



Your social security rights in Greece



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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

Contact: <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=2&langId=en&acronym=contact>

European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

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Manuscript completed in July 2023

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Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2023

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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/Paternity Benefits	10
HEALTH.....	14
Healthcare.....	15
Sickness cash benefits	18
INCAPACITY.....	21
Benefits for accidents at work and occupational diseases.....	22
Invalidity benefits.....	23
Invalidity pensions	26
OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS	29
Old-age pensions	30
Survivor's benefits.....	32
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	35
Benefits due to minimum resources	36
Long-term care benefits	38
UNEMPLOYMENT.....	41
Unemployment insurance benefits and unemployment assistance benefits.....	42
MOVING ABROAD	45
Aggregation of insurance periods abroad.....	46
MAIN RESIDENCE	48
Permanent residence	49

Family

Family benefits

This chapter includes everything you need to know about family benefits in Greece.

Here you will find information on the following:

- Child benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΠΑΙΔΙΟΥ*)
- Benefit granted to families living in mountainous and disadvantaged areas (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΟΡΕΙΝΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΜΕΙΟΝΕΚΤΙΚΩΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΩΝ*)
- Childbirth benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΓΕΝΝΗΣΗΣ*)
- Childbirth allowance (*ΒΟΗΘΗΜΑ ΤΟΚΕΤΟΥ*)
- Parental leave for raising a child (*ΓΟΝΙΚΗ ΑΔΕΙΑ ΑΝΑΤΡΟΦΗΣ ΠΑΙΔΙΟΥ*)

In what situation can I claim?

Child benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΠΑΙΔΙΟΥ*) is provided to families for every dependent child up to 18 years old or 19 years old if enrolled in secondary education (up to 24 years old if enrolled in higher education). Beneficiaries are required to permanently and constantly reside in Greece over the last five – year period (except for third country citizens for whom the requirement is 12 years). Organisation of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity (OPEKA) is responsible for paying the benefit.

Benefit granted to families living in mountainous and disadvantaged areas (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΟΡΕΙΝΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΜΕΙΟΝΕΚΤΙΚΩΝ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΩΝ*) is provided to families living permanently in mountainous and/or disadvantaged areas for at least two years before application to the benefit, and with an annual family income below EUR 4,700. The benefit is also granted to single parent families.

Childbirth allowance (*ΒΟΗΘΗΜΑ ΤΟΚΕΤΟΥ*) is a lump-sum paid by the National Organisation for the Provision of Health Services (ΕΟΡΥΥ) to salaried employees who are directly insured and to pensioners, as well as to the spouses of insured persons and pensioners. The benefit is provided to women who choose to give birth at home in place of obstetric care.

Parental leave for raising a child (*ΓΟΝΙΚΗ ΑΔΕΙΑ ΑΝΑΤΡΟΦΗΣ ΠΑΙΔΙΟΥ*): both parents are entitled to the parental leave in order to raise the child until he/she reaches the age of 8.

What conditions do I need to meet?

Child benefit is paid depending on equivalent family income. The following categories equivalence scale is applied:

Categories	Income limit (EUR)
1	Up to 6,000
2	6,001 – 10,000
3	10,001 – 15,000

Benefit granted to families living in mountainous and disadvantaged areas is provided to families living permanently in mountainous and/or disadvantaged areas for at least two years before application, and with an annual family income below EUR 4,700.

Childbirth benefit is granted to women legally and permanently residing in Greece, given that their annual equivalent family income does not exceed EUR 40,000.

Childbirth allowance: you must have accumulated 50 days of insurance during the previous year or during the last 15 months, without however counted the last three months.

Parental leave for raising a child: you must be working for at least 1 year to the same employer, unless it is more favourably defined by a special provision of law, decrees, regulations, collective labour agreements, arbitration decisions or employer – employee agreements.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Child benefit: the amount depends on the number of dependent children and the category of equivalent family income.

First category:

- EUR 70 per month for the first dependent child;
- EUR 70 per month for the second dependent child;
- EUR 140 per month for the third and every other dependent child beyond the third.

Second category:

- EUR 42 per month for the first dependent child;
- EUR 42 per month for the second dependent child;
- EUR 84 per month for the third and every other dependent child beyond the third.

Third category:

- EUR 28 per month for the first dependent child;
- EUR 28 per month for the second dependent child;
- EUR 56 per month for the third and every other dependent child beyond the third.

In order to receive the benefit, the beneficiary must file an A21 application online via the TAXISnet website once he/she has filed his/her income tax return (E1).

Benefit granted to families living in mountainous and disadvantaged areas

- EUR 600 per year for annual family income up to EUR 3,000;
- EUR 300 per year for annual family income from EUR 3,000.01 to EUR 4,700.

Childbirth benefit: lump-sum of EUR 2,000 paid in two equal instalments.

Childbirth allowance: lump-sum paid by the Illness Benefit Department of the local insurance unit of the e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA).

- EUR 900 for 1 child;
- EUR 1,200 for twins;
- EUR 1,600 for triplets.

Parental leave for raising a child: leave up to 4 months of which the first 2 months are paid by DYPA. In the case of multiple births the parental benefit is granted for 2 additional months, regardless of the number of children born together. Moreover, the leave and the benefit are doubled (up to 8 months leave of which the first 4 months are paid by DYPA) in special cases where one of the parents is not present:

- the child is orphan of one parent;
- the child is not recognised by the father;
- one of the parents has no legal custody of the child.

Request to be made to your employer and DYPA.

Jargon busters

- **Dependent child:** children who are born in wedlock, whether biological, adopted or recognised, and who are not older than 18 or 19 years of age, provided they are attending secondary school. In cases of children studying at a tertiary or higher education institution in Greece or at an accredited institution abroad, or at a Vocational Training Institute, the benefit is provided during the term of each child's studies, but cannot under any circumstances be provided after the age of 24. Furthermore, in terms of entitlement to the benefit, dependent children include children with a degree of disability of over 67%, as well as orphaned children who have lost both their parents.
- **Equivalence scale:** the equivalence scale is defined as the weighted sum of the members of a family. The one parent has a weighting of 1, the other has a weighting of 1/3 and each dependent child has a weighting of 1/6.
- **Equivalent income:** equivalent income is defined as the annual total family income, as stated in the income tax return of the current fiscal year, divided by the equivalence scale.
- **Income category:** families entitled to the single allowance child support are divided into three income categories depending on their equivalent income, as follows: families with an income of up to EUR 6,000 receive the full benefit (category A); families with an income from EUR 6,001 to EUR 12,000 (category B) receive 2/3 of the benefit, and families with an income from EUR 12,001 to EUR 18,000 (category C) receive 1/3 of the benefit.

EXAMPLE

A family (two parents) with two dependent children and an income of EUR 16,000.

Equivalence scale: $1 + 1/3 + 1/6 + 1/6 = 1.666$

Equivalent income: $16,000/1.666 = 9,604$

Income category: B

Family benefit: $80 \times (2/3) = \text{EUR } 53.33$ per month

Forms you may need to fill in

Child benefit: the form for application is A21 and has to be sent to Organisation of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity (OPEKA) via taxisnet.

- [Certificate of family benefits for tax purposes \(issued by former OGA\)](#)
- [A21: Application for former OGA family benefits](#)

Benefit granted to families living in mountainous and disadvantaged areas:

<https://opeka.gr/oikogeneies/oreines-kai-meionektikes-perioches/>

<https://oreina.epidomata.gov.gr/>

Childbirth benefit: <https://www.epidomagennisis.gr/pub/Home/Index>

Parental leave for raising a child:

- Posting by the employer of the special form E.14 "Parental Leave" in the "ERGANI" Information System.
- Submit an application to the DYPA through the [single digital portal of the public sector](#).

Know your rights

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Family benefits: your rights abroad as a citizen of the EU](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Organisation of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity (Οργανισμός Προνοιακών Επιδομάτων και Κοινωνικής Αλληλεγγύης ΟΠΕΚΑ-ΟΡΕΚΑ)

Πατησίων 30/Patision 30,

101 70 Αθήνα/Athens

ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE

Tel.: +30 213 -15 19 300

Website: <https://opeka.gr/>

Public Employment Service (DYP)

Directorate of Insurance & Social Policies

Εθνικής Αντιστάσεως 8/Ethnikis Antistaseos 8

174 56 Άλιμος/Alimos

ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE

Website: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/>

Citizens Service Centres (Κέντρα Εξυπηρέτησης Πολιτών-ΚΕΠ- ΚΕΡ)

Tel.: 1500

Website: www.kep.gov.gr/portal/page/portal/kep

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Maternity/Paternity Benefits

This chapter includes all you need to know about maternity and paternity benefits in Greece.

Periods of insurance completed in a Member State of the EU, EEA and Switzerland can be counted as insurance periods in Greece even if there is no legislative provision for this.

