



Your social security rights in Denmark



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Directorate C — Social Affairs

Unit C.2 — Modernisation of social protection systems

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

European Commission

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Your social security rights in Denmark

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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
Child benefits	7
Child care	10
Maternity benefit.....	13
HEALTH.....	17
Public healthcare.....	18
Sickness benefit.....	22
Home care service.....	26
Care of close relatives.....	28
INCAPACITY.....	31
Industrial injuries (accidents at work and occupational diseases), including compensation for permanent loss of earning capacity and compensation for permanent injury.	32
Disability pension, senior disability pension and flexi-job.....	36
OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS.....	40
Old-age pension and survivors.....	41
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE.....	46
Social assistance.....	47
UNEMPLOYMENT.....	50
Unemployment benefit.....	51
MOVING ABROAD.....	55
Previous coverage–protection abroad can count.....	56
MAIN RESIDENCE.....	59
Primary country of residence.....	60

Family

Child benefits

Here you can get information on who is entitled to child and youth benefit (*børne- og ungedelsen*) - also known as family allowance (*børnecheck*) - how much you can be paid, and how to apply for it. You are also informed about other child benefits.

In what situation can I claim?

If you and your child live in Denmark, family allowance (*børnecheck*), also known as child and youth benefit (*børne- og ungedelsen*), is automatically paid to you. If you or your child do not live in Denmark but you are an EU/EEA citizen and you are working in Denmark, you have to apply for child and youth benefit.

What conditions do I need to meet?

Child and youth benefit will be automatically paid to you if:

- you live in Denmark;
- you are fully liable for tax in Denmark;
- your child is below the age of 18 years;
- your child is resident in Denmark (contact *Udbetaling Danmark* in the event of prolonged residence abroad);
- your child is not supported by the public;
- your child is not married.

Read more about the [rules](#), if you have to be posted or move back to Denmark. Please note that you are not entitled to child and youth benefit if you move from Denmark permanently, unless you continue to work in the country.

Please note also that you have to apply for child benefit if your child lives in an EU/EEA country other than Denmark but you yourself work in Denmark.

If you are a foreign national in Denmark, you can apply for child benefit if you fulfil the following conditions:

- you have shared custody of the child;
- you can document the family relationship;
- you live in Denmark or are a citizen of an EU country, Norway, Iceland, Switzerland or Liechtenstein;
- you must have lived or worked in the Danish Realm, i.e. in Denmark, the Faroes or Greenland, within the past 10 years to be entitled to child and youth benefit.

If you are a foreign national and have worked or have a permanent address in the Danish Realm, the following principle of qualification applies:

Qualification period (residence or employment in Denmark, Greenland or the Faroes)	Level of benefit
6 months	8.3%
1 year	16.7%
1½ years	25%
2 years	33.3%
2½ years	41.7%
3 years	50%
3½ years	58.3%
4 years	66.7%
4½ years	75%
5 years	83.3%
5½ years	91.7%
6 years	100%

For persons covered by Regulation (EC) No 883/04, periods of employment or residence in other EU/EEA countries and Switzerland are counted as fulfilling the principle of qualification (the principle of combining). This means that you *do not* lose your entitlement

to child benefit if you have already earned it in your home country when you move to another Member State, including to Denmark.

Contact *Udbetaling Danmark* if you have any questions about the principle of earning entitlement or combining.

Please note that as a refugee you must hold a residence permit under Sections 7, 8 or 9b of the [Aliens Act](#) and meet the other requirements to receive child benefit.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

You apply for child and youth benefit by completing the form, the application and information form for payment of child and youth benefit.

Remember to attach a copy of your contract of employment from your Danish employer and your children's birth certificate/ID card to your application. If you do not have Nem-ID you also have to complete the consent- and declaration form.

How much can I receive in child and youth benefit?

The amount you can receive in child and youth benefit broadly depends on your child's age:

Your child's age	Child benefit (tax-free)
0-2 years	DKK 4,596 per quarter (in 2020)
3-6 years	DKK 3,639 per quarter (in 2020)
7-14 years	DKK 2,862 per quarter (in 2020)
15-17 years	DKK 954 per month (in 2020)

Please note, however, that the benefit depends on your and your spouse's income. This means that your and your spouse's child and youth benefit is reduced by 2% of the amount of your incomes in excess of DKK 800,100 (in 2020). In other words, you receive the full benefit if you and your spouse each separately earn *less* than DKK 800,100.

