



# **Your social security rights in Hungary**



## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion  
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Unit D.2: Social Protection

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*B-1049 Brussels*

# **Your social security rights in Hungary**

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Sometime in your life you may be in need of the support provided by social security benefits. If you are living in the country where you were born and satisfy the qualifying conditions, you will be entitled to receive support. But you also have the right to receive benefits if you are a national of any EU country and move to another part of the EU. The information below sets out when you are eligible for benefits, what you are entitled to and how to go about claiming it.

## Contents

FAMILY.....	6
Family benefits.....	7
Maternity and paternity benefits.....	11
HEALTH.....	13
Health insurance .....	14
Long-term care .....	17
Sickness cash benefits .....	19
INCAPACITY.....	21
Benefits in case of accidents at work and occupational diseases .....	22
Invalidity benefits.....	23
OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS .....	26
Old-age benefits.....	27
Survivors' benefits.....	29
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE .....	32
Minimum resources .....	33
UNEMPLOYMENT.....	35
Unemployment benefits .....	36
MOVING ABROAD .....	39
Previous coverage abroad can count. ....	40
MAIN RESIDENCE .....	42
Habitual residency .....	43

# Family

## Family benefits

The following benefits are covered in this chapter:

- Family allowance (*családi pótlék*);
- Child care fee (*gyermekgondozási díj*);
- Adoption fee (*örökbefogadói díj*);
- Child raising support (*gyermeknevelési támogatás*);
- Child care allowance (*gyermekgondozást segítő ellátás*).

### In what situation can I claim?

#### Family allowance (*Családi pótlék*)

This is a monthly allowance for raising and education expenses for children in a family. The beneficiary can be the biological parent, the spouse of the biological parent, the adoptive parent, the foster parent, the guardian, or any other person with whom a child has been temporarily placed.

#### Child care allowance (*Gyermekgondozást segítő ellátás*)

Child care allowance is payable to the parent, the spouse of the parent, the adoptive parent or the guardian of a child raised under his or her roof until the age of 3 or, in the case of twins, until the end of the first year of compulsory schooling or in the case of a chronically ill or seriously disabled child, until the age of 10.

#### Child raising support (*Gyermeknevelési támogatás*)

This support is paid to the parent, the spouse of the parent, the adoptive parent or guardian who is raising three or more minor children in his or her household.

#### Child care fee (*Gyermekgondozási díj*)

The parent considered as entitled under the health insurance scheme - either the mother or the father - may be entitled to a child care fee until the child has reached the age of 2 (or the age of 3 in case of twins). If the parent is not entitled under the health insurance scheme, then a so called *degree holder's child care fee* is available starting from the birth of the child, up to the age of 2.

Grandparents who are entitled under the health insurance scheme may also apply for the child care fee up to 2 years of age of the child (or the age of 3 in case of twins) as is a foster parent from the day of fostering, up to 2 years of age of the child.

#### Adoption fee (*Örökbefogadói díj*)

The Adoption fee is granted after the domestic adoption of all children over the age of 2 (age 3 in case of twins) and under 18 if the adoptive parent would be entitled to the Child care fee.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

#### Family allowance (*Családi pótlék*)

The beneficiary can apply for this allowance for raising expenses from the birth of the child up to the compulsory schooling age (usually 0-16 years), then for secondary school education or vocational training up to 20 years of age (up to 23 years in the case of special educational needs, or without age limit in the case of a seriously disabled person without regular income). In the case of a certain number of unjustified absences of the child from school or nursery-school, the benefit has to be suspended. A child living temporarily outside the family to study, in Hungary or abroad, or for the purposes of medical treatment, is also treated as if living at home.

### **Child care allowance** (*Gyermekgondozást segítő ellátás*)

Child care allowance is payable to the parent, the spouse of the parent, the adoptive parent or the guardian of a child raised under his or her roof until the age of 3 or, in the case of twins, until the end of the first year of compulsory schooling or in the case of a chronically ill or seriously disabled child, until the age of 10. The benefit can be paid to a grandparent if the child is at least 1 year old and is being raised and looked after in the parents' house with the parents' written consent. A parent receiving child care allowance cannot engage in paid employment until the child is six months old: when the child is above the age of six months, the parent can engage in paid employment. The grandparent cannot pursue a gainful activity before the child reaches 3 years of age; when the child is above 3 years, the beneficiary can pursue a gainful activity of no more than 30 hours a week, or without time restriction at home.

### **Child raising support** (*Gyermeknevelési támogatás*)

This is payable to parents raising 3 or more children from the date when the youngest child reaches the age of 3 until that child reaches the age of 8. The person receiving child raising support can engage in paid employment for a maximum of 30 hours a week or longer if working at home. A child care allowance and child raising support cannot be drawn together.

### **Child care fee** (*Gyermekgondozási díj*)

The parent considered as entitled under the health insurance scheme - either the mother or the father - may be entitled to a child care fee until the child has reached the age of 2 (or the age of 3 in case of twins). This benefit is paid to one of the parents after expiry of the infant care allowance period or after a period of the same length. The parent has to be insured, and needs at least 365 days of insurance during the last 2 years before delivery. Mothers who - in the absence of a gainful activity - would not be entitled to a child care fee, but who have completed at least 2 active semesters in higher education, subject to all conditions prescribed by law, are entitled to a child care fee until the child reaches 2 years of age (exceptionally the father may also be entitled to a child care fee based on higher education studies).

The grandparent (not retired) of the child may be entitled to the child care fee on the basis of a joint statement by the parents, until the child is aged 2.

The foster parents may also receive a child care fee from the day the child is brought up to the age of 2 if the foster parent has 365 days of insurance during the two years prior to taking care of the child and is raising the child in his or her household.

This benefit is not paid when:

- the beneficiary is receiving other regular cash benefits provided on the basis of Act III of 1993 on the administration of the social security system;
- the child has been temporarily placed in foster care or placed in a social institution for more than 30 days;
- the child of the beneficiary has been placed in a day-care facility except when the parent is pursuing a gainful activity (integration or re-integration institutions are not included);
- the beneficiary is under arrest or is in prison;
- the child dies during the period of eligibility for child care fee;
- before the 169<sup>th</sup> day following the birth of the child, if the entitlement is based on higher education studies or foster parenting and the entitled person is engaged in any gainful activity in any legal relationship (not including that of a foster parent).

This benefit is not paid for grandparents when:

- the grandparent is engaged in gainful employment (unless he or she is exclusively working from home);



- the child was placed in a day care facility;
- the grandparent receives other regular cash benefits under Act III of 1993 on administration of social benefits (except for some benefits);
- the grandparent is in custody;
- parents' entitlement to child care fee ceases;
- parents withdraw their declaration that they have agreed to pay the child care fee to the grandparent.

### **Adoption Fee** (*Örökbefogadói díj*)

The adoption fee is paid to the insured person who adopted a child aged over 2 (3 in case of twins) and under 18. This benefit is provided from the time the child is adopted, for 168 days. In order to be entitled, the insured person must have been insured for at least 365 days in the two years prior to the arrival of the child and must raise the child him/herself. The child must have not been raised continuously in his/her own household for at least one year prior to the date of adoption.

## **What am I entitled to and how can I claim?**

### **Family allowance** (*Családi pótlék*)

In 2023 family allowance is (per month):

- for a family with 1 child, HUF 12,200;
- for a single-parent family with 1 child, HUF 13,700;
- for a family with 2 children, HUF 13,300 per child;
- for a single-parent family with 2 children, HUF 14,800 per child;
- for a family with 3 children or more, HUF 16,000 per child;
- for a single-parent family with 3 children or more, HUF 17,000 per child;
- for a family with a chronically ill or seriously disabled child, HUF 23,300;
- for a single-parent family with a chronically ill or seriously disabled child, HUF 25,900.