Here you will find information on the following:

- Maternity leave (ΑΔΕΙΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ)
- Maternity benefit (pregnancy-postpartum period) (ΕΠΪΔΟΜΑ ΚΥΟΦΟΡΪΑΣ-ΛΟΧΕΪΑΣ)
- Supplementary maternity allowance (ΣΥΜΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΙΚΕΣ ΠΑΡΟΧΕΣ ΜΗΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ)
- Special maternity leave and special maternity protection benefit (ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΠΑΡΟΧΗ ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΪΑΣ ΜΗΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ)
- Child Care Leave (ΑΔΕΙΑ ΦΡΟΝΤΙΔΑΣ ΤΕΚΝΟΥ)
- Paternity leave (ΑΔΕΙΑ ΠΑΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ)

In what situation can I claim?

There are different forms of support provided to mothers in Greece. All benefits - in kind and in cash - are contributory, which means they are provided to insured persons.

- **Maternity leave (ΑΔΕΙΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ):** working mothers directly insured.

- **Maternity benefits (pregnancy-postpartum)** (ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΚΥΟΦΟΡΙΑΣ-ΛΟΧΕΙΑΣ): working mothers, directly insured and entitled to maternity leave, during which time they receive maternity benefits.
- **Supplementary maternity allowance** (ΣΥΜΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΙΚΕΣ ΠΑΡΟΧΕΣ ΜΗΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ): working mothers who are qualified for the Maternity benefit.
- **Special maternity leave and special maternity protection benefit** (ΕΙΔΙΚΗ ΠΑΡΟΧΗ ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΙΑΣ ΜΗΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ): optional leave to mothers who have exhausted the regular maternity leave period and possibly the approximately 3.5 months of reduced working hours if taken in one single block (parents are entitled to work one hour less per day for up to 30 months after Maternity leave and, with the employer's agreement, have the possibility to convert this reduced working time into a block or blocks of time within the 30-month period after Maternity leave).
- **Child Care Leave** (ΑΔΕΙΑ ΦΡΟΝΤΙΔΑΣ ΤΕΚΝΟΥ): one of the two working parents is entitled to reduced working hours for the 30 or 18 months following childbirth or adoption or sponsoring of a child.
- **Paternity leave** (ΑΔΕΙΑ ΠΑΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ): for fathers due to childbirth.

What conditions do I need to meet?

- **Maternity leave:** you must have given birth and be employed.
- **Maternity benefit (pregnancy-postpartum):** you must have accumulated at least 200 days of insurance in the last two years preceding the expected or actual date of delivery.

Furthermore, this benefit is paid on the condition that you will not be working during the 56 days prior to the expected date of delivery, and the 63 days following the birth of the child (i.e. the 119 days of maternity leave).

- **Supplementary maternity allowance** (ΣΥΜΠΛΗΡΩΜΑΤΙΚΕΣ ΠΑΡΟΧΕΣ ΜΗΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ): you must be qualified for the Maternity benefit and have a valid working contract.
- **Special maternity leave - special maternity protection benefit:** you must have a valid working contract and have benefited from the maternity leave and possibly the approximately 3.5 months of reduced working hours if taken in one single block.
- **Child Care Leave** (ΑΔΕΙΑ ΦΡΟΝΤΙΔΑΣ ΤΕΚΝΟΥ): you must be working in the private sector.
- **Paternity leave** (ΑΔΕΙΑ ΠΑΤΡΟΤΗΤΑΣ): you must be working in the private sector.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Benefit	Duration of benefit	Amount of benefit
Maternity leave	119 days (56 days before delivery and 63 days following delivery)	By the employer: earnings of 15 days (if employed from 10 days to 1 year) or earnings up to 1 month (if employed more than a year)
Maternity benefit	during maternity leave	By e-EFKA: 50% of the standard wage corresponding to the insurance contribution class of the insured person, plus the child benefit at a rate of 10% of the above amount for each child. Minimum amount: 2/3 of earnings.
Special maternity leave	Follows the maternity leave and up to 9 months (of which up to 7 months can be transferred from the	Amount equal to the special maternity protection benefit (i.e. statutory minimum pay), plus the proportion of holiday benefits and leave benefits

	mother to the father under conditions).	corresponding to the minimum wage. For women working part-time for up to four hours per day or up to 13 days per month on average during the six months before their pregnancy leave, the amount paid is half the one mentioned above.
Special maternity protection benefit	During special maternity leave	Amount equal to the statutory minimum pay
Supplementary maternity allowance	For as long the maternity benefit is paid (119 days)	Amount equal to the difference (if any) between the wage paid by the employer and the Maternity benefit
Child Care Leave	30 months after birth or adoption (reduced working hours by 1 hour) or 18 months (2 less working hours in the first 12 months and 1 less working hour in the remaining 6 months) or equal paid leave taken all at once in agreement with the employer (approximately 3.5 months)	Full wage by the employer
Paternity leave	2 days	Full wage by the employer

Maternity benefits are as a rule subject to tax, except benefits granted by DYPA.

- Maternity benefit: you must apply to e-EFKA of your place of residence, to which you must submit specific supporting documents.
- Supplementary maternity allowance: you must apply to Public Employment Service (DYPA) of the place where the branch of e-EFKA from which you have received the maternity allowance is located.
- Special maternity protection benefit: you must apply to Public Employment Service (DYPA) of your place of residence.
- Child Care Leave: at your employer.
- Paternity leave: at your employer.

Jargon busters

- Contributory benefits: benefits based on the insured person's contributions.

Forms you may need to fill in

- Application for the supplementary maternity allowance and the special maternity protection benefit
- Employer's certificate for the supplementary maternity allowance and the special maternity protection benefit

Both can be found at <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/prostasia-tis-erghazomenis-miteras> and at <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/faq>

Know your rights

The link below provides a legal definition of your rights. It is not a European Commission website, nor does it represent the views of the Commission:

- [The Greek Ombudsman](#) (ΣΥΝΗΓΟΡΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΠΟΛΙΤΗ) examines cases involving the protection of private-sector employees during pregnancy and the postpartum period, and during parental leave.

Publications and websites of the European Commission:

- [Social insurance scheme: your rights abroad as a citizen of the EU](#)
- [Family benefits when moving within the EU](#)

Who do you need to contact?

e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA)

General Directorate for Benefits and Health

28ης Οκτωβρίου 54 (Πατησίων)/54, 28 Octovriou Ave (Patision)

10682 Αθήνα/Athens

ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE

E-mail: gd.paroxon@efka.gov.gr

Website: <http://www.efka.gov.gr>

Public Employment Service (DYPA)

Directorate of Insurance & Social Policies

Department of EU Regulations and Conventions

Εθνικής Αντίστασης 8/Ethnikis Antistasis 8

174 56 Άλιμος/Alimos

ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE

Website: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/>

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Health

Healthcare

This chapter includes all you need to know about healthcare benefits in Greece.

Periods of insurance completed in a Member State of the EU, EEA and Switzerland can be counted as insurance periods covered in Greece. This also applies to persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Here you will find information on illness benefits in kind.

In what situation can I claim?

Illness benefits in kind are provided by the National Organisation for the Provision of Health Services (EOPYY) (*ΕΝΙΑΙΟΣ ΟΡΓΑΝΙΣΜΟΣ ΠΑΡΟΧΩΝ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΩΝ ΥΓΕΙΑΣ – ΕΟΠΥΥ*) to employees insured with the e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA) (public- and private-sector employees, farmers, self-employed individuals, and mariners).

Pensioners, unemployed individuals and dependants are also entitled to illness benefits in kind in the public healthcare system.

Furthermore, in the event that you are no longer insured due to long-term unemployment or because you were insured as a dependent person and have lost this right due to divorce, you have the option of applying for optional insurance.

What conditions do I need to meet?

In order to gain access to illness insurance benefits in kind, you are required to have paid insurance contributions corresponding to at least 50 days of employment during the year preceding the illness or during the 12-month period preceding the illness.

One day of employment corresponds to one day of insurance. Annual paid leave is included in the days of employment.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Your financial contribution to the cost of healthcare depends on the type of benefit.

Benefits in kind are provided throughout the period of your entitlement to these benefits, and if a particular illness continues after your entitlement has expired, you will continue to be entitled to the benefit until you recover (continuation of treatment).

- You are entitled to the following benefits:
 - Medical care;
 - Hospital care and hospitalisation;
 - Free preventive dental care and dental treatment, orthodontic treatment for minors up to 13 years of age, change of dentures every five years and provision of services in the meantime (whenever this is deemed necessary, within the Primary National Health Network (PEDY) (*ΠΡΩΤΟΒΑΘΜΙΟ ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΔΙΚΤΥΟ ΥΓΕΙΑΣ – ΠΕΔΥ*));
 - Physiotherapy and free rehabilitation;
 - Administration of medicine, which as a rule requires a patient contribution of 25% or 10% for certain illnesses, and free administration of medicine in special cases (work accidents, treatment during pregnancy, chronic illnesses);
 - Free transport to public hospitals in the event of an accident or emergency by calling the National Emergency Aid Centre (EKAB) (*ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΑΜΕΣΗΣ ΒΟΗΘΕΙΑΣ – ΕΚΑΒ*);

- Treatment aids, orthopaedic items, glasses, hearing aids, prostheses, etc. requiring a 25% contribution by the insured individual or provided free of charge in special cases (diabetes patients, paraplegics, quadriplegics, patients suffering from renal disease, etc.). (information available at <https://eservices.eopyy.gov.gr/eSearchAllMaterial/>)
- Insured individuals are entitled to medical care provided by PEDY doctors and doctors contracted by EOPYY. Insured individuals select a family doctor from the relevant list provided by the PEDY local services network.

