

Child benefits (Kindergeld)

Child Benefit (Kindergeld)

You can apply for child benefit once you receive the BAMF decision letter.

If you have a residence permit according to § 25 paragraph 3 of the Residence Act (AufenthG), you usually do not receive child benefit.

There is an exception: If you have been living in Germany for at least three years and are employed, you may be eligible.

Foreign nationals who are not entitled to freedom of movement (i.e., not EU citizens) can only receive child benefit if they have a permanent residence permit (Niederlassungserlaubnis) or a residence permit that allows them to work.

All children in Germany are entitled to child benefit — from birth until their 18th birthday (in some cases even longer). In some situations, children living abroad may also receive child benefit.

The application and processing of child benefit are handled by the Family Benefits Office (Familienkasse) of the Federal Employment Agency.

Service number of the Familienkasse:

 [0800 4 5555 30](tel:08004555530) (free of charge)

 <https://www.arbeitsagentur.de/familie-und-kinder>