Information about basic assistance for senior citizens and in case of reduced earning capacity from August 2008

With the combination of unemployment assistance and income support from January 2005, the basic assistance for senior citizens and people with a reduced earning capacity has been re-regulated as well. The benefits of the Act on Basic Assistance, which has been in effect since 2003, have been combined with the previous benefits according to the German Federal Social Assistance Law, the cost-of-living assistance and the assistance in special circumstances in the new Social Security Code XII (SGB XII).

Persons are entitled to a basic assistance if, for instance, they do not have earned sufficient pension claims or if no other means of provision are available. The children or parents of the entitled persons are not called on in these cases, provided that they do not dispose of a very high income (more than 100,000 EUR).

Who is entitled to benefits according to this law?

Persons with normal residence in the Federal Republic of Germany, who

- have completed the age of 65 or
- completed the age of 18 and have permanently lost their full earning capacity due to medical reasons.

Receiving an old-age pension or benefits for the loss of full earning power are not assumed.

Entitled to benefits are persons (also residents in home facilities),

- who cannot bear the costs of living from their own income (e.g. pension) and assets (e.g. savings, life insurance) or
- from the income and assets of the not separated husband/wife or cohabitant, if it is above their personal requirements.
Part of the income are for instance:
- pensions, also foreign
- pensions
- housing subsidy
- earned income
- income from right of residence, usufruct, pension right, etc.
- alimony of the separated/divorced spouse/partner
- interest
- other income from capital assets
- leasing and rental income
- sundries

Tax and certain insurances can be deducted from the gross income.

Part of the assets are for instance:
- building and basic assets (if not own residence)
- car (if not absolutely necessary due to a handicap in individual cases)
- cash money
- shares
- credit balance on accounts with banks, savings banks, building societies, etc.
- return flow of life and death insurances

Amounts up to 2,600 EUR for singles and 3,214 EUR for spouses/partners are not taken into account.

Who is not entitled?

Not entitled are
- persons whose income of persons liable for support exceeds an amount of 100,000 EUR taxable annual total income (per child or parents together),
- persons who have caused their neediness intentionally or by gross ignorance during the last ten years,
- foreign citizens, who receive benefits according to the Asylum Seeker Benefits Law.

What is included in the basic assistance?

The basic assistance includes
- the cost of living calculated with the help of basic factors,
- the appropriate actual expenses for accommodation and heating (calculated pro rata with not separated spouses/partners and cohabitants),
- if necessary, due health and nursing care insurance premiums,
- an additional benefit for possession of a disabled pass with the sign “G” or “aG”,
- an additional benefit for health-related cost-intensive nutrition (e.g. dietary food),
- additional benefits for pregnancy and for single parents.

Up to which amount can basic assistance be received?

The following examples will give you a first indication of your rights:

Example 1: A disabled, unmarried person with rental charges of 380 EUR, heating costs of 60 EUR and a pension of 340 EUR would receive a basic assistance of:
### Need