Insured individuals can visit EOPYY-contracted doctors (by appointment) at the outpatient clinics of public hospitals (regular and emergency outpatient clinics), at Health Centres and the regional clinics of Health Centres, and at PEDY establishments, in accordance with the relevant waiting list.

Alternatively, the "openings" of all EOPYY-contracted private doctors are available on [the EOPYY website](#), under the option of "Available doctors' appointments".

In both cases you are entitled to medical care at no extra charge. However, in the event that you visit a contracted private doctor, there is a possibility you will be charged if the doctor has reached the maximum limit of 200 free visits per month.

Please note that visits to non-contracted doctors cannot be reimbursed.

- All paraclinical tests are free of charge at public hospitals but require a 15% contribution at EOPYY-contracted diagnostic laboratories. Please note that no reimbursements are provided if such tests are carried out at a non-contracted diagnostic laboratory. For paraclinical examinations, no contribution paid by those who suffer from Mediterranean anaemia, sickle cell disease, kidney disease, undergoing treatment for peritoneal clearance or have undergone a transplant, patients with Cystic fibrosis, people with diabetes type 1, disabled receiving benefit with a disability rate of 67% and above, as well as those who have certified disability by KEPA with a percentage of 80% or more. Paraclinical examinations are also free of charge if made in private clinics/laboratories for prenatal screening.
- You are entitled to free hospital care at public hospitals and are required to pay a contribution to contracted private hospitals. In the latter case, the contribution depends on the financing system and is equal to 30% of the hospital care expenses when Diagnosis-Related Groups (KEN) apply and 10% when daily fees apply. No contribution is paid in Intensive Care Units, in neonatal intensive care units, for radiotherapy in a private provider, haemodialysis and inpatient rehabilitation centres.

In order for a patient to be hospitalised, a medical certificate by the attending physician is required. Please note that expenses for hospitalisation at a non-contracted clinic cannot be reimbursed.

Jargon busters

- Dependants, also known as protected members, are indirectly insured and are entitled to the same benefits as you. Dependants include
 - (a) your spouse, if s/he does not work;
 - (b) your unmarried children if they live with you
 - up to the age of 18 or
 - if they are unemployed, up to the age of 24 or
 - if they are students, for 2 years following the completion of their studies or once they have reached the age of 26 (whichever comes first);
 - (c) your children who have a disability of more than 67% even if they work or are employed for the purpose of occupational therapy;
 - (d) your parents (on certain conditions);
 - (e) orphans who have lost both parents, grandchildren, brothers and sisters or orphans by one parent if the surviving parent is considered a protected member;
 - (f) siblings with disabilities exceeding 67% if they are not insured by the same right;
 - (g) the uninsured divorced spouse (under conditions) if he/she pays the corresponding contributions to the former Spouse's institution.
- EOPYY: this is the National Organisation for the Provision of Health Services, which started operating in 2012 for the provision of health services by a single national organisation. The majority of insurance funds come under EOPYY.
- e-EFKA (e-National Social Security Fund): this is the single insurance fund in Greece.
- PEDY: the Primary National Health Network provides primary healthcare, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, health promotion and healthcare.
- Paraclinical tests: diagnostic tests (microbiological, radiological, cardiological, etc.) provided by the EOPYY Unified Regulation for Healthcare Services (EKPY).
- Optional insurance: e-EFKA provides the option to cover pensionable service through the optional insurance or self-insurance procedure to those who have stopped working, either due to dismissal or on other grounds. Based on the regulations of ex IKA-ETAM (now incorporated to e-EFKA) insured persons who stop working – either voluntarily or due to dismissal – are entitled to request the continuation of their insurance.

Know your rights

The links below provide a legal definition of your rights. They are not European Commission websites, nor do they represent the views of the Commission:

- Healthcare services provided by EOPYY: [Relevant legislation](#), [Benefits, specialists and contracted providers](#), [FAQs](#)
- If you believe that your rights in terms of the organisation of health units, your safe and timely transfer to these units, and their availability of material and human resources have been violated, you can file a report with the [Greek Ombudsman](#).
- [Employees who stop working are entitled to request the continuation of their insurance for illness from the e-National Social Security Fund \(e-EFKA\)](#).

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Social insurance scheme: your rights abroad as a citizen of the EU](#)

Who do you need to contact?

National Organisation for the Provision of Health Services (EOPYY)

Directorate of International Insurance Relations
Αποστόλου Παύλου 12/Apostolou Pavlou 12
151 23 Μαρούσι/Marousi, Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Tel.: +30 2108110916, 918, 919, 925 (from 8:00am to 15:00pm)
Website: www.eopyy.gov.gr

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Directorate of Specialised Matters on Social Security and Provisions
Σταδίου 29/29 Stadiou street
101 10 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Tel.: 2131516842, 1516752
Website: <https://ypergasias.gov.gr/>

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Sickness cash benefits

This chapter includes all you need to know about sickness benefits in cash. Periods of insurance completed in a Member State of the EU, EEA and Switzerland can be counted as periods of insurance in Greece. This also applies to persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union.

In this chapter you will find information on sickness cash benefit.

In what situation can I claim?

The sickness benefit is the basic benefit provided to insured persons who – due to physical or mental illness – are unable to work temporarily or are absent from work for more than three days.

Please note that incapacity to work must be certified as of the first day by an EOPYY doctor, and after 15 days a medical certificate by the competent Health Committee is required.

What conditions do I need to meet?

In order to receive the sickness benefit, you must have been insured:

- for at least 120 days in the year preceding the illness (100 days for employees in the construction sector) or for the first 12 months of the 15 preceding the illness, or
- for at least 300 days of the 2 years, or 27 months of the 30, preceding the illness, or
- for at least 1,500 days, 600 of which must have been accumulated in the last 5 years prior to the incapacity to work due to the same illness, or
- for 4,500 days prior to the notification of the illness.

One day of work corresponds to one insurance day. The days of your annual paid leave are included in your days of employment.

As a rule, the sickness benefit is subject to tax.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Amount of benefit: the amount to be paid depends on your earnings in the last 30 days of the previous year.

In particular, every year during the first 15 days of the benefit, you are entitled to only 50% of the daily sickness benefit corresponding to your insurance category/class, which is determined on the basis of your earnings during the last days of the previous year, increased by 10% for every protected member.

Following this 15-day period, you are entitled to the full amount. Skilled labourers and construction workers are an exception; they receive 50% of their verified daily wage in the corresponding insurance category.

Duration of benefit: it increases according to the duration of your insurance contribution payments.

Duration of contribution payments	Duration of benefit
At least 120 days during the calendar year preceding the illness (100 for those working in the construction sector) or during the first 12 months of the 15 preceding the illness.	182 days within the same year (for the same or a different illness)
At least 300 days based on the contributions paid during the two years, or 27 months of the 30, preceding the illness.	360 days within the same year for the same illness
- At least 1,500 insurance days, 600 of which were accumulated in the last 5 years prior to the incapacity to work due to the same illness. - 4,500 days of insurance prior to the notification of the illness.	720 days for the same illness

Depending on the patient's age and insurance record, a 720 days' benefit can be paid in the case that the requirement of the 1,500 or the 4,500 days is not fulfilled.

In order to receive the sickness benefit, you must submit the following:

- your health booklet (personal and family booklet),
- a statement from your employer specifying the time you have been off work,
- a certificate of your incapacity to work issued by an e-EFKA doctor,
- a [statement of your personal social insurance account](#),
- The sickness benefit is either credited to your bank account or paid via the Hellenic Post.

Jargon busters

- Insurance class: in order to calculate all kinds of benefits in cash provided by the e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA), whose amounts depend on the insurance contributions of employees, insured persons are divided into insurance classes. Basically, insurance classes serve as a tool for determining the benefits received by an insured individual or pensioner.
- Personal social insurance account: e-EFKA digital service, through which you can draw your personal social insurance information as of 1 January 2002. The personal accounts of insured persons are kept electronically in the Integrated Information System and include the number of days of employment and other insurance data (employer, insurance branches, earnings, etc.), thus composing the insurance record of each insured person and establishing their rights to benefits.

Know your rights

The link below provides a legal definition of your rights. It is not an European Commission website, nor does it represent the views of the Commission:

- If you believe that the grounds provided by the Health Committee are not clear, specific or adequate, then you may file a report with the [Greek Ombudsman](#).

Who do you need to contact?

e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA)

General Directorate for Benefits and Health
28ης Οκτωβρίου 54 (Πατησίων), 54, 28 Octovriou Ave (Patision)
10682 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
E-mail: gd.paroxon@efka.gov.gr
<http://www.efka.gov.gr/>

National Organisation for the Provision of Health Services (EOPYY)

Directorate of International Insurance Relations
Αποστόλου Παύλου 12/Apostolou Pavlou 12
151 23 Μαρούσι/Marousi, Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Tel.: +30 2108110916, 918, 919, 925 (from 8:00am to 15:00pm)
Website: www.eopyy.gov.gr

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Directorate of Specialised Matters on Social Security and Provisions
Σταδίου 29/29 Stadiou street
101 10 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Tel.: 2131516842, 1516752
Website: <https://ypergasias.gov.gr/>

1555 – Number for Citizens' communication and service on insurance, labour and social issues www.1555.gov.gr

Incapacity

Benefits for accidents at work and occupational diseases

This chapter includes all you need to know about benefits for accidents at work and occupational diseases in Greece.