When will child and youth benefit be paid to me?

You can receive child and youth benefit from the first quarter after you have become a parent. Please note that the benefit is paid in advance. That is to say, you receive money in January for January, February and March. You can see the payment periods and the first quarter when you receive the benefit in the following table:

Your child is born in the period	Child and youth benefit is paid:
1 January to 31 March	20 April
1 April to 30 June	20 July
1 July to 30 September	20 October
1 October to 31 December	20 January

The benefit is paid on the last weekday before the 20th, if the 20th is a weekend or public holiday.

Child and youth benefit is paid every quarter, if your child is below the age of 15. If your child is aged 15-17, benefit is paid every month.

Who pays my child and youth benefit?

Udbetaling Danmark automatically pays child and youth benefit to the recipient's NemKonto account. It is usually the mother who receives the benefit. However, it is the father if he has full custody and *does not* live together with the mother.

The following can receive the benefit, if the child *does not* live with either of their parents:

- foster parents, if the child is in private foster care;
- persons who are fostering a child with a view to adoption;
- the child him/herself, if *Udbetaling Danmark* assesses this as being best for the child.

You can contact *Udbetaling Danmark* if you think you should receive the benefit rather than the current recipient. You can also [appeal](#) against a decision.

Can I receive other benefits as a parent?

As a parent you may be entitled to other benefits. This depends on whether you belong to a particular group or you are in a particular situation.

Below you can obtain specific information (in Danish) about benefits for particular groups and situations and see what requirements have to be met to be paid to them:

- [child allowance \(børnetilskud\)](#);
- [child allowance for multiple births](#);
- [child allowance for pensioners](#);
- [child allowance for lone parents](#);
- [child allowance for single persons](#);
- [child allowance for parents in education](#);
- [adoption allowance](#);
- [child allowance when paternity has not been established](#);
- [child maintenance](#);
- supplementary child allowance for parents on a work placement;
- spouse maintenance.

The link below redirects to general content on family benefits in English on livingindenmark.dk:

- [family benefits](#).

Jargon busters

- **Udbetaling Danmark** (Payment Denmark) is a public authority responsible for a number of public services to citizens.
- **The National Social Appeals Board** is an independent authority in the area of social affairs and employment which assesses appeals.
- **Borger.dk** is your portal to the public sector. Here you can get more information about child and youth benefit.
- **NemKonto** ('Easy Account') is an ordinary bank account which you open in advance. You can choose for yourself which of your bank accounts is to be your [NemKonto](#) account. The public authorities pay into this account.
- **NemID** ('Easy ID') is a digital ID that you use when in contact with Danish authorities.

Forms you may need to fill in

- Self-service at borger.dk: get overview and apply for child and youth benefit, etc.
- Find the form 'Application and information form for payment of child benefits' on www.borger.dk.

Know your rights

At the links below you can obtain information on your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- Consolidation Act on [Child and Youth Benefit](#)
- As an EU/EEA citizen you can read more on your rights in the International Pension and Social Insurance guidance on [social security schemes](#) and on [borger.dk](#)
- [Regulation \(EC\) No 883/04](#)

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Udbetaling Danmark

Kongens Vænge 8
3400 Hillerød
DENMARK
Tel. +45 70 11 12 13
E-mail: udbetalingdanmark@atp.dk

Ankestyrelsen (National Social Appeals Board)

Ankestyrelsen Aalborg
7998 Statsservice
DENMARK
E-mail: ast-aalborg@ast.dk@ast.dk

Ankestyrelsen København

Teglholmsgade 3
2450 København SV
DENMARK
E-mail: ast@ast.dk
Telephone: +45 33411200 Monday to Friday 09.00-15.00

Styrelsen for Arbejdsmarked og Rekruttering

(The Danish Agency for Labour Market and Recruitment)

Njalsgade 72A
DK-2300 Copenhagen S
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72217400
E-mail: star@star.dk

See relevant information at borger.dk on [child and youth benefit/family allowance](#). You can also obtain assistance with self-service at borger.dk by phoning 1881 or +45 70101881.

