth) and U2 examinations usually take place in the clinic. For further examinations, you must make an appointment with your children's doctor (paediatrician).

### Contacts



Dipl. med. Andreas Fink

 [Bahnhofstr. 37, 49610 Quakenbrück](#)  
 [05431/907790](tel:05431907790)



Dr. med Ansgar Möller

 [Bersenbrücker Str. 7, 49577 Ankum](#)  
 [05462/432](tel:05462432)

Dr. med Rüdiger Abel

 [Langenstr. 15, 49624 Lönigen](#)  
 [05432/3535](tel:054323535)

Dr Tobias Revermann

 [Wilhelmstr. 1, 49632 Essen Oldg.](#)  
 [05434/9245036](tel:054349245036)

## Day-care centre/ Kindergarten

### Day-care centre

Once your child is 1 year old and up until they enter primary school, they have the legal right to attend a children's day-care centre (crèche) or receive childcare at another type of day-care facility. Here your child can learn German through play, discover new things and make friends with children their own age. Both crèches and day-care facilities are important and good preparation for kindergarten. To find a place, ask at your local town hall in the [Family Services Office](#).

You can find information on children's day-care [here](#) in a short video in various languages.



## Kindergarten

Children aged at least 3 and up to school entrance age are looked after in nursery school (kindergarten). There is also a legal right here, meaning your child must receive a place. At the kindergarten, your child will learn German and be nurtured in an age-appropriate way through games with children of the same age. Kindergarten is very important and helps children be well-prepared for school. To find a place, ask at your local town hall in the [Family Services Office](#).

A parental contribution is charged for care in day care centres. On application, the parental contribution can be paid in full or in part if the burden is unreasonable for the parents.

Attendance at a day care centre is usually free of charge for children over the age of three.

## Compulsory schooling

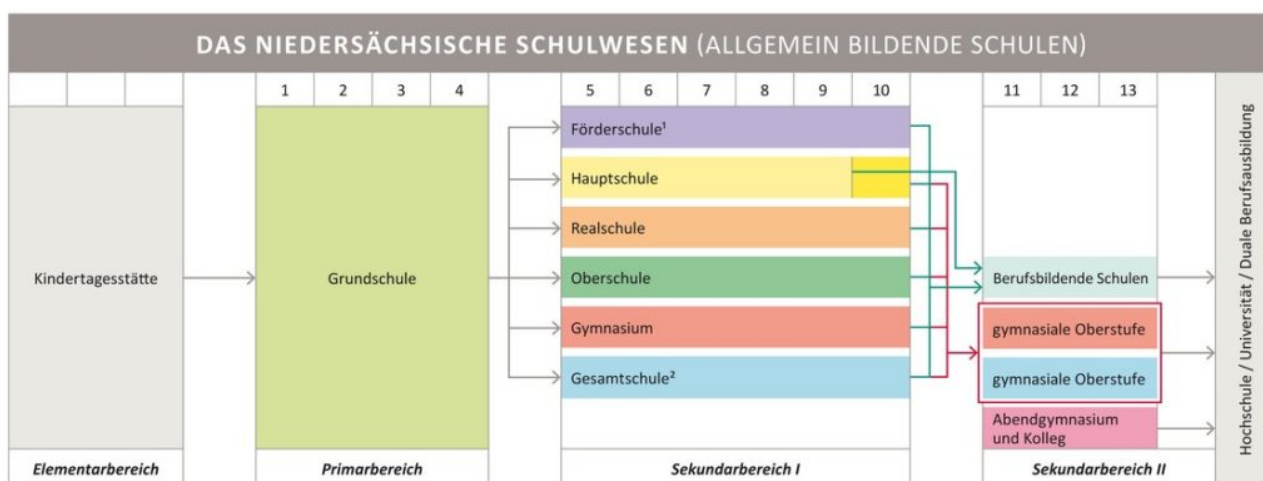
In the context of compulsory school attendance, guardians and custodians (usually the parents) bear a great responsibility. All children who will turn 6 by 30 September of the year of enrolment are of compulsory school age. Compulsory schooling ends in principle after 12 years. In exceptional cases, compulsory schooling may end after 10 years of school attendance at the earliest, whereby at least one year must be completed at a Berufsbildende Schule.

The school regulations of the respective schools stipulate that parents and guardians must excuse their children in writing in case of illness. Giving notice of absence by telephone is not sufficient. The deadline for receipt of written excuses is usually 3 working days. In case of prolonged illness, it is advisable to obtain a doctor's certified excuse. In justified individual cases, the school may order a medical certificate.

If a pupil fails to attend general or vocational school without being excused, the school must inform the [Youth Welfare Office \(Jugendamt\)](#) and the Fine Office (Bußgeldstelle). The Youth Welfare Office (Jugendamt) provides support options for this. In addition, juveniles over the age of 14 and their legal guardians and custodians are subject to a fine

You can find multi-language publications from the Niedersächsisches Kultusministerium (Lower Saxony Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs) [here](#).