Accidents and occupational diseases are not covered by a separate branch of insurance. Illness and temporary loss of working capacity come under the health insurance scheme, while invalidity and death are subject to the relevant pension insurance provisions.

In what situation can I claim?

Work accident: if you are a salaried employee, you come under the e-EFKA insurance scheme and are the victim of an accident that either took place during work or in relation to work, or while travelling to or from work, then you are entitled to the benefits in kind and in cash which are provided in the event of a work accident.

Occupational disease: if you are directly insured or a pensioner and you suffer from a chronic illness related to the hazards of your job, which occurred after a certain time period, then you are entitled to the benefits provided in the event of occupational disease.

What conditions do I need to meet?

Work accident: in the event of a work accident, you are entitled to cash benefits and benefits in kind regardless of the length of insurance coverage. In other words, it is sufficient to have one day of insurance.

Occupational disease: in the event of occupational disease, no minimum insurance period is required.

All cash benefits resulting from work accidents or occupational diseases are – as a rule – subject to tax.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

- **Benefits in kind:** in the event of temporary loss of working capacity, you are entitled to the same benefits in kind (medical care, hospital care and hospitalisation) as those provided in the framework of healthcare benefits.
- **Benefits in cash:** you are entitled to a benefit that is paid from the first day that the accident is reported; the amount is calculated in the same way as the ordinary illness benefit is calculated. The benefit is provided for the same time period as the illness benefit.

In the case of invalidity or death resulting from an accident at work, you will be paid an invalidity pension or your dependants will receive a survivor's pension, respectively, in accordance with the provisions on pensions due to invalidity or death.

Furthermore, in the event of death, a benefit is provided to cover funeral costs.

Either you or someone authorised by you must report the accident to your employer and to the local e-EFKA office within five working days from the day following the accident. If the accident results in total invalidity, the reporting deadline is extended to one year, and if it results in death, to two years.

Know your rights

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Unemployment and social insurance: your rights abroad as a citizen of the EU](#)

Who do you need to contact?

e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA)

General Directorate for Benefits and Health
28ης Οκτωβρίου 54 (Πατησίων), 54, 28 Octovriou Ave (Patision)
10682 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
E-mail: gd.paroxon@efka.gov.gr
<http://www.efka.gov.gr/>

1555 – Number for Citizens' communication and service on insurance, labour and social issues
www.1555.gov.gr

Invalidity benefits

This chapter includes all you need to know about invalidity benefits in Greece.

Here you will find information on the following:

- Non-institutional care benefit (*ΕΞΩΪΔΡΥΜΑΤΙΚΟ ΕΠΪΔΟΜΑ-ΠΑΡΑΠΛΗΓΙΑΣ ΤΕΤΡΑΠΛΗΓΙΑΣ*)
- Total invalidity benefit (*ΕΠΪΔΟΜΑ ΑΠΟΛΥΤΟΥ ΑΝΑΠΗΡΪΑΣ*)

In what situation can I claim?

Non-institutional care benefit (*ΕΞΩΪΔΡΥΜΑΤΙΚΟ ΕΠΪΔΟΜΑ-ΠΑΡΑΠΛΗΓΙΑΣ ΤΕΤΡΑΠΛΗΓΙΑΣ*): the non-institutional care benefit is provided to insured persons and pensioners receiving invalidity, old-age or survivor's pensions, and to the members of their families who suffer from specific diseases, on the condition that they do not receive the total invalidity benefit.

Beneficiaries must have been diagnosed as having a degree of disability of at least 67%.

Total Invalidity Benefit (*ΕΠΪΔΟΜΑ ΑΠΟΛΥΤΟΥ ΑΝΑΠΗΡΪΑΣ*): this benefit is provided to invalidity and old-age pensioners who are blind, provided their condition requires constant supervision and support from a third person (total invalidity).

What conditions do I need to meet?

Non-institutional care benefit: on the condition that the insured persons and pensioners do not receive the total invalidity benefit, and that they don't receive the same benefit from another fund.

Total invalidity benefit: there are no additional requirements for the payment of the total invalidity benefit.

The invalidity benefits discussed in this chapter are exempt from tax.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Non-institutional care benefit: the benefit is granted from the date of application, but not before the expiry of the illness benefit.

The amount is equal to 20 minimum daily wages of unskilled labourers as it was on 31.12.2011 thus $20 \times 33.57 = \text{EUR } 671.40$ plus supplements for Christmas (100%*EUR 671.40), Easter (50%*EUR 671.40) and summer holidays (50%*EUR 671.40) divided equally into 12 monthly payments. Thus the amount is EUR 783.30 per month. In the case of single amputees, it is equal to 10 minimum daily

wages of unskilled labourers as it was on 31.12.2011 plus supplements for Christmas, Easter and holidays, thus is EUR 391.65 monthly.

The payment of the benefit is suspended if the beneficiary is hospitalised in an asylum-like institution for more than 30 days. Moreover, the benefit will be discontinued if the pensioner receives a benefit from another organisation due to paraplegia.

In order to receive the non-institutional care benefit, you must fill an application with ΚΕΡΑ (ΚΕΝΤΡΑ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΣΗΣ ΑΝΑΠΗΡΙΑΣ - ΚΕΡΑ) Centres for Certifying Invalidity registry offices and undergo a medical examination. If you believe that the ΚΕΡΑ Primary Health Committee (ΑΥΕ) (ΠΡΩΤΟΒΑΘΜΙΑ ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ - ΑΥΕ) did not give you the right degree of disability, you can lodge an appeal against the ΑΥΕ medical certificate in order to request a re-examination by the Secondary Health Committee (ΒΥΕ) (ΔΕΥΤΕΡΟΒΑΘΜΙΑ ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ - ΒΥΕ).

Total invalidity benefit:

For persons insured before 1 January 1993:

Paid to invalidity and survivor's pensioners and to old-age pensioners who are totally blind, as long as they are in a state that requires continuous care from another person.

The amount is equal to 50% of the amount of the pension received and cannot be more than 20 times the amount of the wage of unskilled labourers as it was on 31.12.2011 thus EUR 671.40.

For persons insured after 1 January 1993:

- pensioners on invalidity pension: the amount corresponds to 25% of the average per capita gross national product (GNP) of the year 1991, which is adjusted when the pensions of civil servants are raised.
- pensioners on old-age pension who are totally blind: the amount corresponds to 50% of the pension amount received. and cannot be more than 20 times the wage of unskilled labourers as it was on 31.12.2011 thus EUR 671.40.

Jargon busters

- Illnesses covered by the non-institutional care benefit: paraplegia or quadriplegia, myasthenia, myopathy with 67% disability, phocomelia, multiple sclerosis, cri-du-chat syndrome, osteogenesis imperfecta with 80% disability and higher, brittle bone disease with 80% disability and higher, end-stage Alzheimer's disease, muscular dystrophy, amputation of all four limbs (from the ankle up in the two lower limbs and from the wrist up in the two upper limbs) or transfemoral (above-knee) amputation of the two lower limbs or transhumeral (above-elbow) amputation of the two upper limbs or transfemoral amputation of one lower limb and transhumeral amputation of one upper limb, which do not allow for the use of artificial limbs.
- Non-contributory benefits: supplementary benefits granted following an investigation into assets and income sources in specific categories of persons.
- KEPA: the Centre for Certifying Invalidity is a uniform institution that is responsible for ensuring uniform health assessment in terms of determining the degree of disability of persons insured with all insurance organisations, including civil servants, and that of uninsured persons, who require certification of their invalidity. The task of KEPA Health Committees is to determine the degree of invalidity for old-age pension purposes, to classify persons as being disabled, and to determine the degree of disability for all social and financial benefits or facilities, which require a disability certificate and which disabled persons are entitled to receive from the state.

Forms you may need to fill in

<https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/menoy/kentro-pistopoieses-anaperias-kepa>

Know your rights

The link below provides a legal definition of your rights. It is not an European Commission website, nor does it represent the views of the Commission:

- [Centre for Certifying Invalidity](#)

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Social insurance scheme: your rights abroad as a citizen of the EU](#)

Who do you need to contact?

e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA)

General Directorate for Benefits and Health
28ης Οκτωβρίου 54 (Πατησίων)/54, 28 Octovriou Ave (Patision)
10682 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
E-mail: gd.paroxon@efka.gov.gr
<http://www.efka.gov.gr/>

Centre for Certifying Invalidity (KEPA)

KEPA contact numbers and addresses:

<https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/menoy/kentro-pistopoieses-anaperias-kepa>

1555 – Number for Citizens' communication and service on insurance, labour and social issues www.1555.gov.gr

Invalidity pensions

This chapter includes all you need to know about invalidity pensions in Greece.

Periods of insurance covered in another Member State of the EU, EEA and Switzerland are counted as insurance periods covered in Greece and must be stated in all applications submitted by you. This also applies to persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union.