If it is not possible for you to use the online self-service facility you can obtain assistance from the local authority's Citizen Service. Find the contact details for the [Citizen Service here](#).

Child care

Here you can get information on who is entitled to a place in day-care facilities, child care options, costs, subsidies, and how to register/apply for public day-care facilities.

What am I entitled to?

In Denmark, the guaranteed day-care availability ensures that all children from 26 weeks until school age are entitled to be enrolled in a day care facility. If you wish to enrol your child at the age of 26 weeks the local authority has 4 weeks to offer a place.

The local authority determines the deadlines and guidelines for application.

You may make a request for a particular place, which the local authority will try to accommodate. You can apply for child care for your child from the age of about 6-10 in an [after-school activity/after-school play scheme](#).

[Leisure and youth clubs](#) offer activities for older children, but are not child care schemes.

What conditions do I need to meet?

Be aware of the following in relation to your child's entitlement to a place in a day-care facility from the age of 26 weeks until school age:

- Your child and you as a parent must be legal resident in Denmark. Danish residency is, among other things, assessed on the basis of how long you have been resident in Denmark, whether you and your child have an address in the population register, and whether you and your child intend to be permanent residents in Denmark.
- If you are a citizen of an EU/EEA country *and* work in Denmark, you are entitled to the same social benefits as Danish citizens. This means that your child is entitled to a place in a day-care facility within your local authority area.
- If you live in Germany or Sweden, for example, but work in Denmark (i.e. you are a cross-border worker), your child is entitled to a place in and a subsidy towards a day-care facility in the local authority area where you work. The local authority area where you work is regarded as your local authority area of residence. If you work in more than one local authority area, you may choose in which local authority area you wish your child to have child care.
- You cannot use subsidies for *private child care* (from Denmark) in EU countries other than Denmark. This also applies if you are an EU citizen and work in Denmark, but are resident in another EU country.
- You have to register your child for an [after-school play scheme](#) at borger.dk and enrol your child to school.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

As a citizen of an EU/EEA country who works in Denmark, you are entitled to the same social benefits as Danish citizens. Your child is therefore entitled to child care in a day-care facility every weekday, from the age of 26 weeks until he or she reaches school age (child care guarantee). Note that day-care facilities are closed at weekends, on public holidays, on Constitution Day, Christmas Eve and any additional closing days.

If the local authority is unable to fulfil this child care guarantee, you are entitled to have either:

- expenditure on a day-care place in another local authority area covered; or
- expenditure on a place in a privately-run child care facility covered; or
- a grant paid to you to mind your own child.

Can my child be looked after in another local authority area?

If it is more practical to have your child minded in another local authority area, there may also be provision for this. However, this requires your neighbouring local authority not to have a closed waiting list for children who live outside the local authority area. Note that your own contribution may perhaps become higher, as it depends on the level of service. If you move, your child is entitled to stay in the same day-care institution. Get more [information on child care](#) in other local authority areas.

As a parent you also have the option of setting up a child care facility yourself. You can read more about setting up [private day-care, an independent institution, private institution or a private child care scheme](#).

What are the costs of day-care facilities?

Note that it is the local council that decides:

- the price for having your child in day-care;
- when your child has to be placed on a waiting list;
- if you are placed at the end of the queue as someone who has moved from another local authority.

Your child is entitled to a place no later than 3 months after you have applied for it. However, the following rules apply:

Breakdown of costs for a place in day-care institution:	Local authority's minimum contribution	Parent's maximum own contribution
Children below school age	75%	25%
Children above school age (typical place in after-school play scheme)	70%	30%

Note that the local authority pays the subsidy to the day-care facility where your child has a place and therefore not directly to you as a parent. This also applies if you wish your child to have a place in an approved [private institution](#). You have to contact the institution, which itself also sets the parent's own contribution for the place.

Can I receive a subsidy for parental payment/own contribution?

Please note that it may be possible for your own contribution to be reduced by obtaining what is known as an *economic subsidy* from the local authority.

The local authority takes this decision based on household income. The subsidy is calculated on the basis of the combined household income if both parents live together with the child. The subsidy is calculated on the basis of the income of the parent where the child has its registered address (also when parents have shared custody of the child).