The allowance is due and paid for the whole month, regardless of the date of application and the date of cessation of the benefits.

### **Child care allowance** (*Gyermekgondozást segítő ellátás*)

The monthly child care allowance is equal to the social reference base (*szociális vetítési alap*) (HUF 28,500 gross in 2023), regardless of the number of children; except for twins, where the amount is multiplied according to the number of children; for fractions of a month, the allowance is calculated in thirtieths of the monthly amount.

### **Child raising support** (*Gyermeknevelési támogatás*)

The child raising support is equal to the social reference base (*szociális vetítési alap*) (HUF 28,500 gross in 2023), regardless of the number of children; for fractions of a month, the allowance is calculated in thirtieths of the monthly amount.

### **Child care fee** (*Gyermekgondozási díj*)

The child care fee amounts to 70% of the daily average gross earnings of the period specified in law. The maximum amount is 70% of the double of the minimum wage (HUF 324,800 per month in 2023). Parents aged less than 25 and mothers aged less than 30 can receive the child care fee in a higher net amount.

For those who are eligible because of their BA studies, the child care fee is 70% of the minimum wage, (HUF 162,400 per month in 2023), or in the case of MA or PhD studies, 70% of the guaranteed wage minimum (HUF 207,480 per month in 2023).

Foster parents are entitled to child care fee of 55% of the minimum wage if they are employed only as foster parents (in 2023 daily gross HUF 2,977.33).

The application for child care fee has to be submitted to the employer (or the health insurance institution in the case of not insured student mother).

### **Adoption Fee** (*Örökbefogadói díj*)

The amount of the adoption fee is 70% of the average daily gross income for the period specified in the law, which, however, may not exceed 70% of the double of the minimum wage (HUF 324,800 per month in 2023).

### **Forms you may need to fill in**

- [Family allowance](#)
- [Child care allowance](#)
- [Child raising support](#)
- [Child care fee](#)
- [Adoption Fee](#)

### **Know your rights**

The links below set out your rights in law. They are not European Commission sites and do not represent the view of the Commission:

- [Child care fee](#)
- [Adoption fee](#)

European Commission publication and website:

- [Family benefits: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)

### **Who do you need to contact?**

#### **Hungarian State Treasury**

#### **Magyar Államkincstár**

Budapest

Hold u. 4. 1054 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

<https://www.allamkincstar.gov.hu/csaladok-tamogatasa>

In case of child care fee and adoption fee:

Hungarian State Treasury

Magyar Államkincstár

Budapest

Fiumei ut 19a. 1081 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

e-mail: [penzbeli@allamkincstar.gov.hu](mailto:penzbeli@allamkincstar.gov.hu)

## Maternity and paternity benefits

The following benefits are covered in this chapter:

- Infant care allowance (*Csecsemőgondozási díj*);
- Birth grant (*Anyasági támogatás*).

### In what situation can I claim?

**Infant care allowance** (*Csecsemőgondozási díj*) is available to the mothers, exceptionally to adoptive parents, guardians or fathers, during the period of maternity leave.

**Birth grant** (*Anyasági támogatás*) is available to women who give birth and who are legally staying in Hungary; adoptive parents; guardians; or the father upon the death of the mother, mothers who are giving birth to a child with Hungarian citizenship or Hungarian certificate (should the law of the state of residence prohibit dual citizenship) independently of the mother's citizenship. A birth grant is not paid to parents who agreed to give up a child for adoption before the birth.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

#### Infant care allowance (*Csecsemőgondozási díj*)

It is tied to health care insurance: at least 365 days of insurance during the last two years before delivery are needed, and birth has to take place during the insurance period or within 42 calendar days of its expiry (or 28 in case of receiving Accident cash benefit (*Baleseti táppénz*)).

#### Birth grant (*Anyasági támogatás*)

The completion of at least four prenatal medical examinations (one in case of premature birth) or the *res iudicata* judgement on adoption or guardianship within 180 days of confinement is needed.

### What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

#### Infant care allowance (*Csecsemőgondozási díj*)

Mothers are entitled to infant care allowance for the period of their maternity leave for a maximum of 168 days following the birth. Maximum maternity leave is 24 weeks, 4 of which may be taken before the calculated date of delivery. The infant care allowance is equal to 100% of the average daily pay in the period specified in the Act.

Particular features of this benefit:

- the period for which infant care allowance is paid is credited towards the insurance period to be entitled to get old-age pension;
- women receiving infant care allowance are entitled to healthcare services (e.g. inpatient and outpatient care in healthcare establishments) on the same footing as those with full health insurance;
- persons who are required to pay child maintenance or who have wrongly received health insurance cash benefits will have their infant care allowance reduced by up to 33%.

#### Birth grant (*Anyasági támogatás*)

The birth grant corresponds to a one-off lump-sum payment of 225% of the social reference base (*szociális vetítési alap*) (HUF 64,125) or 300% per child in the case of twins (HUF 85,500).

Birth grant can be claimed up to six months after birth.

### Forms you may need to fill in

- [Birth grant](#)
- [Infant care allowance](#)

### Know your rights

The links below set out your rights in law. They are not European Commission sites and do not represent the view of the Commission:

- [Maternity benefits](#)
- [Birth grant](#) (*Anyasági támogatás*)
- [Infant care allowance](#) (*Csecsemőgondozási díj*)

European Commission publication and website:

- [Family benefits: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)

### Who do you need to contact?

#### Hungarian State Treasury

#### Magyar Államkincstár

Budapest

Hold u. 4. - 1054 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

<https://www.allamkincstar.gov.hu/csaladok-tamogatasa>

In case of Infant care allowance:

Hungarian State Treasury

Magyar Államkincstár

Budapest

Fiumei út 19/a. 1081 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

<https://egbiztpenzbeli.tcs.allamkincstar.gov.hu>

e-mail: [penzbeli@allamkincstar.gov.hu](mailto:penzbeli@allamkincstar.gov.hu)

# Health

## Health insurance

The Ministry of Interior (*Belügyminisztérium*) is responsible for health insurance and the health sector. The healthcare system includes the following: medical treatment, medicine, dental treatment, early detection and preventive testing, treatment at home, hospital care, medical appliances.

### In what situation can I claim?

There is free choice of (employed or contracted) doctors. Patients have to register with one general practitioner. There are no geographical restraints. Patients are allowed to change doctor once a year (or more if justified).

For basic healthcare, you can go to any doctor with whom the National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management (NEAK) has a contract. For secondary level care, with or without hospitalisation, you must go to the designated specialist or institution serving your declared place of residence.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

Everyone is automatically affiliated to a health insurance scheme as soon as he or she begins to work. Self-employed people register themselves, and employers register their employees, with the competent local bureau of the taxation and finance office and/or the competent social insurance organisations, as necessary. Employers pay social contribution tax and employees pay social security contribution.

Beneficiaries of the health insurance system fall into two categories:

- The holders of the right, i.e. those persons who have a statutory obligation to pay contributions, e.g. general employees, civil servants, public service employees, service providers and people with other legal working arrangements, the self-employed working alone or in collective organisations, ecclesiastical personnel and members of associations. These people are entitled to the full range of health insurance benefits (cash benefits, benefits in kind and accident allowances). This category also includes people receiving assistance while looking for work, who pay pension contributions on their benefits although they are not entitled to cash benefits.
- Entitled beneficiaries, e.g. minors, schoolchildren, students studying during the day, pensioners, people on low incomes who have reached retirement age, those receiving cash maternity and social protection benefits, persons placed in residential institutions providing personal care and those required to pay flat rate contribution. These persons are entitled to non-cash health insurance benefits only.