In what situation can I claim?

If you have covered the required insurance period and if you have been deemed disabled by the Centre for Certifying Invalidity (KEPA) with a degree of disability of at least 50%, then you are entitled to an invalidity pension.

Furthermore, dependants are entitled to an additional amount per month, on certain conditions.

Please note that pensioners are required to be re-examined by KEPA, unless the duration of their invalidity has been deemed indefinite.

What conditions do I need to meet?

The requirements that need to be met in order to be entitled to this pension differ according to the cause of the disability.

- **Invalidity pension due to common disease:** in order to gain access to invalidity pensions, you must have accumulated – within the e-EFKA scheme – at least:
 - 4,500 working days during the whole active life is required.
 - Up to the age of 21: 300 days (or 1 year of insurance). This period increases progressively by 120 contribution days per year up to 1,500 days until the age of 31.
 - If none of these conditions are fulfilled, 1,500 working days are required, of which 600 during the 5 years preceding invalidity.
- **Invalidity pension due to an accident at work or occupational disease:** in order to be entitled to this invalidity pension due to accident at work, you are required to have completed at least one insurance day after registering with the e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA), while in case of an occupational disease, certain requirements from the statute of e-EFKA need to be fulfilled as well.
- **Invalidity pension due to a non-work-related accident:** in order to be entitled to this invalidity pension, you are required to have completed:
 - 2,250 insurance days or
 - 750, of which 300 must be in the 5 years preceding the onset of the disability.
- **Old-age pension for disabled persons:** apart from the general invalidity pension categories, pensions are also given to persons who are totally blind or who suffer from certain illnesses, regardless of their age.

In order to receive a pension, the persons coming under the special categories must have a degree of disability of over 67% and they must have accumulated 4,050 insurance days (or 15 years).

In order to establish entitlement to a pension, periods during which illness and unemployment benefits were received are also counted as insurance days.

You can convert your invalidity pension into an old-age pension if you meet the insurance and age requirements, namely 4,500 insurance days and 67 years of age.

Pensions paid to persons with a degree of disability of at least 80% are exempt from tax.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Invalidity pension is composed of:

(a) the **national pension** (*ΕΘΝΙΚΗ ΣΥΝΤΑΞΗ*) which is not financed by contributions, but directly from the State budget. The amount is set to EUR 413.76 per month for at least 20 years of insurance. This amount is reduced by 2% for every year which falls short from 20 to 15 years of insurance (i.e. the amount of national pension for 15 years of insurance is EUR 372.38 per month).

The above amount of the national pension is reduced further according to the degree of disability:

- severe invalidity (*ΒΑΡΙΑ ΑΝΑΠΗΡΙΑ*: invalidity of more than 80%): full national pension;
- normal invalidity (*ΣΥΝΗΘΗΣ ΑΝΑΠΗΡΙΑ*: invalidity 67% - 79.99%): 75% of the national pension;
- partial invalidity (*ΜΕΡΙΚΗ ΑΝΑΠΗΡΙΑ*: invalidity 50% - 66.99%): 50% of the national pension.

(b) the **contributory pension** (*ΑΝΤΑΠΟΔΟΤΙΚΗ ΣΥΝΤΑΞΗ*) which is calculated depending

- on the years of insurance taken into account by applying coefficients of replacement per year (*ποσοστά αναπλήρωσης*) which start from 0.77% for 15 years of insurance and gradually increase to 2.55% for 36-40 years of insurance and falls to 0.5% yearly for more than 40 years; and
- on the average pensionable earnings of the insured from the insurance year 2002 until the day the person applies for pension.

In order to apply for an invalidity pension you can click at:

<https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/syntaxioychoi/elektronike-aitese-syntaxiodoteses>

Jargon busters

- Occupational diseases: diseases included in the national list of occupational diseases, which can be found [here](#).
- Degrees of disability: an insured person is considered to suffer from severe disability if – as a result of damage, disease or physical/mental debilitation occurring or deteriorating after becoming insured – he is unable to earn more than 1/5 of the average earnings of an employee in his field for at least one year. An insured person who is unable to earn more than 1/3 receives 75% of the pension, while a person who is unable to earn more than 1/2 receives 50% of the pension.
- EEA – European Economic Area: participating members include Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, as well as the European Union and its 27 member states.
- KEPA: the Centre for Certifying Invalidity (KEPA) comes under the Invalidity and Occupational Medicine Directorate of the e-EFKA (former IKA-ETAM) administration and is responsible for ensuring uniform health assessment in terms of determining the degree of disability of persons insured with all insurance organisations, including civil servants, and that of uninsured persons, who require certification of their invalidity.

Forms you may need to fill in

- <https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/syntaxioychoi/elektronike-aitese-syntaxiodoteses>
- <https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/menoy/kentro-pistopoeses-anaperias-kepa>

Know your rights

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Retirement abroad: your rights abroad as a citizen of the EU](#)

Who do you need to contact?

e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA)

General Directorate for Benefits and Health

28ης Οκτωβρίου 54 (Πατησίων), 54, 28 Octovriou Ave (Patision)

10682 Αθήνα/Athens

ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE

E-mail: gd.paroxon@efka.gov.gr

<http://www.efka.gov.gr/>

1555 – Number for Citizens' communication and service on insurance, labour and social issues

www.1555.gov.gr

Old-age and survivors

Old-age pensions

This chapter includes all you need to know about old-age pensions in Greece.

Periods of insurance covered in another Member State of the EU, EEA and Switzerland are counted as insurance periods covered in Greece and must be stated in all applications submitted by you. This also applies to persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union.

In what situation can I claim?

To be entitled to an old-age pension, you are required to have reached a certain age and to have accumulated a certain number of insurance days. The right to a pension can be exercised at any time and up until then, insured persons are entitled to continue working.

The general age limit is 67 years and the minimum insurance period is 15 years (4,500 days of employment). The general requirements for receiving a full pension is the accumulation of 40 insurance years (12,000 days of employment) and being 62 years of age.

Furthermore, dependants are entitled to an additional amount per month, on certain conditions.

What conditions do I need to meet?

Full pension: you are entitled to a full pension if you have covered 40 insurance years (12,000 contribution days) and you are 62 years of age or have 15 insurance years (4,500 contribution days) and 67 years of age.

For women: 12,000 contribution days out of which 10,000 completed from 1/1/2013 onwards and 62 years of age, which will be gradually increased to 67 by 2022.

For men: 10,000 contribution days and 67 years of age.

For mothers and widowed fathers of underage children: 5,500 contribution days and 67 years of age.

The requirements for mothers of underage children and for insured in arduous and unhealthy occupations are less stringent.

Reduced pension: you are entitled to a reduced pension if you have covered at least 4,500 insurance days and are 62 years old.

Furthermore, if you were insured for the first time after 1/1/1993, you are entitled to a reduced early pension at the age of 62 if you are the mother of an underage or disabled child and have completed 20 insurance years (6,000 days of employment).

If you were first insured before 1 January 1993, you can receive a reduced early pension on the following conditions:

- at the age of 62 years provided you have covered 15 insurance years (4,500 insurance days), of which 100 days must be in the 5-year period preceding the pension.
- at the age of 62 years if you are male and have accumulated 10,000 insurance days, and at the age of 62 if you are female and have accumulated 12,000 insurance days, of which 100 must have been accumulated per year in the 5 years preceding the pension.
- at the age of 62 years, provided you have covered 35 insurance years (10,500 insurance days), of which 7,500 insurance days involved arduous and unhealthy work.
- at the age of 50 years if you are the mother or widowed father of a disabled child and have covered 18 insurance years (5,500 insurance days).

Any periods during which invalidity pension, illness benefits and unemployment benefits were received are also counted in, if necessary, with the number of insurance days in order to establish entitlement to a pension.

In certain circumstances, notional years of insurance are also taken into account.

Pensions are subject to tax.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

The main pension is comprised of two components: (a) the national pension which is not financed by contributions, but directly from the State budget, and (b) the contributory pension calculated on the basis of earnings on which contributions have been paid from year 2002 until the month of application for pension, and on the basis of the replacement rate based on the total insurance period. It is granted on a monthly basis.

In order to apply for old age pension you please click at:

<https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/syntaxioychoi/elektronike-aitese-syntaxiodoteses>

Jargon busters

- Notional years of insurance: specific periods such as studies, strikes, apprenticeships, military service, imprisonment, parental leave, etc. for which contributions are paid retroactively.

Forms you may need to fill in

- <https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/syntaxioychoi/elektronike-aitese-syntaxiodoteses>

Know your rights

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Retirement abroad: your rights abroad as a citizen of the EU](#)

Who do you need to contact?

e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA)

Directorate-General for Pensions
ΑΧΑΡΝΩΝ 27-29/27-29, ΑΧΑΡΝΟΝ str
10439 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Website: <http://www.efka.gov.gr>

1555 – Number for Citizens' communication and service on insurance, labour and social issues www.1555.gov.gr

Survivor's benefits

This chapter includes all you need to know about the benefits you are entitled to in the event of death of a family member in Greece.