Combined household income up to DKK 181,501	Proportion of economic subsidy (2020) 100% economic subsidy
between DKK 181,501 and 185,524	95% economic subsidy
between DKK 185,525 and 563,799	The economic subsidy is reduced by 1 percentage point for each DKK 3,852 rise in income
DKK 563,800 or more	0% economic subsidy

Please note that the above income limits are raised by DKK 7,000 for each child living at home below the age of 18 years and by a further DKK 63,506 if you are a single parent who is entitled to a subsidised place. Read also about the treatment-related and [social-educational economic subsidy](#).

If there is more than one child in the household in a day care etc., you can additionally receive a *sibling subsidy* (including an after-school play scheme/after-school activity). This means you have to pay the full amount for the most expensive institution place, but only 50% for the other places. Biological siblings, adoptive siblings and children in step-families who live together are regarded as siblings in this context. Get more information on [subsidies](#) for day-care facilities and parental payment.

At [Borger.dk](#) you can read more about the individual facilities and find various forms to apply for and register your children for various child care schemes. Read about:

- [rules for day-care facilities](#);
- [day-care, crèche, nursery and private childminding](#);
- [after-school activity \(SFO\) and after-school recreation scheme](#);
- [after-school and youth clubs](#).

You can also [appeal](#) against a decision on child care.

In addition, the Ministry of Children and Education offers information on [day-care facilities](#) and on [after-school activity/after-school play scheme](#) and [leisure and youth clubs](#).

Jargon busters

- **Borger.dk** is your portal to the public sector. Here you can get more information about child and youth benefit.
- **SFO** is an abbreviation for *skolefritidsordning* (after-school activity scheme) and comes under primary and lower secondary school (*folkeskole*), while an **after-school centre** is a child care provision which comes under local authority day-care. Both institutions are aimed at children aged approximately 6 to 10.

Forms you may need to fill in

At [borger.dk](#) you can find an overview of [child care](#) and apply for a subsidised place and various subsidies.

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information about your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- Day-Care Act: retsinformation.dk
- Guidance on day-care, after-school centres and clubs: retsinformation.dk

European Commission publication and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Børne- og Undervisningsministeriet (*Ministry of Children and Education*)

Frederiksholms Kanal 21

1220 København K

DENMARK

Tel. +45 33925000

Email address: uvm@uvm.dk

Get more information about [day-care](#) and other relevant information at borger.dk. You can also obtain assistance with self-service at borger.dk by phoning 1881 or +45 70101881.

If it is not possible for you to use the online self-service facility, you can obtain assistance from the local authority area's Citizen Service. Find your municipality's [Citizen Service](#).

Maternity benefit

Here you can get information on who is entitled to maternity/paternity benefit, how much can be paid, and how to apply for maternity/paternity benefit.

In what situation can I claim?

As a parent you can claim maternity benefit for pregnancy, childbirth and adoption if you have had a connection to the labour market. This means that you are either a salary earner, self-employed or unemployed and are a member of an unemployment insurance fund (*a-kasse*).

You are entitled to receive maternity benefit, which is a basic benefit paid by the State, when you leave work for maternity leave. However, certain conditions must be met. In addition, you are entitled to full or partial pay during maternity leave, if this is stated in your contract of employment or is agreed in some other way with your employer.

If you are in doubt, contact your employer or unemployment insurance fund.

What conditions do I need to meet?

To receive maternity benefit, you must fulfil the following conditions on employment:

- *As a salary earner* you must have been in employment the day before or on the first day of the maternity leave. Furthermore, you must have been employed for at least 160 hours within the last 4 completed calendar months prior to maternity leave, and 40 hours each month in at least 3 of these months. Read more about [maternity leave for prospective parents](#);
- *As a self-employed person* you must have worked for the last month and for at least 6 months within the last year before going on maternity leave. You must have worked for at least half (18.5 hours) of the ordinary contractual weekly hours (37 hours) for at least 6 months during the past 12 months. Please note that you can count work as a salary earner if you have been working as a self-employed for less than 6 months. Read more about [maternity leave for self-employed persons](#);

- *As an unemployed person who receives unemployment benefit from the unemployment insurance fund (a-kasse), you can also receive maternity benefit. Please note that you cannot receive maternity benefit if you are on social assistance (kontanthjælp), but you can continue to be paid social assistance during your maternity leave. Read more about [maternity rules for unemployed persons](#);*
- *It may be possible for you to receive maternity benefit as a student with a job or recent graduate on maternity leave. Read more about [maternity rules for students](#);*
- *Note that there are individual variations in the rules for maternity benefit and maternity leave in the case of adoption. Read more about [maternity rules for adopters](#).*

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

How long are you entitled to maternity benefit?