## School System



<sup>1</sup> In der FöS können Schülerinnen und Schüler aller Schuljahrgänge unterrichtet werden, NSchG § 14, Abs. 4 und § 5, Abs. 3, Nr. 3  
 Förderschulen mit dem Förderschwerpunkt Lernen laufen im Primarbereich aufsteigend ab dem Schuljahr 2013/2014  
 (erstmalig ohne 1. Schuljahrgang) aus, im Sekundarbereich I aufsteigend ab dem Schuljahr 2017/2018 (erstmalig ohne 5. Schuljahrgang),  
 also wird zum Schuljahresbeginn 2016/2017 letztmalig in den 5. Schuljahrgang aufgenommen.  
<sup>2</sup> Bestehende Kooperative Gesamtschulen haben nach NSchG § 183 b Bestandsschutz

Source: [MK Niedersachsen](#)

### Grundschole (primary school)

Grundschole attendance usually lasts 4 years. When your child is 6 years old, register your child at a Grundschole (primary school) near your residence.

After attending Grundschole, school pupils change to one of the following schools depending on their level of achievement and the desires of their parents:

### Hauptschole (basic secondary school)

Pupils will receive a basic education in the Hauptschole (basic secondary school). They will learn to work independently and get to know professions.

They will also receive career guidance. The Hauptschole lasts for 5 or 6 years.

### Realschole (standard secondary school)

Pupils will receive an extended general education in the Realschole (standard secondary school). They will learn even more in all subjects than the basic education. The schoolchildren will learn professions and study programmes and will receive career guidance.

The Realschole lasts 6 years.

### Gymnasium (grammar school)

Pupils will receive a comprehensive general education in the Gymnasium (grammar school). The Gymnasium will primarily prepare pupils for a Studium (University studies). At a Gymnasium, pupils will take the Abitur exam after the 13th class.

### Oberschole

In the Oberschole (specialised secondary school), high achieving and underachieving pupils will learn together.

All pupils will remain together in the same class for several years in order for them to be able to learn well from each other.

The pupils will be able to learn everything that pupils in the Hauptschole (basic secondary school) and the Realschole (standard secondary school) learn.

There are also Oberschole schools in which education is carried out separated.

There is a Hauptschulzweig (basic secondary school path) and a Realschulzweig (standard secondary school path) there.

Some Oberschole schools also have a Gymnasialzweig (grammar school path).

## **Gesamtschule**

There are Integrierte Gesamtschule (IGS) integrated schools and Kooperative Gesamtschule (KGS) cooperative schools.

In the Gesamtschule, high achieving and underachieving pupils will learn together.

All pupils will remain together in the same class for several years in order for them to be able to learn well from each other.

The pupils can learn everything here, what you learn in the other types of school.

They can also complete an Abitur exam.

You can find more information about the school system in Lower Saxony in different languages [here](#).

## **School cancellation**

Heavy snowfall with snowdrifts, freezing, freezing rain or even a hurricane with unforeseeable dangers for all road users can lead to the cancellation of lessons at all schools in the community of Artland. The decision on whether to cancel classes in extreme weather conditions is made by the districts and independent cities. In principle, there is the possibility of going down to grade 4 or to grade 10. As a rule, however, classes are cancelled at all general and vocational schools.

School transport, which is carried out as far as possible by public transport, nevertheless takes place as far as the transport companies consider it possible. However, it can be assumed that isolated stops outside the main roads will no longer be served. Pupils who have made their way to the bus stop despite school cancellation should therefore wait at least 15 minutes for the bus.

The schools also provide supervision for the pupils who have come to school in the event of a school cancellation. They will not be sent home before the usual school closing time without consulting their parent or guardian. This is especially important for working guardians.

The district administration recommends paying attention to the morning radio announcements on the traffic news from 6.00 a.m. onwards. In addition, there are possibilities to get information on the [internet](#).

In addition, there is a free app called "KatWarn", which displays a corresponding message in case of school cancellation. The app is available for smartphones with Android and iOS and can be downloaded from the respective app stores.

You can find detailed information here <https://www.katwarn.de/>

Finally, you can also contact the citizens' information office of the District of Osnabrück.

☎ [05415010](tel:05415010)

@[info@landkreis-osnabrueck.de](mailto:info@landkreis-osnabrueck.de)

Legal guardians who fear an unreasonable risk to their children on the way to school due to extreme weather conditions may, if no general cancellation of lessons has been ordered, decide for themselves whether or not to send the children to school.

## **Family benefits**

### **Parental allowance**

Family and work are increasingly developing into equal life contents for both parents. Parental allowance and parental leave are intended to help you shape the start of a new phase of life

with a child according to your wishes.

The basic parental allowance is paid to parents for up to 14 months after the birth of the child. A parent can claim a minimum of two months and a maximum of twelve months if employment is interrupted during this period or if employment is not performed for more than 32 hours per week per month. Exceptions to these basic reference periods may arise if your child was born at least six, eight, twelve or 16 weeks before the calculated date of birth.