Periods of insurance completed by the deceased in a Member State of the EU, EEA and Switzerland can be counted as insurance periods covered in Greece and must be stated in all applications submitted by you. This also applies to persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Here you will find information on the following benefits:

- Pensions due to death (ΣΥΝΤΑΞΗ ΛΟΓΩ ΘΑΝΑΤΟΥ/ ΣΥΝΤΑΞΗ ΕΠΙΖΩΝΤΩΝ)
- funeral benefit (ΕΞΟΔΑ ΚΗΔΕΙΑΣ)

In what situation can I claim?

In the event of death of an insured individual or pensioner, the members of his/her family are entitled to survivor's pension on certain conditions.

Pensions due to death

Widow's pension under following conditions:

No age restrictions. Length of marriage must be at least 3 years, unless:

- the deceased died from an accident at work or homicide; children are born or adopted during the marriage;
- there is pregnancy at the time of death which results in a living birth;
- the couple remarry in which case, the length of both marriages needs to be 5 years or more and the second marriage must have lasted at least 6 months at the time of death.

The conditions are the same for men and women.

The surviving divorced spouse receives pension if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- The former spouse, before his/her death, had the duty to pay alimony (based on court decision on contract between former spouses).
- 10 years of marriage were completed before the divorce was approved by court decision.
- The divorce was not the result of severe breach of marriage caused by the person applying for pension.
- The surviving divorced spouse is not remarried or did not enter into civil partnership.
- The yearly personal tax income does not exceed the double amount of the yearly pension granted by the former Agricultural Insurance Organisation (OGA) to the uninsured pensioners of very old age. The partners from civil partnership have the same rights in terms of social insurance, benefit, obligation or restriction, as married couples.

Orphan's pension:

Legitimate children, recognised children, adopted children and those considered as such have to fulfil the following requirements:

- They are not married and are less than 24 years old.
- When the insured died, they are not married and are incapable of any gainful activity (if the disability started before they reached 24 years of age). In this case the pension continues to be paid after they are 24 years old.

Funeral costs: as a rule, compensation is paid to the widow/widower or the person who paid for the funeral; compensation is not paid in the event of death of a dependant.

What conditions do I need to meet?

Pensions due to death: if the deceased has accumulated 1,500 insurance days, of which 300 were accumulated in the 5 years prior to his/her death, then you are entitled to survivor's pension. As a rule, pensions are subject to tax.

Funeral benefit: if the deceased was not a pensioner, in order to receive the funeral benefit s/he must have accumulated 100 days of insurance in the last year prior to his/her death or in the last 15 months of his/her life, without taking into account the last three months.

The supporting documents that you are required to submit to your e-EFKA branch include the health booklet of the deceased, a death certificate, his/her insurance booklet (if the deceased was working) or a certificate on the discontinuation of his/her pension (if the deceased was a pensioner), as well as the original receipts issued by the funeral home.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Pensions due to death

The surviving spouse receives 70% of the pension the deceased received or was entitled to receive.

If the marriage took place after the old age pension was granted to the deceased pensioner, the survivor's pension is decreased depending on the age difference between the deceased and the survivor by 1 to 5%.

If there are a surviving spouse and a divorced spouse, the above amount is allocated as follows: the surviving spouse receives 75% and the divorced spouse with at least 10 years of marriage receives 25%.

The benefit is subject to a means-test (on own income) only for the divorced spouse (the personal average monthly taxable income should not exceed twice the amount of the Social Solidarity Benefit for uninsured Older People paid by OPEKA, i.e. 2*EUR 387.90=EUR 775.80 per month). It is paid every month and there are no additional payments and no maximum duration of benefit receipt.

Each child receives 25% of the pension of the deceased parent. If the child has lost both parents the amount he/she receives is double (50%).

The benefit is not means-tested. It is paid every month and there are no additional payments.

In order to apply for a survivor's pension please click at:

<https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/syntaxioychoi/elektronike-aitese-syntaxiodoteses>

Funeral costs: this is a lump-sum benefit which is equal to eight times the reference pay of the highest insurance category. <https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/elektronike-yperesia-pleromes-exodon-kedeias>

Forms you may need to fill in

<https://www.efka.gov.gr/el/syntaxioychoi/elektronike-aitese-syntaxiodoteses>

Know your rights

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Death benefit: your rights abroad as a citizen of the EU](#)

Who do you need to contact?

e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA)

Directorate-General for Pensions
ΑΧΑΡΝΩΝ 27-29, 27-29, ΑΧΑΡΝΟΝ str
104 39 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Website: <http://www.efka.gov.gr>

1555 – Number for Citizens' communication and service on insurance, labour and social issues www.1555.gov.gr

Social assistance

Benefits due to minimum resources

This chapter includes all you need to know about the benefits to which citizens with minimum resources are entitled in Greece.

Here you will find information on the following benefits:

- Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) (*ΕΛΑΧΙΣΤΟ ΕΓΓΥΗΜΕΝΟ ΕΙΣΟΔΗΜΑ*)
- housing allowance (*ΣΤΕΓΑΣΤΙΚΉ ΣΥΝΔΡΟΜΉ*)
- housing benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΣΤΕΓΑΣΗΣ*)
- free access of uninsured to the Public Health System
- the social solidarity allowance for uninsured elders (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΚΗΣ ΑΛΛΗΛΕΓΓΥΗΣ ΑΝΑΣΦΑΛΙΣΤΩΝ ΥΠΕΡΗΛΙΚΩΝ*)

In what situation can I claim?

Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) (*ΕΛΑΧΙΣΤΟ ΕΓΓΥΗΜΕΝΟ ΕΙΣΟΔΗΜΑ*) is a welfare programme that is addressed to households living in extreme poverty and complements the policies to tackle poverty and social exclusion. The programme combines income support (cash benefit) and complementary social services, benefits and goods for the members of the household, if they meet certain criteria.

Housing allowance (*ΣΤΕΓΑΣΤΙΚΉ ΣΥΝΔΡΟΜΉ*): this is a rent benefit paid to uninsured and financially weak elderly people over 65 years of age, who live alone or with their spouses and who:

- do not own a house and live in a rented house;
- do not have any source of income from Greece or abroad, or any immovable property that can assist them in covering housing expenses;
- whose annual personal taxable income is below EUR 4,320 (or EUR 8,640 in case of a couple) and who meet certain additional income and property criteria.

With regard to uninsured couples, both spouses must be uninsured and one of them at least must be 67 years of age or older.

Housing benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΣΤΕΓΑΣΗΣ*) is a rental support programme aiming to help low income households who live in rented primary residences to meet their housing costs.

Free access of uninsured to the Public Health System: to uninsured persons, persons legally residing in Greece, persons non legally residing in Greece but need hospital and medical care because they belong to socially vulnerable groups (such as minors, pregnant women, invalid, etc.).

Social solidarity allowance for uninsured elders is an allowance granted to persons aged 67 and over with low income who reside in Greece and do not receive or are not qualify to receive any pension from abroad or any social security or welfare benefit from Greece.

What conditions do I need to meet?

Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI): granted to households who simultaneously meet all of the income, assets and residency conditions laid down by the law.

Housing allowance: this is a non-contributory benefit granted following an assessment of assets and income sources of persons who are in a state of financial weakness and have no income or immovable property that can cover their housing needs.

Housing benefit: the beneficiaries must have been legal and permanent residents of the country during the last five years preceding the submission of the application, and must fulfil certain criteria on income and assets. For third country nationals, twelve years of legal and permanent residency are required.

Free access of uninsured to the Public Health System: possession of Social Security Number (*ΑΡΙΘΜΟΣ ΜΗΤΡΩΟΥ ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΚΗΣ ΑΣΦΑΛΙΣΗΣ - ΑΜΚΑ*) or a Health Care Card for Foreigners (*ΚΑΡΤΑ ΥΓΕΙΟΝΟΜΙΚΗΣ ΠΕΡΙΘΑΛΨΗΣ ΑΛΛΟΔΑΠΟΥ - ΚΥΠΑ*).

Social solidarity allowance for uninsured elders: a non-contributory benefit to persons 67 years of age and over, who reside permanently and legally in Greece for 15 continuous years and who meet certain income and property criteria.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI): for single-person households: EUR 200 per month. For each additional adult of the household: an increase of the guaranteed amount by EUR 100 per month. For each additional minor of the household: an increase of the guaranteed amount by EUR 50 per month. The ceiling of the monthly guaranteed amount is EUR 900, regardless of the composition of the household. The programme is implemented by OPEKA.

Housing allowance: the benefit can be up to EUR 362 per month. The programme is implemented by the municipalities. In order to apply for the benefit, you must visit the competent authorities of OPEKA and submit the necessary supporting documents.

Housing benefit: the rent subsidy is set at EUR 70 per month for a single-person household, while for each additional household member (adult or child) this amount is increased by EUR 35 per month. The total amount of the rent subsidy cannot exceed EUR 210 per month, irrespective of the composition of the household. The programme is implemented by OPEKA.

Free access of uninsured to the Public Health System: beneficiaries are entitled to hospitalization, medical care, access to pharmaceutical products. They can claim to public hospitals.

Social solidarity allowance for uninsured elders: it amounts to EUR 360 granted monthly by the OPEKA.