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Single person</th>
<th>You can enter your numbers here</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular rate for the head of the household</td>
<td>351.00 €</td>
<td>351.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs for living quarters</td>
<td>380.00 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating costs</td>
<td>60.00 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions to voluntary health / nursing-care insurance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional need due to the notation “G” or “aG” in the ID card for the severely disabled</td>
<td>59.67 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal: need</td>
<td>850.67 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less the net pension income</td>
<td>340.00 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results in an entitlement to the coverage of basic essential expenses in the amount of:</td>
<td>510.67 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Example 2: For a married couple or a civil partnership according to the German Civil Partnership Act (both older than 65) who owe rent in the amount of 480 EUR, heating costs of 80 EUR, and receive the husband's/male civil partner's pension in the amount of 710 EUR and the severely disabled wife's/female civil partner's pension in the amount of 380 EUR, the following need for the coverage of basic essential expenses results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need</th>
<th>Husband / civil partner</th>
<th>Wife / civil partner</th>
<th>For your numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular rate for the spouses / civil partners</td>
<td>316.00 €</td>
<td>316.00 €</td>
<td>316.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costs for living quarters (respectively pro rata)</td>
<td>240.00 €</td>
<td>240.00 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating costs (respectively pro rata)</td>
<td>40.00 €</td>
<td>40.00 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions to voluntary health / nursing-care insurance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional need due to the notation “G” or “aG” (in this case, for the wife/female civil partner)</td>
<td>53.72 €</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal: need</td>
<td>596.00 €</td>
<td>645.04 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less pension income</td>
<td>710.00 €</td>
<td>380.00 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results in a surplus of:</td>
<td>114.00 €</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results in a shortage (remaining need) of:</td>
<td></td>
<td>269.72 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less the partner’s surplus</td>
<td></td>
<td>114.00 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results in an entitlement to the coverage of basic essential expenses in the amount of:</td>
<td>0.00 €</td>
<td>155.72 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the income itself is insufficient, but at the same time, assets exist which could be applied to the respective costs of living, these assets will be credited against the coverage of basic essential expenses until the respective assets are exhausted. In this case, a new application for coverage of basic essential expenses is to be filed following the exhaustion of those assets which could be applied to the respective costs of living.

### Where does one file such an application?

Jurisdiction is according to the primary location (as a rule, the registered place of residence) for the person entitled to file the application.

The consultation related to the application, the processing of the application and the payment of the service rendered will take place, as a rule, in the town hall in charge of social services with jurisdiction over your place of residence.
You can turn to the following places for counselling:

51.A3 **Sozialrathaus Gallus**, Krifteler Straße 84, 60326 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-38189 oder 212-36093
zuständig für: Bahnhofsviertel, Gallusviertel, Gutleutviertel und Griesheim

51.A4 **Sozialrathaus Bockenheim**, Rohmerplatz 15, 60486 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-31794 oder 212–36413
zuständig für: Bockenheim, Westend-Süd und Rödelheim

51.A5 **Sozialrathaus Bornheim**, Eulengasse 64, 60385 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-35460, 212-46115 und 212-36677
zuständig für: Altstadt, Innenstadt, Nordend-Ost, Nordend-West, Bornheim und Ostend

51.A6 **Sozialrathaus Sachsenhausen**, Paradiesgasse 8, 60594 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-49120 oder 212-33811
zuständig für: Flughafen, Niederrad, Oberrad, Sachsenhausen-Nord, Sachsenhausen-Süd und Schwanheim

51.A7 **Sozialrathaus Höchst**, Palleskestraße 14, 65929 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-45721
zuständig für: Höchst, Nied, Sindlingen, Sossenheim, Unterliederbach und Zeilsheim

51.A8 **Sozialrathaus Nordweststadt**, Nidaforum 9, 60439 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-32140 oder 212-32274
zuständig für: Hausen, Praunheim, Hedderheim, Niederursel und Ginnheim

51.A9 **Sozialrathaus Bergen-Enkheim**, Voltenseestraße 2, 60388 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-41211
zuständig für: Fechenheim, Riederwald, Seckbach und Bergen-Enkheim

51.B2 **Sozialrathaus Am Bügel**, Ben-Gurion-Ring 110a, 60437 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-38038 oder 212-38058
zuständig für: Berkersheim, Bonames, Frankfurter Berg, Kalbach, Nieder-Erlenzach, Harheim und Nieder-Eschbach

51.B3 **Sozialrathaus Dornbusch**, Am Grünhof 10, 60320 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-70735 oder 212-42982
zuständig für: Westend-Nord, Nordend-West, Dornbusch, Ginnheim, Eschersheim, Eckenheim und Preungesheim

51.D2 **Besonderer Dienst 2 Ältere Bürger / Rathaus für Senioren**, Hansaallee 150, 60320 Frankfurt am Main
Info-Telefon 212-49922 oder 212-49933
zuständig für: Bewohner von Heimeinrichtungen

**Office hours:**
every Monday and Thursday from 8.00 a.m. to 12.00 a.m. and from 13.00 a.m. to 15.00 a.m. or by telephone appointment