### Medical treatment

Everyone who is covered for healthcare is entitled to receive all the care their state of health requires. Medical care in Hungary is, as a general rule, free of charge. If the treatment is not prescribed by a physician, or is not provided through the normal hospital system, or if he/she chooses a doctor other than the one allocated by the healthcare system, fees imposed by the care provider will be paid by the patient. The individual might also pay part of the cost of medicines and medical appliances.

### Medicine

Medicines administered in hospital are free of charge. Otherwise, the National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management (NEAK) covers part or all of the cost when the medicine prescribed is included in the reimbursement list.

### Dental treatment

Dental treatment is free up to the age of 18; students, seniors (60+) and pregnant women (from the determination of the pregnancy until 90 days after childbirth) are entitled to the full service but they still have to pay the technical costs. Each individual also pays the

technical costs associated with dental treatment. According to the National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management, only the emergency care of the dental treatments is covered by the social security system for the entitled person.

### **Early detection and preventive testing**

Everyone with compulsory health insurance covering early detection and preventive testing is entitled to these tests on certain conditions (determined by age group) and at certain intervals. An individual or a doctor may request screening tests; where there is a public health issue, personal notices to attend are sent to all concerned. Early detection testing is - with certain exceptions - voluntary, since it is in the person's own interests. Most preventive care is provided by the family doctor.

Nurses also play a role, particularly in informing people about screening tests, as do school doctors and nurses, while some examinations are the responsibility of the specialists concerned. To ensure preventive care is effective, early detection or screening tests may in some cases be a prerequisite for free treatment, otherwise people may be charged for treatment if they failed to take advantage of early detection/screening tests. No consultation fee is charged for these tests.

As a matter of prevention, smoking is banned in every indoor public place, including workplaces, restaurants, bars and cafes; except in specially designated smoking rooms, which already exist.

### **Treatment at home**

Home-based treatments are intended to reduce the number of patients who have to be hospitalised and to provide more compassionate care. An insured person can be treated at home by professionals who have signed a contract with the National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management (NEAK) to provide these services. These benefits are not eligible for aid unless prescribed by a specialist. Home care is covered for the same length of time as treatment for the same condition in hospital.

### **Hospital care**

Inpatient specialised care is provided in various types of facilities, i.e. institutions (for chronic, rehabilitation or nursing care), hospitals, national institutions (highly specialised care), university clinics and day-care hospitals.

Patients being treated in hospitals receive the following services for the flat-rate daily charge:

- diagnostic examinations related to the illness;
- the treatment prescribed by a doctor, including surgical operations, therapeutic equipment used during these and prosthetic appliances;
- medicines, blood tests, dressings and curative accessories;
- therapeutic care;
- dietary advice and healthy living advice;
- food, as part of a diet prescribed by the doctor;
- care in a convalescent home, for as long as required by their condition, depending on availability and the ethical and professional considerations involved.

A patient's health insurance will also cover part of the cost of any appliance prescribed as essential, and part of the cost of repairing and hiring these. Hospital and clinical care can cover several types, including diagnostics, treatment, rehabilitation and sanitary care. It may be continuous or periodic, i.e. a single episode or gradual treatment where follow-up care may be covered for a certain length of time. For some diseases there is a waiting list for treatment; in these cases, patients have to wait their turn. The waiting lists are published on the healthcare providers' websites. An individual whose health deteriorates must be re-examined and the waiting list may be modified as a result.

## Medical appliances

The rules of reimbursement for medical appliances are laid down by law. The information on the reimbursed medical appliances is published in the National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management Bulletin. Medical appliances have to be prescribed by a doctor for a patient to qualify for reimbursement. The amount of reimbursement is determined based on the percentage of the price (98/90/80/70/60/50 or 45%). For medical appliances in the highest reimbursement category, any co-payment exceeding HUF 5,000 is borne by the National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management.

## What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Medical treatment medicine, dental treatment, treatment at home, early detection and preventive testing, hospital care, and medical appliances prescribed by a doctor.

Basically, all treatments are free of charge.

Everyone is automatically affiliated to a health insurance scheme as soon as he/she begins to work. Self-employed people register themselves, and employers register their employees, with the competent local bureau of the taxation and finance office and/or the competent social insurance organisations, as necessary. Employers pay social contribution tax and employees pay social security contribution. Economically inactive residents pay a lump-sum HUF 9,600 flat-rate contribution to be covered against healthcare risks.

## Forms you may need to fill in

- Residents of the European Union, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland, who are entitled to the healthcare of the national health services or mandatory health insurance scheme of their respective countries of residence, can receive in Hungary the healthcare which becomes necessary on medical grounds during a temporary stay in Hungary, taking into account the nature of the benefits required and the expected length of stay. This also applies to persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union.
- You need both the European Health Insurance Card and your passport or ID during a temporary stay in Hungary. If you are insured in Hungary, you will need a TAJ number (social insurance number) to be entitled to the healthcare of the national health services.

## Know your rights

The link below set out your rights in law. It is not an European Commission site and does not represent the view of the Commission:

- [National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management](#)

European Commission publication and website:

- [Social security cover: your rights abroad as EU citizen](#)

## Who do you need to contact?

### Ministry of Interior Belügyminisztérium

Budapest

József Attila utca 2-4

1054 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

<https://kormany.hu/belugyminiszterium>

<https://abouthungary.hu/>



**National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management  
Nemzeti Egészségbiztosítási Alapkezelő, NEAK**

Budapest  
Váci út 73/a  
1139 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY  
<http://www.neak.gov.hu/>

## Long-term care

This chapter presents long-term care services for the elderly, for people with disabilities, for psychiatric patients, for people with addictions and for homeless people. The Nursing fee (*Ápolási díj*) and the Child home care fee (*Gyermekek otthongondozási díja*) are also covered.

### In what situation can I claim?

#### Long-term care services for the elderly

These services are provided according to the level of dependency.

#### Long-term care services for people with disabilities

The patient must suffer from disability or impairment or need assistance from another person.

#### Long-term care services for psychiatric patients and persons with addictions and long-term care services for homeless persons

Serious dependency level is required (the person must be unable to carry out activities of daily life sufficiently due to age), (mental) health condition.

#### Nursing fee (*Ápolási díj*)

A nursing fee is payable to persons who provide long-term care for family members who are disabled, permanently ill, and in need of permanent care.

#### Child home care fee (*Gyermekek otthongondozási díja*)

This benefit is paid to parents looking after their children reliant on care.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

#### Long-term care services for the elderly

Long-term care services for the elderly are provided according to the person's dependency level. The assessment takes into account the person's need of social and health care, as well as of help with daily activities, and determines the level of care (0-3):

- 0) can manage and do activities on his/her own;
- 1) needs support in some activities;
- 2) needs partial support;
- 3) needs full support.

Home assistance's personal care may be provided in case of level 1 or 2, while social help may be provided in case of level 1 or 2, or even in case of level 0, if the service user is:

- older than 65 years of age and lives on his/her own;
- older than 70 years of age and has a home without an improved water and heating service;

- older than 75 years of age and, due to his/her health condition, he/she cannot leave the house on his/her own and/or cannot do household activities partially or fully.

Institutions for nursing and care (home for the elderly) may be used in case of level of care 3.

### **Long-term care services for people with disabilities**

He or she must suffer from certain types of disability supported by medical opinion.

### **Long-term care services for psychiatric patients and persons with addictions and long-term care services for homeless persons**

A serious dependency level is required to access these services (he or she has to be unable to carry out activities of daily life sufficiently).

#### **Nursing fee** (*Ápolási díj*)

A nursing fee is payable to persons who provide long-term care for relatives who are disabled, permanently ill or who are in need of permanent care. The nursing fee is provided by the district offices. Local governments may provide support to those providing long-term care, but there is no obligation for them to do so.

#### **Child home care fee** (*Gyermekek otthongondozási díja*)

It is provided by the district offices to parents looking after their seriously disabled/permanently ill children reliant on care.