Forms you may need to fill in

For the Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI): <https://opeka.gr/elachisto-engyimeno-eisodima-kea/>

For the Housing Benefit:

<https://www.epidomastegasis.gr/pub/Home/Info>

For the Housing Allowance: <https://opeka.gr/stegasi-proti-katoikia/epidoma-stegastikis-syndromis-gia-tous-anasfalistous-yperilikes/>

For the Social solidarity allowance for uninsured elders: <https://opeka.gr/anasfalisto-yperilikes/ilektronikes-ypiresies/>

Know your rights

The links below provide a legal definition of your rights. They are not European Commission websites, nor do they represent the views of the Commission:

- [Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs](#)
- [Free access of uninsured to the Public Health System](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Organisation of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity (Οργανισμός Προνοιακών Επιδομάτων και Κοινωνικής Αλληλεγγύης ΟΠΕΚΑ-ΟΡΕΚΑ)

Πατησίων 30/Patision 30,
101 70 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Tel.: +30 213 -15 19 300
Website: <https://opeka.gr/>

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Directorate for the Fight Against Poverty
Σταδίου 29/29 Stadiou street
101 10 Αθήνα/Athens
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Tel.: 210 5281 145
Website <https://ypergasias.gov.gr/>

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Long-term care benefits

This chapter covers all you need to know about long-term care benefits in Greece.

Here you will find information on:

- the "Aid at Home" programme (*ΒΟΗΘΕΙΑ ΣΤΟ ΣΠΙΤΙ*)
- the "Aid at Home of Pensioners" programme (*ΚΑΤ' ΟΙΚΟΝ ΦΡΟΝΤΙΔΑ ΣΥΝΤΑΞΙΟΥΧΩΝ*)
- the Day Care Centres for the Elderly (*Κ'ΕΝΤΡΑ ΗΜΕΡΗΣΙΑΣ ΦΡΟΝΤΙΔΑΣ ΗΛΙΚΩΜΕΝΩΝ - Κ.Η.Φ.Η.*)
- the Open Protection Centres for the Elderly (*Κ'ΕΝΤΡΑ ΑΝΟΙΚΤΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΙΑΣ ΗΛΙΚΙΩΜΕΝΩΝ - Κ.Α.Π.Η.*)

In what situation can I claim?

Greece does not apply a separate long-term care scheme. There are, however, various programmes for the care of the elderly.

"Aid at Home" programme (ΒΟΗΘΕΙΑ ΣΤΟ ΣΠΙΤΙ): provides domestic assistance to elderly people who live alone constantly or for some hours a day and cannot adequately take care of themselves, and also to disabled people who face situations of isolation, exclusion or family crisis.

The "Aid at Home" programme includes two more programmes: the "Domestic Social Care" programme, which is intended for uninsured elderly persons and persons with disabilities, and the "Home Nursing" programme, which aims at post-hospital care and recuperation of patients in their own home.

"Aid at Home of Pensioners" programme (ΚΑΤ' ΟΙΚΟΝ ΦΡΟΝΤΙΔΑ ΣΥΝΤΑΞΙΟΥΧΩΝ): you can benefit from the programme if you are on an old-age, invalidity or survivor's pension provided by insurance organisations incorporated in the e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA). Beneficiaries of the programme also include retired civil servants on old-age, invalidity or survivor's pension, as well as uninsured senior citizens on former OGA pension, who temporarily or permanently deal with health problems or disability. You must

live on your own or with a spouse or another person who meets the remaining requirements for inclusion in the programme.

The state of your health must render it impossible for you to take care of yourself or cover your daily needs. The programme does not cover pensioners who stay at public, private or voluntary residential care institutions, or at nursing facilities covered by the National Health System (ESY) or private clinics.

Day Care Centres for the Elderly (*ΚΕΝΤΡΑ ΗΜΕΡΗΣΙΑΣ ΦΡΟΝΤΙΔΑΣ ΗΛΙΚΩΜΕΝΩΝ - Κ.Η.Φ.Η.*): day care facilities for elderly individuals who cannot fully care for themselves (due to mobility problems, dementia, etc.) and whose families are unable to care for because they work or because they face serious social and economic or health problems.

Open Protection Centres for the Elderly (*ΚΕΝΤΡΑ ΑΝΟΙΚΤΗΣ ΠΡΟΣΤΑΣΙΑΣ ΗΛΙΚΙΩΜΕΝΩΝ - Κ.Α.Π.Η.*): these Centres are intended for residents living in the area of the Centre who are over 60 years of age, regardless of their financial and social situation.

What conditions do I need to meet?

- "Aid at Home" programme: access to the programme is provided on the basis of income criteria.
- Aid at Home of Pensioners: eligibility criteria are related to age, income, marital status, state of health and the temporary or permanent nature of the dependence.
- Day Care Centres for the Elderly: no additional requirements.
- Open Protection Centres for the Elderly: no social or financial criteria have been set.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

"Aid at Home" programme: the programme provides primary health services offered by a nurse of the programme and includes house visits for measuring and recording blood pressure, etc., prescribing medication and accompanying you to the hospital for your scheduled examinations.

At the same time, the programme's family assistant undertakes to run outside errands, purchase necessities and clean the house. Family assistants also have the additional task of offering companionship.

The "Aid at Home" programme also aims at the nursing and recovery of the elderly in their own homes.

The programme is implemented under the auspices of the local municipal authorities throughout the country, where you file your application.

"Aid at Home of Pensioners" programme: the programme aims at the systematic provision of social work services, psychosocial support, nursing care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and domestic help, as well as facilitating the participation of the elderly and disabled in cultural, entertainment, social and religious activities.

In order to gain access to the programme, you must file an application with the e-EFKA branch in your area after the launching of a relevant call for expressions of interest.

Day Care Centres for the Elderly: these centres operate on specially designed premises on a daily basis and can accommodate elderly people for a short time period during the day, offering them care services (daily hygiene and nursing), entertainment and creative activities.

Open Protection Centres for the Elderly: these centres provide various entertainment activities, medical care, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, instructions on medical treatment and hospital care. Open Protection Centres for the Elderly operate under the auspices of municipal authorities throughout Greece.

Know your rights

The link below provides a legal definition of your rights. It is not an European Commission website, nor does it represent the views of the Commission:

- [Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Municipalities

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www.1555.gov.gr

Unemployment

Unemployment insurance benefits and unemployment assistance benefits

This chapter explains all you need to know about the benefits to which unemployed persons are entitled in Greece. Any salaried employee who is insured is covered by unemployment insurance.

However, you must meet certain requirements in order to receive unemployment insurance benefits and/or unemployment assistance benefits. If necessary, insurance periods in other European Union member states can also be counted in. This also applies to persons falling within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Below you will find information on the following benefits:

- unemployment benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΑΝΕΡΓΙΑΣ*)
- special seasonal allowance (*ΕΙΔΙΚΟ ΕΠΟΧΙΚΟ ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ*)
- long-term unemployment benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΜΑΚΡΟΧΡΟΝΙΩΣ ΑΝΕΡΓΩΝ*)
- special allowance after a three month waiting period in the Jobseekers' Registry (*ΕΙΔΙΚΟ ΒΟΗΘΗΜΑ ΜΕΤΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΡΙΜΗΝΗ ΠΑΡΑΜΟΝΗ ΣΤΟ ΜΗΤΡΩΟ ΑΝΕΡΓΩΝ*)
- special allowance after the receipt of unemployment benefit (*ΕΙΔΙΚΟ ΒΟΗΘΗΜΑ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΗ ΛΗΞΗ ΤΗΣ ΕΠΙΔΟΤΗΣΗΣ ΛΟΓΩ ΑΝΕΡΓΙΑΣ*)

In what situation can I claim?

Unemployed persons in Greece are mainly aided through unemployment benefit.

Unemployment benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΑΝΕΡΓΙΑΣ*): this benefit is granted by the Public Employment Service (DYPA) to employees with unemployment insurance, who were dismissed or whose employment contracts expired, are registered with an employment office and are both willing and capable of working. The duration of unemployment benefit can be extended for older unemployed. <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=taktiki-epidotisi-anerghias&tab2=koini-anerghoi&tab3=>

Special Seasonal Allowance (*ΕΙΔΙΚΟ ΕΠΟΧΙΚΟ ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ*): certain professional activities cannot be exercised throughout the year. For employees coming under the professional categories that are "seasonal" in nature, a special seasonal aid has been established and is paid by the Public Employment Service (DYPA) in the period during which they cannot exercise their professional activity.