As parents you have a combined entitlement to maternity/paternity benefit for 52 weeks. For the first few weeks there is a fixed distribution between the mother and father in the case of childbirth, but you will yourself or yourselves have the option to arrange the last 32 weeks of leave. In the case of adoption you can arrange most of your leave yourself or yourselves. Note, however, that the leave has to be taken before your child reaches the age of 9 years.

<i>Entitlement to benefit in the case of childbirth</i>	Mother	Father
4 weeks before expected birth	Pregnancy leave	-
2 weeks after birth (must be taken within the first 14 weeks after the birth)	-	Paternity leave
14 weeks after birth	Maternity leave	-
32 weeks shared between mother and father	(Parental leave)	(Parental leave)
<i>Entitlement to benefit in the case of adoption</i>	Mother	Father
4 weeks before you expect to receive the child (in special cases up to 8 weeks) if your child is adopted abroad	Maternity leave	Maternity leave
1 week before you expect to receive the child (in special cases up to 2 weeks) if your child is adopted in Denmark		
2 weeks after you receive the child, for one of the parents in the first 14 weeks	(Maternity leave)	(Paternity leave)
14 weeks after you receive the child, for one of the parents	(Maternity leave)	(Paternity leave)
32 weeks shared between mother and father	(Parental leave)	(Parental leave)

Please note that you are both entitled to take 32 weeks of parental leave (a total of 64 weeks), but that you are only entitled to benefit for 32 of these weeks.

How much can you be paid in maternity benefit?

The amount you can receive in maternity benefit depends on your situation. However, you can receive a maximum of DKK 4,405 per week before tax (2020).

As wage/salary earner: the amount depends on whether you receive full pay during the whole or part of your maternity leave. You can read this in your contract of employment or ask for information from your trade union. If you receive a salary during the leave, your employer will be paid your maternity benefit as reimbursement. When/if salary payment stops, you will receive money from *Udbetaling Danmark* by application.

Read more about how [maternity benefit](#) is calculated:

- *As a self-employed person:* the amount is calculated on the basis of the profit in your business, any income transferred to a co-working spouse, and your own sickness and maternity benefits. Read more about how [maternity benefit as a self-employed person](#) is calculated.
- *As an unemployed person and member of an unemployment insurance fund:* you are entitled to the same amount as you receive in unemployment benefit.

- Please note that it may be possible for you to receive maternity benefit as a student with a job or recent graduate on maternity leave. Get more information about your rights as a [recently graduated student](#) or [student with a job](#).
- You can also read about [child benefits in the event of multiple births](#) if you are expecting more than one child.

It is *Udbetaling Danmark* that pays your maternity benefit.

You can [appeal](#) against a decision on maternity benefit within 4 weeks after receiving the decision.

Jargon busters

- **A-kasse** is an abbreviation of *arbejdsløshedskasse* (unemployment insurance fund). If you pay a fixed amount to an unemployment insurance fund every month you are insured in the event of unemployment. This means that you can be paid money if you become unemployed and otherwise fulfil the conditions for entitlement to unemployment benefit;
- **Unemployment benefit**: Paid to unemployed persons who are members of an unemployment insurance fund and at the same time are unemployed, and who are available to the labour market. Read more about [unemployment benefits](#);
- **Job centre**: Here unemployed persons can obtain assistance in finding a job, and the case offices and employment advisers at the job centre can help businesses find new staff. See which [job centre](#) you belong to.

Forms you may need to fill in

Self-service at borger.dk: obtain an overview of and search on [maternity benefit](#).

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information about your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- [Act on Entitlement to leave and benefits in the event of childbirth](#);
- Act on [Maternity Equalisation](#)
- Act on [Right to take leave from work for family reasons](#).