## **What am I entitled to and how can I claim?**

### **What is covered?**

There is no particular definition for long-term care and no separate long-term care system; long-term care services are supplied within the healthcare and social service system. Long-term care services are based on social assistance and financed by the State budget. Both cash benefits and benefits in kind are provided.

#### **Nursing fee** (*Ápolási díj*)

The amount of assistance is 100% of the basic amount defined by the Act on Central Budget (HUF 45,665 per month), while in the case of persons with severe disabilities in need of intensive care it is 150% of the basic amount (HUF 68,500 per month). In the case of people who provide permanent care to a disabled or permanently ill relative whose state of health is assessed in the course of a complex assessment at 30% or less, or in respect of whom family allowance in a higher amount is paid and who needs intensive nursing, the amount equals 180% of the basic amount (i.e. HUF 82,200 per month). Local governments may provide support to those providing long-term care, but there is no obligation for them to do so. The eligibility criteria and the amounts vary upon the decision of the local governments.

#### **Child home care fee** (*Gyermekek otthongondozási díja*)

The monthly amount corresponds to 100% of the minimum wage (HUF 232,000 from 1 January 2023).

### **Forms you may need to fill in**

The forms for claiming the nursing fee and child home care fee are available at the district offices. The use of social services is voluntary based on an oral or written request by the claimant. Statements on the use of social services providing personal care must be attached to the application.

### **Know your rights**

The link below set out your rights in law, it is not an European Commission site and does not represent the view of the Commission:

- [Nursing fee](#)

- [Child home care fee](#)

European Commission publication and website:

- [Social security cover: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)

### Who do you need to contact?

- The service provider
- The district offices

## Sickness cash benefits

Insured persons caring for a sick child and therefore unable to work may be entitled to absence fee or sickness benefit as defined by law.

### In what situation can I claim?

When an insured person becomes sick and unable to work, he/she is eligible for sickness cash benefits, like the absence fee and statutory sickness benefit, prescribed by a medical doctor. The absence fee is paid by the employer, while the statutory sickness benefit is paid by the Healthcare Provider. Note that the absence fee is not a social security (health insurance) benefit.

The parent is entitled to sickness benefit for a child under the age 12 when the child is in hospital and the parent is there with him/her or when the child is cared for at home.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

Incapacity for work must be certified by a doctor. There is no formal time-limit for it, with a maximum back-dating time of 5 days (in exceptional circumstances, maximum 6 months – certified by a medical expert body), and the benefit will not be paid for longer than a 1-year period. The person has to be re-examined regularly (depending on the doctor's decision).

To be entitled to statutory sickness benefit the sick person has to be insured, the sickness has to be verified by a medical doctor, and the sick person has to pay the healthcare supplement.

### What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

An **absence fee** (*Távolléti díj*) of an amount of 70% of the daily gross earnings is granted by the employer for up to 15 working days annually and can be used only in the same calendar year. It cannot be transferred. In the case of endangered pregnancy the employee is entitled not to the 15 days absence fee but to the sickness benefit.

A **sickness benefit** (*Táppénz*) can be granted for a maximum of 1 year while the person is validly insured. The amount of this benefit is 60% (or 50% when the time of being insured is shorter than 730 days or the person entitled is staying in hospital) of the gross daily pay for the period defined by law, but the daily allowance is maximum 1/30 of the double of the gross minimum wage (HUF 15,566 per day in 2023). The sickness benefit will be paid for every calendar day spent on benefits starting after the last day of the 15-day absence period.

The sickness benefit has to be claimed through the employer using the medical doctor's proof. A self-employed person has to claim electronically for the sickness benefit at the district offices of the county.

The sickness benefit claim is assessed by the health insurance service of the county district offices or by the corporate social insurance payment service with an 8-day (max 60-day) deadline (an employer with a payroll of more than 100 persons is required to create an in-house social insurance payment service).

### **Forms you may need to fill in**

The sickness benefit has to be claimed through the employer using the medical doctor's proof. The employer draws up an "Employment Certificate" which, together with the certificates submitted by the insured person, is forwarded to the district office of the county within 5 days electronically. If the employer has a social security payment office, the employer sends the application to the payment office, not the district office. This process is applied to the sickness benefit, sickness benefit while caring a child, infant care allowance, child care fee, and accident sickness benefit claim forms as well.

### **Know your rights**

The link below set out your rights in law, it is not an European Commission site and does not represent the view of the Commission:

- [Sickness benefits](#)

European Commission publication and website:

- [Social security cover: your rights abroad as EU citizen](#)

### **Who do you need to contact?**

Your employer, your medical doctor or practitioner.

#### **Ministry of Interior Belügyminisztérium**

Budapest  
József Attila u, 2-4.  
1051 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY  
<https://kormany.hu/belugyminiszterium>

#### **Hungarian State Treasury Magyar Államkincstár**

Budapest  
Fiumei út 19/a. 1081 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY  
<https://egbiztpenzbeli.tcs.allamkincstar.gov.hu>  
e-mail: [penzbeli@onyf.allamkincstar.gov.hu](mailto:penzbeli@onyf.allamkincstar.gov.hu)

# Incapacity

## Benefits in case of accidents at work and occupational diseases

The Hungarian health insurance system provides accident benefit coverage to insured persons.

### In what situation can I claim?

The insurance covers all injuries and illnesses incurred in the course of work, that are work-related or happen on the way to or from work (accidents at work), and diseases and deterioration of a worker's health due to the hazards peculiar to the job (occupational diseases).

An occupational disease is an acute and chronic disease which occurs during or after the exercise of an occupation and which is due to physical, chemical, biological, psychosocial or ergonomic pathological factors that occur during work, or as a result of more or less than optimal use of the worker. Anyone who intentionally caused the injury to himself or who was deliberately delayed in seeking medical help or reporting the accident is not entitled to benefits.

Benefits in case of accidents at work and occupational disease:

- (in kind) accident health services
- work accident sickness benefit (*Baleseti táppénz*)
- work accident annuity (*Baleseti járadék*)

### What conditions do I need to meet?

**Work accident sickness benefit** (*Baleseti táppénz*) is paid to people who, as a result of an accident at work or an occupational disease, are unable to work (i.e. are unable to work due to their work-related health status that is requiring medical treatment or in the absence of medical aid.)

A **work accident annuity** (*Baleseti járadék*) is paid to anyone who, as a result of an accident at work or occupational disease, suffers a loss of working capacity of more than 13% and is not entitled to disability benefit.

Benefits in kind include general medical assistance, 100% coverage for medicine, appliances and healthcare, and certain free dental treatments that are connected with the sickness or injury.

### What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

#### **Work accident sickness benefit** (*Baleseti táppénz*)

These benefits, which are equal to 100% of income (90% in the case of an accident while travelling), are granted for 1 year, but may be extended for a further year if necessary. Extensions may only be granted on the basis of a medical advice.

#### **Work accident annuity** (*Baleseti járadék*)

If the loss of working capacity is no more than 20%, the allowance is paid for maximum 2 years; otherwise, it is paid until the person is able to work again. The amount of this allowance depends on the loss of working capacity, and represents 8, 10, 15 or 30% of the average monthly income.

The authorised rehabilitation expert team makes a complex assessment on medical, social and employment issues. On the basis of this assessment, the team decides upon the extent of damage to health, the professional working capacity, the ability to be rehabilitated as well as the directions and duration of the rehabilitation.

## Forms you may need to fill in

Work accident sickness benefit should be claimed by submitting medical certificates of incapacity for work to the employer. Before deciding on an application, the authority must decide whether or not the accident is recognised as a work accident.