Seasonal employees must be insured with the e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA) and must provide their services in Greece. Mainly employees in the construction sector, salaried employees in the tourism and food sectors, as well as certain categories of salaried employees in artistic professions are entitled to seasonal aid. The same aid is also provided to salaried shipyard employees, provided they are insured with e-EFKA and provide their services to undertakings which are registered in Greece and operate in one or more European Union member states. For information on the Special Seasonal Allowance visit the DYPA website at <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-epokhiko-voithima&tab3=>

Long-term unemployment benefit (*ΕΠΙΔΟΜΑ ΜΑΚΡΟΧΡΟΝΙΩΣ ΑΝΕΡΓΩΝ*): for information on the long-term unemployment benefit please visit the DYPA website at: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=epidoma-makrochronios-anerghon&tab3=>

Special allowance after a three month waiting period in the Jobseekers' Registry (*ΕΙΔΙΚΟ ΒΟΗΘΗΜΑ ΜΕΤΑ ΑΠΟ ΤΡΙΜΗΝΗ ΠΑΡΑΜΟΝΗ ΣΤΟ ΜΗΤΡΩΟ ΑΝΕΡΓΩΝ*): if a claimant of the unemployment benefit does not meet the conditions and provided that he/she has at least 60 days of insurance, stays registered as unemployed for a period of 3 months, then he/she is granted the allowance. For information visit the DYPA website at:

<https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-voithima-meta-apo-trimini-paramoni-sto-mitrwo-anerghon&tab3=>

Special allowance after the receipt of unemployment benefit (*ΕΙΔΙΚΟ ΒΟΗΘΗΜΑ ΜΕΤΑ ΤΗ ΛΗΞΗ ΤΗΣ ΕΠΙΔΟΤΗΣΗΣ ΛΟΓΩ ΑΝΕΡΓΙΑΣ*): when the unemployment benefit expires and provided that a) he/she is not included in the professional categories that are "seasonal" in nature and b) the claimant remains unemployed for the next month, then he/she is granted the allowance (lump sum). For information visit the DYPA website at: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-voithima-meta-ti-liksi-tis-taktikis-epidotisis-anerghias&tab3=>

What conditions do I need to meet?

Unemployment benefit: in order to be entitled to this benefit, you are required to have worked for a period of at least 125 days during the 14 months prior to the termination of your employment without taking into account the last 2 months or for a period of at least 200 days within the 2 years prior to the termination of your employment without taking into account the last 2 months.

If you are receiving the benefit for the first time, you will be required to have paid contributions corresponding to 80 insurance days for every year in the two years preceding your benefit.

Special Seasonal Allowance: this benefit is paid in a lump sum on an annual basis and its amount depends on the professional field to which the beneficiary belongs. In order to receive the seasonal aid, you must prove that you have accumulated at least 50 to 240 insurance days in your sector (the number varies according to the professional field) and no more than 240 daily wages in the calendar year preceding the year of payment of the aid. Special regulations apply to construction workers.

If you have worked in other sectors, you can receive the seasonal aid provided that you did not accumulate more daily wages in other sectors than in the sector of your seasonal job during the previous year.

With the exception of employees in the construction sector, other categories are not entitled to the special seasonal aid if they meet the criteria for the regular benefit (unemployment benefit). For information visit the DYPA website at <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-epokhiko-voithima&tab3=>

Long-term unemployment benefit: for information on the long-term unemployment benefit, please visit the DYPA website at: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/faq> Information also available at: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=epidoma-makrokhronios-anerghon&tab3=>

Special allowance after a three month waiting period in the Jobseekers' Registry: you must have completed at least 60 days of work in the calendar year preceding the beginning of the three months period. You should not be subject to the categories referred to art. 22 of Law 1836/89 (construction workers, musicians, actors, stone cutters, etc.) and you must meet specific income criteria based on the length of time you have been unemployed and your marital status. For information visit the DYPA website at: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-voithima-meta-apo-trimini-paramoni-sto-mitrwo-anerghon&tab3=>

Special allowance after the receipt of unemployment benefit: you have received the unemployment benefit and it expired. You should not be subject to the categories referred to art. 22 of Law 1836/89 (construction workers, musicians, actors, stone cutters, etc.) and you must meet specific income criteria based on the length of time you have been unemployed and your marital status. For information visit the DYPA website at: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-voithima-meta-ti-liksi-tis-taktikis-epidotisis-anerghias&tab3=>

All benefits are subject to tax in cases where the annual personal income amounts to over EUR 10,000.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Unemployment benefit: the basic monthly benefit amounts to EUR 438, which increases by 10% for every dependant member of the family.

The duration of the benefit depends on the number of days of employment the insured person has covered in the above-mentioned crucial periods (14 months or 2 years), as presented in the [website](#) of the Public Employment Service (DYPA).

In order to receive the unemployment benefit, you must register with the local Public Employment Service (DYPA) and fill an application for the benefits within 60 days from the day you became unemployed.

Special Seasonal Allowance: it is paid in a lump sum once a year. The amount depends on the social and professional class of the beneficiary. For information please visit the DYPA website at <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-epokhiko-voithima&tab3>

Long-term unemployment benefit: for information on long-term unemployment benefit, please visit the DYPA website at <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=epidoma-makrokhronios-anerghon&tab3=>

Special allowance after a three month waiting period in the Jobseekers' Registry: Lump-sum of 15 daily unemployment benefits (15*17.52=EUR 262.80). For information visit the DYPA website at: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-voithima-meta-apo-trimini-paramoni-sto-mitwo-anerghon&tab3>

Special allowance after the receipt of unemployment benefit: Lump-sum of 13 daily unemployment benefits (13*17.52=EUR 227.76). For information visit the DYPA website at: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/anergia-kai-paroxes-asfalishs-misthwtwn?tab=boithimata-epidomata&tab2=eidiko-voithima-meta-ti-likisi-tis-taktikis-epidotisis-anerghias&tab3>

Forms you may need to fill in

- [Application for unemployment benefit](#)

Know your rights

The link below provides a legal definition of your rights. It is not an European Commission website, nor does it represent the views of the Commission:

- [Unemployment benefits](#)

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Your Europe: Unemployment and benefits](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Public Employment Service (DYPA)

Directorate of Insurance & Social Policies
Department of EU Regulations and Conventions
Εθνικής Αντιστάσεως 8/Ethnikis Antistaseos 8
174 56 Άλιμος/Alimos
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE
Website: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/>
FAQs: <https://www.dypa.gov.gr/faq>

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Moving abroad

Aggregation of insurance periods abroad

This chapter covers all you need to know about the social benefits you are entitled to when moving within the EU, EEA and Switzerland.

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.

Social insurance and European regulations

If you work in a Member State of the EU or EEA or in Switzerland – all of which are bound by the relevant EU regulations – then the general rule is that you no longer come under the Greek social insurance scheme and therefore the rules of your new country of residence will apply to you.

If you have lived, worked and/or paid insurance contributions in a member state of the EU or EEA or in Switzerland (all of which are bound by the relevant EU regulations), then the time of your stay in these countries, the periods you have worked and the contributions you have paid can be offset by your insurance periods in Greece in order to calculate the benefits you are entitled to here.

Which benefits are affected?

The option to offset the contributions you have paid to any of the member states of the EU or EEA or to Switzerland applies to the following benefits:

- healthcare
- maternity benefits/equivalent paternity benefits
- old-age pensions
- invalidity pensions
- survivor's pensions
- unemployment benefit
- special seasonal aid

What should I do?

If you have worked in another country and are returning to Greece, you must bring with you a file with your insurance contributions, using the E104 and U1 forms (formerly E301 form), which you can obtain from the local branch of the insurance organisation in the country in which you have worked, and submit them to your insurance organisation in Greece and to the Public Employment Service (DYPA) respectively.

If you wish to look for work in Greece and have received unemployment benefits from countries in the EU or EEA or from Switzerland for a period of 4 weeks, you may transfer these benefits to Greece for a period of 3 to 6 months. You will need to bring with you a completed U2 form (former E303 form), which must be submitted to the Public Employment Service (DYPA).

Forms you may need to fill in

- E104 and U1 forms (formerly E301 form)
- U2 form (formerly E303 form)

Know your rights

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

General Secretariat for Social Security
Directorate for Specialized Matters on Social Security and Benefits
Section for the Implementation of EU Regulations
29, Stadiou street - 10559 Athens
GREECE
E-mail: intaffairs@ypakp.gr
www.ypakp.gr

e-National Social Security Fund (e-EFKA)

Directorate-General for International Cooperation
8 Agiou Konstantinou Str. - 10241Athens
GREECE
E-mail: gd.international@efka.gov.gr

Public Employment Service (DYPA)

Directorate of Insurance & Social Policies
Εθνικής Αντιστάσεως 8/Ethnikis Antistaseos 8
174 56 Άλιμος/Alimos
ΕΛΛΑΔΑ/GREECE

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Main residence

Permanent residence

This chapter includes all you need to know about "permanent residence" in Greece, a requirement you must meet in order to be entitled to certain categories of social benefits.

Am I a permanent resident?

The term "permanent residence" means that a person has actually settled in Greece and that Greece is the centre of his/her existence, biotic relationships, material interests, and material life, as well as his/her professional place of establishment. Furthermore, the person in question must be willing to remain in Greece for a reasonable period of time.

Among other things, the factors taken into account in order to establish whether a person is a permanent resident are the following:

- The person in question must reside in his/her primary and permanent place of residence.
- S/He must not have more than one permanent residence.
- If proof cannot be provided of the person's last residence, then his/her place of residence is considered as his residence.

A person must permanently reside in Greece when applying for the following benefits:

- single allowance child support;
- special benefit for families with three or more children.

The permanent residence requirement in respect of these benefits applies to all applicants, including Greek citizens. Generally speaking, if you have lived in Greece for many years, you will not have difficulty proving that you meet the "permanent residence" requirement.

Know your rights

Publication and website of the European Commission:

- [Your Europe: Permanent residence for EU nationals](#)

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

On the phone or by email

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

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