

The income replacement payment



You have no or a limited income as a result of a disability and additional costs in order to live independently. You may be eligible for an income replacement and/or integration payment.

What?

The income replacement payment is given to persons with a disability who, as a result of their limited options, have a reduced capacity to earn an income; this means their income from work is insufficient. The payment is intended to pay for your day-to-day living costs.

This payment is allocated by the Federal Public Service Social Security - Directorate General for Persons with a Disability (DGPMH).

For whom?

The payment is allocated on the basis of certain criteria.

Age. The applicant must be aged **between 18 and 65**.

Consequences of a disability. The disability in itself is not the determining factor; but its consequences are. There will be checks on whether the person is capable of working and of earning a decent income from employment.

Residence. The person who applies for the income replacement payment must reside in Belgium and genuinely live in the country.

Nationality. The person must also have one of the nationalities that is set out by the legislation, or be stateless, or be recognised as a refugee or as having subsidiary protection.

Income from family. When calculating the income replacement payment, account will be taken of the income of the disabled person, as well as the person with whom he/she resides. Certain exemptions can, however, be applied to the income, including income from employment for the disabled person.

Decision: the amount of the payment that is allocated depends on the family situation and family income.

Amounts

| Family category | Maximum amount Euro/year on 01-05-2024 | Maximum amount Euro/month on 01-05-2024 |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| A (Cohabiting) | EUR 10.567,43 | EUR 880,62 per month |
| B (Single) | EUR 15.851,18 | EUR 1.320,93 per month |
| C (Family, cohabiting with partner) | EUR 21.421,87 | EUR 1.785,16 per month |

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Uitgifte: December 2024 – vertaald augustus 2022 - EN – FOD Inkomensvervangende Tegemoetkoming

Hoe verloopt de aanvraag?

The request can be started online using My Handicap, from the age of 17 (entitlement from age of 18).

Consideration and submission of request

1. The request is started at the **municipal offices, town hall or social office where you live**, by the **welfare officer working for the healthcare insurance fund, or by the person with the disability**. The request for the income replacement payment is submitted via handicap.belgium.be/nl/erkenning-handicap/procedure-erkenning.htm.
2. As a disabled person, you may submit your request independently (or with help from a family member or friend) by logging in with your electronic ID card on handicap.belgium.be (My Handicap for citizens) and completing the online questionnaire.
3. **Need help? If you need help, you can contact CM's Social Work service.**
4. The request takes place by means of an interactive questionnaire. The FPS Social Security will ask for additional information that is relevant if they do not already have these details. Completing the questionnaire will take around 30 minutes.
5. The file will be sent electronically to the Directorate General of Persons with a Disability (DGPMH). The medical information will be requested by DGPMH digitally from your doctor (e-health).

You do not need to fill in any paper documents.

Examining the request

Administrative examination

6. The FPS Social Security also uses an electronic information exchange (fluxing) to gather information they do not have. Most of this process is automated.

Evaluation of disability

7. On the basis of the information submitted, the doctor will evaluate the extent to which the disability impacts on day-to-day activities. He may invite you to attend an appointment in the medical centre or will contact your doctor. The doctor must carry out the evaluation on the basis of a questionnaire and provide reasons if they deviate from certain norms.

Decision

8. You will receive a letter in which the decision is explained. The decision also defines the measures (certificate) to which you are entitled, the duration thereof and the corresponding payment amount.
9. You will then receive a calculation of the arrears.
10. On the 25th of the month (approximately) following the decision, you will receive the first month's payment as well as the arrears owed.

The appeal procedure

11. If you do not agree with the decision, you can submit an appeal for up to 3 months after receipt. We recommend that you carefully investigate the feasibility of submitting an appeal. Your union or healthcare insurance fund can offer advice and support when undergoing an appeal procedure.

How to submit a request for someone else (via a power of attorney)

If a parent/guardian, (legal) representative or simply the next of kin of a disabled person wishes to help that person, you can request a mandate. You can manage this yourself, using My Handicap.

You register as having a mandate for the disabled person, using their ID card and pin code or via Itsme. The disabled person gives you permission to manage the file by signing the 'for approval' mandate. From then on, you can manage the file using your ID card.

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Specifically, this means that a family member, for example, who wishes to monitor a request for a disabled person only has to sign the mandate using that person's ID card once. The family member can then use their own ID card to monitor the file.

You also have the option to make the request in the presence of the disabled person and use his/her electronic ID card (eID) and pin code or ltsme to log into My Handicap.

GOOD TO KNOW

The act of 27-02-1987 on payments to persons with disabilities is a complex piece of legislation.

CM's Social Work service has gained a great deal of expertise regarding requests to the FPS Social Security. The service will happily provide information and advice on how to start a file, submit the request and with respect to any questions about reviewing your file due to the deterioration of your medical situation. **We recommend that you always consult your doctor for any request.**

If you need help to submit a request, do not forget to bring the following:

- Your identity card
- Your bank account number
- The name and address of your doctor/specialist

ATTENTION!

These payments are not subject to tax.

If your condition deteriorates, you can submit a new application via My Handicap. You must report any new information that could give rise to a change in the payment amount. Changes in the annual income of 20% or more must be reported to the FPS Social Security within 3 months. This can be reported via the [contact form](#) of the FPS Social Security or via My Handicap.

New since 01-01-2024

There is a more favorable exemption when resuming employment for individuals who have had no employment income for 2 years or longer and had an IVT and/or IT recognition. This rule was introduced to encourage long-term unemployed people to return to work. To be eligible, the income must have increased by 20% or more compared to the previous year. This more favorable exemption is applied for the first 2 years of employment.

Need more information?

For more information about the request, please contact the Care Line – www.cm.be/zorglijn.

You can also contact the welfare officer at the FPS Social Security, which has a monthly surgery in most cities and municipalities. For up-to-date amounts and the surgery dates, you can consult handicap.belgium.be/docs/nl/zitdagen-vlaanderen-brussel.pdf. You can call the service on the freephone number 0800 987 99 (from Monday to Friday, from 8.30 to 12.30).

To monitor your own file or the file of someone for whom you have a mandate, go to My Handicap for citizens handicap.belgium.be.

To submit an online request and monitor your personal file: handicap.belgium.be (My Handicap for citizens).

Website Federal Public Service Social Security – Directorate General for Persons with a Disability: handicap.belgium.be/nl/index.htm.

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