## Know your rights

The link below set out your rights in law, it is not an European Commission site and does not represent the view of the Commission:

- [Health insurance in Hungary](#)

European Commission publication and website:

- [Social security cover: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)

## Who do you need to contact?

### Hungarian State Treasury

### Magyar Államkincstár

Budapest

Fiumei út 19/a.

1081 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

<https://egbiztpenzbeli.tcs.allamkincstar.gov.hu>

e-mail: [penzbeli@allamkincstar.gov.hu](mailto:penzbeli@allamkincstar.gov.hu)

## Invalidity benefits

This chapter provides information on the benefits for persons with changed working capacity, i.e.:

- Rehabilitation benefit (*rehabilitációs ellátás*);
- Disability benefit (*rokkantsági ellátás*).

## In what situation can I claim?

Persons eligible for benefits intended for persons with changed working capacity are those:

- whose state of health is assessed at 60% or less; and
- who had been insured for at least 1,095 days within 5 years, 2,555 days within 10 years or 3,650 days within 15 years before submitting the claim;
- who are not performing any gainful activity; and
- who do not receive any regular cash benefits.

Exceptional disability benefit is available in certain cases.

## What conditions do I need to meet?

### Benefits for persons with changed working capacity

Persons eligible for benefits intended for persons with changed working capacity are those:

- whose state of health is assessed at 60% or less; and
- who had been insured for at least 1,095 days within 5 years, 2,555 days within 10 years or 3,650 days within 15 years before submitting the claim;
- who are not performing any gainful activity; and

- who do not receive any regular cash benefits.

The benefit for persons with changed working capacity consists of two separate provisions:

- the person is entitled to **rehabilitation benefit** (*rehabilitációs ellátás*), if he/she can be rehabilitated. The rehabilitation benefit may be provided for the period required for rehabilitation, within the limit of 3 years from the start of the benefit.
- a person with changed working capacity is entitled to **disability benefit** (*rokkantsági ellátás*), if rehabilitation is not recommended; or he/she cannot be rehabilitated, or the person reaches the retirement age within 5 years.

A person with changed working capacity is entitled to exceptional disability benefit when the state of health is assessed at 50% or less or if the person needs permanent rehabilitation, the time remaining to retirement age is 10 years or less and the person has at least half the minimum insurance record needed to be eligible to rehabilitation or disability benefit.

Benefits for persons with changed working capacity are health insurance benefits.

Eligibility is assessed by the rehabilitation authority, which conducts a multidisciplinary examination (the so-called 'complex assessment') on the state of health and the possibility of rehabilitation of the claimant.

The claimant may be obliged to report to the rehabilitation body for the complex assessment. Failure to do so may result in termination of the procedure.

Disability and rehabilitation benefits are paid by the Pension Payment Directorate.

## What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

**Rehabilitation benefit** (*rehabilitációs ellátás*):

- persons for whom rehabilitation is possible within an expected time frame:
  - amount: 35% of the average monthly income;
  - minimum: 30% of the basic amount;
  - ceiling: 40% of the basic amount;
- persons who need permanent rehabilitation:
  - amount: 45% of the average monthly income;
  - minimum: 40% of the basic amount;
  - ceiling: 50% of the basic amount.

**Disability benefit** (*rokkantsági ellátás*) varies according to the decision on the health status and the possibility of rehabilitation:

- amount: 40-70% of the average monthly income;
- minimum: 30-55% of the basic amount;
- ceiling: 45% or 150% of the basic amount.

The basic amount is HUF 129,860 per month in 2023.

## Forms you may need to fill in

Benefits for persons with changed working capacity can be claimed, free of charge, via the relevant printed or electronic application forms at the government office of the claimant's place of residence.

## Know your rights

European Commission publication and website:

- [Social security cover: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)



**Who do you need to contact?**

**County government offices**

**Lakóhely szerint illetékes kormányhivatalok**

The contact details for the government offices are available on the following website:

<http://www.kormanyhivatal.hu/hu>

# Old-age and survivors

## Old-age benefits

The chapter provides information on old-age and early old-age benefits in Hungary.

### In what situation can I claim?

Benefits provided by the statutory pension system are old-age pensions (only above retirement age), 40 years' eligibility period for women (*nők 40 év jogosultsági idővel*) and survivors' benefits.

Persons who have reached statutory retirement age and have paid the necessary number of years of insurance contributions are eligible for an old-age pension.

If you are still engaged in gainful employment and you are submitting a pension claim, the termination of this gainful employment is no longer an eligibility criteria for an old age pension. Pensioners do not pay contribution.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

#### Old-age pension (*Öregségi nyugdíj*)

Persons who have reached the statutory retirement age and have paid the necessary number of years of insurance contributions are eligible for an old-age pension. In 2023, people can retire at age 65.

#### Early old-age pension

The so-called **Old-age pension for women with 40 years of eligibility period** (*Öregségi nyugdíj nők számára 40 év jogosultsági idővel*) is available for women, regardless of their age, who have fulfilled at least 40 years of eligibility period. The eligibility period refers to any period of gainful activity or of receipt of pregnancy confinement benefit (*terhességi gyermekágyi segély*) (up to 31 December 2014), infant care allowance (*Csecsemőgondozási díj*), child care fee (*Gyermekgondozási díj*), adoption fee (*Örkbefogadói díj*) (from 1 January 2020), child home care allowance (*Gyermekgondozási segély*) (up to 31 December 2015), child care allowance (*Gyermekgondozást segítő ellátás*) (from 1 January 2016), and child raising support (*Gyermeknevelési támogatás*), the nursing fee linked to child raising (*Ápolási díj*), or of the child home care fee (*Gyermekek otthongondozási díja*). At least 32 years of gainful activity are needed in addition to periods of receipt of the abovementioned benefits linked to child raising; or 30 years of gainful activity are required in the case of receipt of the nursing fee or the child home care fee. The eligibility period is decreased by 1 year after every child raised in the household for women raising 5 or more children with a maximum reduction of 7 years.

Several benefits, which are not old-age pensions, can be paid before reaching retirement age:

- benefit prior to retirement age (*korhatár előtti ellátás*) for persons who have not yet reached their retirement age and were receiving an early retirement pension (*Korkezdvezményes öregségi nyugdíj*), miners' pension (*bányásznyugdíj*) or artists' pension (*művésznyugdíj*) on 31 December 2011;
- transitional annuity for miners (*átmeneti bányászjáradék*) for those who have completed at least 25 years of insurance and 5,000 shifts in mines;
- life annuity for dance artists (*táncművészeti éltejáradék*) for those who have completed 25 years of insurance as a dancer in a dance company listed in law;
- service benefit for armed forces (*szolgálati járandóság*) for those who were entitled to service pensions for professionals of armed forces (*szolgálati nyugdíj*) due to invalidity and had completed 25 years of armed service by 31 December 2011.

## **What am I entitled to and how can I claim?**

Pensions have to be applied for using a standard form. If you live in Hungary, you can submit the form to the capital and county government offices of the place of residence (*fővárosi és vármegyei kormányhivatalok (lakóhely szerinti)*) in person, by post or electronically.

In international pension cases, you must submit your application to the Government Office of the Capital City of Budapest Office (*Budapest Főváros Kormányhivatala*).

The amount of the pension depends on average wage and length of service time (insurance period). The average wage that is used as the basis for calculating the old-age pension is determined, as a general rule, on the basis of the income subject to pension contributions between 1 January 1988 and the date of retirement.

### **Minimum pension**

The Hungarian pension system provides for a minimum pension, with a qualifying condition of minimum 20 years of service, of HUF 28,500 per month. If the average contribution base is less than the amount of the minimum pension, the pension will equal 100% of the average monthly wage.

### **Deferment of retirement**

Persons with 20 years of service time who have reached retirement age, whose pension has not yet been granted and who have continued to work for at least 30 days are entitled to a pension increase of 0.5% of the amount of the pension for each supplementary 30-day period. In this case, the final amount of the pension can be more than the average monthly contribution base.