In order to support parents in reconciling family and work as partners, the parental allowance (Elterngeld) was further developed into a Parental Allowance Plus. Parental allowance (Elterngeld) plus enables parents to make the best possible use of parental allowance in combination with part-time work, thus making it easier for them to return to work.

Parents who work part-time early after the birth of their child lose part of their parental allowance (Elterngeld) entitlement by having their part-time income taken into account. Parental allowance (Elterngeld) plus compensates for this by providing longer financial support beyond the child's 14th month of life. One month of basic parental allowance becomes two months of parental allowance (Elterngeld) plus.

In addition, the parental allowance (Elterngeld) will be supplemented by a partnership bonus, which is intended to promote the sharing of family and professional tasks as partners. If both parents work part-time for between 24 and 32 hours per week for two to four consecutive months at the same time, they receive two to four additional months of parental allowance (Elterngeld) plus per parent. These schemes can be used by both cohabiting parents and single parents.

The information sheet accompanies you in filling out the forms and also contains general information. You can find more information and examples of parental allowance (Elterngeld) plus at [www.elterngeld-plus.de](http://www.elterngeld-plus.de). You can use the parental allowance (Elterngeld) calculator with planner available there to determine the expected amount yourself.

In principle, anyone who is entitled to parental allowance (Elterngeld):

- has a place of residence or habitual abode in Germany
- lives in a household with their child
- cares for and raises this child themselves
- is not in gainful employment or is not in full employment

The parental allowance (Elterngeld) must be applied for in writing. The application can only be submitted with the birth of the child. Please note that parental allowance (Elterngeld) is only paid retroactively for the three months of the child's life prior to the application. Therefore, apply for parental allowance (Elterngeld) in good time after the birth of your child.

You can apply for parental allowance at the community of Artland


Community of Artland, parental allowance

📍 Markt 2, 49610 Quakenbrück

Contact person for parental allowance:

Ms König

☎ [05431182136](tel:05431182136)

Mr Teichmann  
 [05431182133](tel:05431182133)

## Child benefit

Families with children have to finance the maintenance and education of their children. For this, they need more money than people without children. Child benefits is available to compensate for this additional expense.

Child benefits are applied for at the [Family Benefits Office \(Familienkasse\)](#) and is also paid out by this office.

### Entitlement to child benefits

A prerequisite for entitlement to child benefits is that the beneficiary or the entitled person is identified by the tax identification number issued to him or her.

In principle, German nationals receive child benefits if they have their residence or habitual abode in Germany.

#### Foreign nationals of EU/EEA member states and Switzerland

Foreign nationals from the EU (European Union) and the EEA (European Economic Area) can also receive child benefits. For this, you must have a domicile and habitual residence in Germany. Furthermore, you have to earn money in Germany and be able to prove it.

From the fourth month onwards, there may be a claim to child benefits even without income; however, the requirements of the right of entry and residence in Germany must be met. The Family Benefits Office (Familienkasse) can check this independently of the Bureau for Foreigners (Ausländerbehörde).

#### Foreign nationals of third countries

Foreign nationals of third countries who reside in Germany and hold a valid settlement permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) may receive child benefits. Certain other residence permits (Aufenthaltstitel) may also trigger an entitlement to child benefits. Unappealably recognised refugees and persons entitled to asylum can also receive child benefits.

You can apply for child benefits at the [Family Benefits Office \(Familienkasse\)](#).

## Unaccompanied Minor Refugees

Refugees under the age of 18 who have entered Germany **unaccompanied** are called **unbegleitete minderjährige Ausländer = umA**. These youths are reported to the Youth Welfare Office (Jugendamt). The Youth Welfare Office talks to the young people and determines their age. The decision on how old the child is determines whether the Youth Welfare Office will take care of the underage person (younger than 18) and place them in special accommodation for young people ("custody"). If the Youth Welfare Office thinks the person is an adult (over age 18), the person will receive a notice of refusal and be treated as an adult. The Youth Welfare Office will bring an interpreter to the appointment.

💡 If you are not yet 18 years old on your proof of arrival, but the Youth Welfare Office gives you a rejection notice, the Youth Welfare Office must enter a new date of birth on the decision. Only then can you have your documents changed by the Immigration Office and the Social Welfare Office.

Some minors (persons under the age of 18) enter the country without their parents, but **with relatives** (for example with an uncle or aunt, cousins or older siblings). Your accommodation support will report this to the Youth Welfare Office after your arrival. The Youth Welfare Office talks to the minor and the adult relatives and checks whether the minors can stay there. In addition, the Youth Welfare Office will decide whether a guardian is to be appointed. The Youth Welfare Office will bring an interpreter with it to the interview.

💡 Adult relatives can also go to the Family Court to apply to be the child's official guardian. The relative(s) with the guardianship take full responsibility for the minor(s) in place of the parents.