### **Death grants**

Local governments may provide support to bear the costs of funeral, but there is no obligation for them to do so.

Funeral at public expense: the mayor of the commune, including the locality where the death occurred must ensure that the person is buried at public expense within 30 days of notification of the death, if there is no one to take charge or if the person whose responsibility it is cannot be found or refuses to do so. The cost of the funeral is reimbursed by the commune in which the deceased was last resident.

## **Forms you may need to fill in**

Application forms can be downloaded from [https://magyarorszag.hu/szuf\\_szolg\\_lista?kategoria=NYU](https://magyarorszag.hu/szuf_szolg_lista?kategoria=NYU)

or picked up from any pension client service.

In international cases you must submit your application to the Government Office of the Capital City of Budapest (*Budapest Főváros Kormányhivatala*).

## **Know your rights**

European Commission publication and website:

- [Retiring abroad: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)

## **Who do you need to contact?**

### **Government Office of the Capital City of Budapest Budapest Főváros Kormányhivatal**

Budapest  
Fiumei út 19/A  
1081 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY  
postal address: 1916 Budapest  
<http://www.kormanyhivatalok.hu>

## Survivors' benefits

This chapter covers several benefits:

- Widow(er)'s pension (*Özvegyi nyugdíj*);
- Orphan's allowance (*Árvaellátás*);
- Parental pension (*Szülői nyugdíj*).

### In what situation can I claim?

The survivors of an insured person are entitled to survivors' benefits as long as the deceased had the necessary insurance period or had been receiving an old-age pension before death. A person who is found by the courts to have intentionally provoked the death of the insured is not entitled to a benefit. Survivors' pension benefits are paid to the widow/widower, orphans or parents of an insured person. Survivors' benefits are also paid if the death was due to a work accident or occupational disease.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

#### Widow(er)'s pension (*Özvegyi nyugdíj*)

Persons eligible for a widow(er)'s pension (*Özvegyi nyugdíj*) are those whose spouse died as an old-age pensioner, or whose spouse:

- died before reaching age 22; and
  - has accrued service period in the 180 days after finishing studies; or
  - has accrued in total at least 2 years of service period;
- died between ages 22-25 and has accrued at least 4 years of service period;
- died between ages 25-30 and has accrued at least 6 years of service period;
- died between ages 30-35 and has accrued at least 8 years of service period;
- died between ages 35-45 and has accrued at least 10 years of service period;
- died after reaching age 45 and has accrued at least 15 years of service period.

Persons are also eligible if their deceased spouse has not accrued the above-mentioned service periods, but has accrued the required service period for a lower age cohort (listed above), provided that after that date until the date of death there has been no interruption longer than 30 days in his/her service period.

Temporary and permanent widow(er)'s pension:

Temporary widow(er)'s pension is due for 1 year or for a maximum of 3 years if the widow(er) cares for a disabled or permanently ill orphan.

Temporary widow(er)'s pension is converted into permanent pension if the spouse:

- is above his/her relevant retirement age; or
- is deemed to be a person with changed working capacity; or
- has at least two minor children (who are entitled to orphan's allowance) from the deceased or cares for one orphan, who is regarded as disabled or permanently ill (and who is entitled to orphan's benefit).

#### Orphan's allowance (*Árvaellátás*)

Any child, including a child of an earlier marriage or cohabitation, who is raised in the same household in the framework of a marriage or cohabitation, is entitled to an orphan's allowance. An adopted child is not entitled to an allowance from the death of his/her biological parent unless he/she has been adopted by his/her biological parent's spouse.

This allowance is also due to the brothers and sisters, grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren who have lived with the deceased in the same household when there is no one in their family who is obliged and able to look after them.

#### **Parental pension** (*Szülői nyugdíj*)

A dependent parent's pension will be paid to any person whose deceased child was an old-age or invalidity pensioner at the time of his/her death, or was entitled to either of those pensions if, at the time of his/her death, the parent is disabled or elderly (65 or over) and had been substantially dependent on the child during the last year of the latter's life.

### **What am I entitled to and how can I claim?**

#### **Widow(er)'s pension** (*Özvegyi nyugdíj*)

A temporary widow(er)'s pension is usually granted for a period of 1 year from the date of death of the spouse. If the widow(er) cares for a child who is under 18 month old or the child is disabled, the temporary widow(er)'s pension is granted until the child is 3 year old.

Once this period has expired, a permanent widow's pension is due if the person has reached the age of entitlement to the old-age pension (i.e. retirement age); or is considered to be a person with changed working capacity; or looks after at least 2 orphans (or an orphan with disability or permanent illness) who are the children of the deceased and living in the same household. This permanent pension is also due if one of the above situations occurs within 10 years from the death of the deceased person.

The temporary widow's pension is 60% of the amount of the pension the deceased was receiving or would have been entitled to. The permanent widow's pension is also 60% if she has no pension in her own right; otherwise it is 30% of the deceased person's pension.

If there is more than one beneficiary, the widow's pension is shared equally among them. There is no statutory minimum pension.

#### **Orphan's allowance** (*Árvaellátás*)

The orphan's allowance is paid until the beneficiary reaches the age of 16 or has completed full-time education, to a maximum age of 25 (or 27 upon exceptional circumstances). If the child becomes disabled while still entitled to this pension, he or she retains this right for as long as he or she remains disabled, regardless of his or her age.

A child whose parent had fulfilled the service period required for widow(er)'s pension before his/her death, or died as an old-age pensioner, is eligible.

An Exceptional orphan's allowance (*kivételes árvaellátás*) can be awarded upon certain conditions, e.g. when the deceased person does not fully fulfil the eligibility criteria.

The orphan's allowance is 30% of the deceased person's pension, and 60% if both parents are deceased or if the surviving parent is disabled. This benefit cannot be less than HUF 50,000 per month. A child who is entitled to a pension from the right of both parents will be granted the more generous of the two.

#### **Parental pension** (*Szülői nyugdíj*)

The parental pension is calculated in the same way as the widow's pension on the same conditions (60% or 30%). If there is more than one beneficiary, the pension must be shared equally among them. There is no statutory minimum pension.

### **Forms you may need to fill in**

Survivor's benefits have to be applied for using a standard form. Application forms can be downloaded from [https://magyarorszag.hu/szuf\\_szolg\\_lista?kategoria=NYU](https://magyarorszag.hu/szuf_szolg_lista?kategoria=NYU) or picked up from any pension client service.

In international cases you must submit your application to the Government Office of the Capital City of Budapest (*Budapest Főváros Kormányhivatala*).

## **Know your rights**

European Commission publication and website:

- [Bereavement benefits: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)

## **Who do you need to contact?**

**Government Office of the Capital City of Budapest**

**Budapest Főváros Kormányhivatala**

Budapest

Fiumei út 19/A

1081 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

postal address: 1916 Budapest

<http://www.kormanyhivatalok.hu>

# Social assistance



## Minimum resources

This chapter provides information on several benefits supporting people with low incomes:

- Invalidity annuity (*Rokkantsági járadék*);
- Old-age allowance (*időskorúak járadéka*);
- Benefit for persons in active age (*aktív korúak ellátása*).

### In what situation can I claim?

#### Invalidity annuity (*Rokkantsági járadék*)

This is paid to any person who suffers from a health damage of at least 70% which occurred before reaching the age of 25 and is not receiving a pension, invalidity pension or 'benefit for persons with changed working capacity'. The benefit is payable until the eligibility criteria apply.

#### Old-age allowance (*időskorúak járadéka*)

Elderly persons whose income is insufficient to support them are entitled to an old-age allowance.

#### Benefit for persons in active age (*aktív korúak ellátása*)

This benefit is provided to ensure a minimum standard of living for persons of active age (ranging from the age of 18 until retirement age) who are not employed and not in education, and who do not have sufficient living resources.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

#### Invalidity annuity (*Rokkantsági járadék*)

This is paid to any person who suffers from a health damage of at least 70% which occurred before reaching the age of 25 and is not receiving a pension, invalidity pension or 'benefits for persons with changed working capacity'. The annuity paid by the Central State Budget amounts to HUF 53,830 per month. The benefit can be awarded only after reaching age of 18, but the health damage should occur before reaching the age of 25. The benefit is payable until the eligibility criteria apply.

#### Old-age allowance (*időskorúak járadéka*)

Elderly persons whose income is insufficient to support them are entitled to an old-age allowance. This applies in the following cases:

- Persons who are of legal retirement age and who are living with a spouse or cohabiting partner, if the per capita income, including the income of the spouse, is not higher than HUF 32,785 per month.
- Persons living alone who are of legal retirement age, but are less than 75, and whose monthly income does not exceed HUF 38,555.
- Persons living alone who are 75 years of age or older, and whose monthly income is less than HUF 52,045.

The amount of the allowance paid depends on which category the beneficiary belongs to.

The old-age allowance cannot be granted or paid to a person who is in custody or in prison, who is resident abroad for more than 3 months, or whose right of residence has ceased or who is not residing in the country anymore.

#### Benefit for persons in active age (*aktív korúak ellátása*)

This benefit is provided to ensure a minimum standard of living for persons of working age (ranging from the age of 18 until retirement age) who are not employed and not in education, and who do not have sufficient living resources.

Those entitled to benefit for persons of working age are those who:

- have lost at least 67% of their working ability (or have a health impairment of at least 50%), or are in receipt of blind persons' annuity or of disability assistance;
- are unemployed, but no longer entitled to job-seeker benefit (or not entitled to any kind of income supplement at all, in this case a certain period of cooperation with the public employment service is needed);
- and have no alternative source of living.

A person does not have an alternative source of living if the family's monthly income per consumption unit does not exceed 90% of the social reference base (*szociális vetítési alap*).

## What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

### Invalidity annuity (*Rokkantsági járadék*)

The amount of invalidity annuity in 2023 is HUF 53,830 a month.

### Old-age allowance (*időskorúak járadéka*)

As regards old-age allowance, if the beneficiary is not living alone, the amount is HUF 32,785; for those in the second category (retirement age\*-75 and living alone), the monthly amount of the pension is HUF 38,555; for those in the third category (one-person households above 75 years) it is HUF 52,045.

\*Retirement age is being gradually increased (by half a year for every age cohort) as of 2010, reaching age 65 in 2023 for those born in 1957 and after.

### Benefit for persons in active age (*aktív korúak ellátása*)

Two types of cash benefits are paid to persons of working age, i.e. benefit for people suffering from health problems or taking care of a child and employment substituting benefit. The amount of the benefit for people suffering from health problems or taking care of a child depends on the size, composition and income of the family (the maximum amount is HUF 69,430 from January 2023); the amount of the employment substituting benefit is fixed (HUF 22,800 in 2023).

## Forms you may need to fill in

Invalidity annuity is administered by the designated district government offices.

Benefit for persons of active age and old-age allowance are granted by the district offices. The claimant has to complete a form and attach the documents on the family's income (in the case of benefit for persons in active age (*aktív korúak ellátása*), also on family properties). Under certain conditions, other documents are also needed, e.g. a document on health impairment or a certificate of the public employment service on the exhaustion of job-seeker benefit (*Álláskeresési járadék*). The authority has to take a decision on the claim within a period of 60 calendar days. The different forms are available at the competent authorities.

## Know your rights

European Commission publication and website:

- [Social security cover: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)

## Who do you need to contact?

*Invalidity annuity*: capital and county government offices (*fővárosi és vármegyei kormányhivatalok*).

*Old-age allowance*: district offices (*járási hivatalok*).

*Benefit for people of working age*: district offices (*járási hivatalok*).

# Unemployment

## Unemployment benefits

This chapter provides information on the following benefits:

- Job-seeker benefit (*Álláskeresési járadék*);
- Job-seeker aid before pension (*nyugdíj előtti álláskeresési segély*).

### In what situation can I claim?

A job-seeker is a person who is registered as a job-seeker with the District Office of the Capital or County Government Office, i.e. who meets the necessary legal and other conditions enabling him/her to work (e.g. he or she does not need a work permit); citizens of the EU/EEA, as well as persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union, are regarded as job-seekers even if they do require a permit. A job-seeker cannot be a student in full-time education or a person entitled to an old-age pension, or benefits for persons with changed working capacity (*megváltozott munkaképességű személyek ellátásai*), and may not receive income from other activities, except for occasional work. A job-seeker has to cooperate with the District Office of the Capital or the County Government Office.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

A job-seeker who has worked for at least 360 days in the 3 years before becoming a job-seeker is entitled to a job-seeker benefit of 1 day's benefit for every 10 days worked. This means that the minimum entitlement is for 36 days, and the maximum 90 days.

Job-seeker aid before pension can be granted to older job-seekers.

The unemployment benefits system comprises both active and passive benefits.

Providing information about employment and the labour market, counselling on labour, career, job search and rehabilitation, career guidance, local employment tips and job offers, occupational counselling and job replacement are the available labour market services in the framework of the active labour market policy tools.

A job-seeker can also take part in training and business start-up programmes. Moreover, there are many forms of employment support channelled through the employer – especially for disadvantaged jobseekers such as young people or disabled workers, including wage subsidies for job creation and job preservation. Passive support comprises job-seeker benefit, which is a financial benefit available to those who have lost their jobs, and job-seeker aid before pension. There is no special benefit for insured self-employed persons, who receive the same job-seeker benefit as the employees.

### What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

#### Job-seeker benefit (*Álláskeresési járadék*)

The law provides for the job-seeker benefit to be paid for a maximum of 90 days, and the allowance equals 60% of the previous average pay, but the amount cannot be higher than 100% of the minimum wage (i.e. HUF 232,000 in 2023).

The amount of this benefit is calculated on the basis of the average pay in the four calendar quarters preceding the loss of the job. If the job-seeker has worked for more than one employer in that time, the amount of the allowance is calculated on the basis of the average pay received from all their employers. If the job-seeker's average pay cannot be determined, the amount of the allowance is calculated on the basis of 130% of the national minimum wage.

Job-seeker benefit stops:

- at the request of the beneficiary;
- if the beneficiary becomes entitled to benefits for persons with changed working capacity;

- if the beneficiary receives income from other activities for more than 90 days, except for occasional work;
- if the beneficiary enters full-time education;
- or when the period of entitlement ends;
- or if the beneficiary dies.

Job-seeker benefit should be terminated:

- if he or she is removed from the register;
- or if he or she does not fulfil the criteria of a job-seeker;
- or if he or she does not comply with the obligation to appear;
- or if he or she does not accept the appropriate job offered by the labour centre;
- or if he or she fails to enrol in a training programme under which he or she will receive an allowance equal to the minimum wage;
- or fails to participate in an employment-facilitating labour market programme;
- or if he or she fails to fulfil his or her reporting obligation on pursuing gainful activity to the Public Employment Service (District Office of the Capital or County Government Office).

### **Job-seeker aid before pension** (*nyugdíj előtti álláskeresési segély*)

It is a principle of the law that no group of unemployed persons can be less favourably treated than another. Thus job-seeker aid before pension is paid to a job-seeker who:

- is within 5 years of reaching retirement;
- has been receiving job-seeker benefit (*álláskeresési járadék*) for at least 45 days, and the period of payment of benefit comes to an end, or their job-seeker benefit was terminated due to employment and they are not entitled to job-seeker benefit again;
- shall reach retirement age in not more than 5 years, within 3 years of the termination of the job-seeker benefit;
- is not receiving benefit prior to retirement age (*korhatár előtti ellátás*), service benefit for armed forces (*szolgálati járandóság*), life annuity for dance artists (*táncművészeti életjáradék*), or transitional annuity for miners (*átmeneti bányászjáradék*);
- has a sufficient contribution period for retirement (normally 15 years).

The relevant legislation stipulates that job-seeker aid before pension can be paid until the person becomes entitled to the old-age pension or to benefits for persons with changed working capacity (*megváltozott munkaképességű személyek ellátása*). The amount of the compensation is 40% of the minimum wage (HUF 92,800 in 2023) at the time when the application is made. If the calculation of the job-seeker benefit is based on a lower amount than the aforementioned sum, the aid will be equal to this lower amount.

The job-seeker receiving this compensation is authorised to work. Unlike the job-seeker benefit, the income from this work has no impact on the payment of job-seeker aid. Otherwise, the rules for cancellation and suspension of job-seeker's compensation are generally the same as those for job-seeker benefit.

### **Forms you may need to fill in**

Form E301 or PDU1 which can be given by the District Office of the Capital and County Government Office.

## **Know your rights**

The link below set out your rights in law, it is not an European Commission site and does not represent the view of the Commission:

- [National labour office](#)

European Commission publication and website:

- [Unemployment and social security cover: your rights abroad as an EU citizen](#)

## **Who do you need to contact?**

A person who loses his or her job must register with the competent [District Office of the Capital and County Government Office](#). They must declare themselves as job-seekers actively looking for work and must cooperate with the competent District Office of the Capital and County Government Office.

### **Ministry for Economic Development**

Budapest

Vám u.5.

1011 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

<https://kormany.hu/gazdasagfejlesztési-miniszterium>

# Moving abroad

## Previous coverage abroad can count.

This chapter tells you what you need to know about moving around the EU and the impact that has on your social benefits.

For the UK, each case needs to be assessed individually to determine whether a person falls within the scope of Art 30 of the Withdrawal Agreement, and so the EU Coordination Regulations apply, or whether they fall within the scope of situations described in Art 32 of the Withdrawal Agreement and/or come under domestic legislation and the Protocol on Social Security Coordination attached to the Trade and Cooperation Agreement.

### How does social security work in the EU?

**If you are going to work in an EU country**, or other countries covered by EU regulations, generally you will no longer be a part of the Hungarian social security system and the laws of your new country will apply to you.

**If you have lived, worked and/or paid insurance in another EU country**, or other countries covered by the same regulations, your time living in another of these countries, the period you have worked or the contributions you have paid may be taken into account when your benefits are calculated in Hungary.

### What benefits can I receive?

The ability to combine your contributions paid in EU countries applies to the following benefits:

- sickness benefit;
- maternity and paternity benefit;
- insurance-based family benefits;
- benefits for persons with reduced working capacity;
- old-age pension (contributory);
- survivors' benefits;
- job-seeker's allowances.

You may also be required to have contributions paid in certain years, but these conditions can be satisfied using contributions made in other EU countries for eligibility, but a benefit is paid after the proportion of periods spent in Hungary.

Certain social security benefits from another European Economic Area (EEA) country or Switzerland may also be transferred to Hungary.

### How can I claim?

If you have been working in a country covered by EU regulations and you are returning to Hungary, you need to bring:

- a record of your social insurance contributions using forms E104 and U1 (formerly E301) which you can get from your local social security office. Check with them to make sure you are bringing back all the necessary documentation.

If you have been receiving unemployment benefit from an EEA country or Switzerland for 4 weeks, you can transfer it to Hungary for 3 to 6 months for job-seeking purposes. You need to bring a completed U2 form (formerly E303).

When you are applying for Hungarian social insurance payments, there is a section in the form which asks if you have ever been employed in an EU country.

You will need to know:

- the country where you worked;



- the name and address of your employer there;
- the dates you worked there; and
- your Social Insurance Number there.

Whenever you need to meet certain conditions to claim, the authorities need to take into account the time you may have been paying if you have been working in an EU country or other countries covered by EU regulations. You will still be covered if you change your job and travel to work in these countries.

### **Know your rights**

The links below set out your rights in law, they are not European Commission sites and do not represent the view of the Commission:

- [Hungarian State Treasury](#)
- [Your rights in the unemployment benefit system](#)
- [Information for UK citizens](#)

European Commission publication and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

### **Who do you need to contact?**

#### **National Institute of Health Insurance Fund Management Nemzeti Egészségbiztosítási Alapkezelő, NEAK**

Budapest

Váci út 73/A

1139 MAGYARORSZÁG/HUNGARY

Tel. + 36 03502001

Fax + 36 12982413

<http://www.neak.gov.hu/>

# Main residence

## Habitual residency

This chapter provides information on the 'habitual residency' requirements you need to comply with in order to claim certain benefits in Hungary.

### Am I a 'habitual resident'?

A person is considered a habitual resident in Hungary when they have their centre of interests in Hungary and have a registered home in the country. A person has to declare their place of residence. The first day of stay in the territory of Hungary is, unless otherwise proven, the day on which an EEA national's stay is reported, or the day on which the application for a residence card for a third-country citizen family member is submitted.

The resident home has to be declared at the local Office of Immigration and Nationality on the forms provided. Without this process, a person is not officially a habitual resident.

An EU national, who is only staying in Hungary, is entitled to medically necessary healthcare treatment if holding the European Health Insurance Card, but is not entitled to claim any benefit, allowance, fee or compensation.

Only a habitual resident can claim the benefits and allowances of the previous chapters.

### What conditions do I need to meet?

Habitual residents, including persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union, are entitled to claim social benefits if they are temporarily in need. However, if they receive certain types of income replacement social assistance permanently, after a certain period of time the immigration office may have to examine if they have enough resources (which is a prerequisite of the right to reside in Hungary) not to become an unreasonable burden for the Hungarian social assistance scheme.

### Forms you may need to fill in

The forms necessary for establishing residence are administered by the Office of Immigration and Nationality (OIN). These forms are applicable for EU citizens (registration certificate, long-term residence permit) and their third-country family members (Registration card).

- [Forms to fill in for the Residence Permit card](#)
- [Residence in Hungary](#)

### Know your rights

The link below set out your rights in law, it is not an European Commission site and does not represent the view of the Commission:

- [Information for UK citizens](#)

European Commission publication and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

### Who do you need to contact?

- [Office of Immigration and Nationality](#)

## **Getting in touch with the EU**

### **In person**

All over the European Union there are hundreds of Europe Direct information centres. You can find the address of the centre nearest you at: [europa.eu/european-union/contact\\_en](https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en)

### **On the phone or by email**

Europe Direct is a service that answers your questions about the European Union. You can contact this service:

- by freephone: 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 (certain operators may charge for these calls),
- at the following standard number: +32 22999696 or
- by email via: [europa.eu/european-union/contact\\_en](https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en)

## **Finding information about the EU**

### **Online**

Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website at: [europa.eu/european-union/index\\_en](https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en)

### **EU publications**

You can download or order free and priced EU publications at: [publications.europa.eu/en/publications](https://publications.europa.eu/en/publications). Multiple copies of free publications may be obtained by contacting Europe Direct or your local information centre (see [europa.eu/european-union/contact\\_en](https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en)).

### **EU law and related documents**

For access to legal information from the EU, including all EU law since 1952 in all the official language versions, go to EUR-Lex at: [eur-lex.europa.eu](https://eur-lex.europa.eu)

### **Open data from the EU**

The EU Open Data Portal ([data.europa.eu/euodp/en](https://data.europa.eu/euodp/en)) provides access to datasets from the EU.

Data can be downloaded and reused for free, both for commercial and non-commercial purposes.