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Udbetaling Danmark

Kongens Vænge 8
3400 Hillerød
DENMARK
Tel. +45 70 11 12 13
E-mail: udbetalingdanmark@atp.dk

Beskæftigelsesministeriet (Ministry of Employment)

Holmens Kanal 20
1060 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72205000
Fax +45 33121378
E-mail: bm@bm.dk

See relevant information at **borger.dk** about [maternity leave and benefits](#). You can also obtain assistance with self-service at borger.dk by phoning 1881 or +45 70101881.

If it is not possible for you to use the online self-service facility you can obtain assistance from the local authority's Citizen Service. Find the contact details for the [Citizen Service here](#).

Find your [job centre](#).

See list of [unemployment funds](#).

Health

Public healthcare

This chapter provides you with information on who is entitled to public healthcare in Denmark, how much can be claimed and how to claim it.

In what situation can I claim?

Your entitlement to health care under the Danish public health insurance scheme depends on which of the following groups you belong to:

Residents in Denmark;

Persons from EU/EEA/Switzerland are covered by public health insurance in Denmark according to the EU coordination regulations;

Persons who are temporarily staying in Denmark.

What conditions do I need to meet?

- You must show your yellow health insurance card/special health insurance card/European Health Insurance Card/a certificate that temporarily replaces the European Health Insurance Card to prove your entitlement to public health care;
- If you are a Nordic resident, you only need to show a valid national ID card or other document of your residence.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

What are you entitled to?

The kind of healthcare you are entitled to depends on the group you belong to.

- As a resident in Denmark (i.e. you are registered in the Civil Registration System), you are entitled to all public healthcare benefits.

The yellow health insurance card proves that you are entitled to the services offered under the national health insurance scheme.

- As a person from EU/EEA/Switzerland covered by public health insurance in Denmark according to the EU coordination rules, you are entitled to all public healthcare benefits.

The special health insurance card proves that you are entitled to the services offered under the national health insurance scheme. Read more about the special health insurance card in [Danish](#) and in [English](#).

- As a person temporarily staying in Denmark.

If you are covered by public health insurance in another EU/EEA country or Switzerland according to the EU coordination rules, you are entitled to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare during your stay under the same conditions and at the same cost (free for the most) as a resident in Denmark. The European Health Insurance Card or a certificate that temporarily replaces this card proves your right to healthcare.

Please note that some treatments need to be planned *before* you arrive in Denmark, for example dialysis and chemotherapy. For more information contact the [Danish Health Authority \(Sundhedsstyrelsen\)](#).

If you do not have a European Health Insurance Card or a certificate which temporarily replaces this card with you, you will have to pay for non-urgent health care yourself. You may seek reimbursement afterwards.

If you are not covered by public health insurance in another EU/EEA country or Switzerland and you become acutely ill, you are entitled to urgent treatment free of charge in a hospital. You are entitled to hospital treatment in addition to urgent treatment if, according to the circumstances, it is not considered reasonable to refer you for treatment in your home country, or you cannot be moved to a hospital in your home country due to your condition. You may be required to pay for the additional healthcare and urgent hospital treatment.

You are entitled to an additional allowance to cover *home transport* if you:

- are a resident of a Nordic country (i.e. Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, the Faroe Islands and Greenland);
- are covered by the national health insurance scheme in that country;
- have been prescribed your home transport by a doctor who is attached to the Danish health insurance scheme.

There are several authorities in the Danish health insurance scheme which provide public health care, including:

- hospitals;
- general practitioners;
- medical specialists;
- dentists;
- other healthcare professionals, such as physiotherapists, chiropractors and psychologists.

How do you claim public health care from these authorities?

1. Hospitals

- In an emergency, call 112;
- If you need urgent assistance, you must contact your general practitioner (between 8 am and 4 pm) or after-hours service (between 4 pm and 8 am) *before* going to the acute-care department/accident and emergency unit;
- [Contact details for the after-hours service](#) in your area. If you reside/stay in the Capital Region, you should call 1813 instead of the after-hours service;
- In non-urgent cases you must have a referral from a general practitioner (GP);
- Treatment is free of charge.

2. General practitioners

- If you need treatment by a general practitioner, you must contact any doctor who has a contract with the public health insurance scheme. Find a doctor in the [list of healthcare providers](#);
- Opening hours are normally from 8 am to 4 pm;
- Outside opening hours you should contact the after-hours service. [Contact details for the after-hours service](#) in your area. If you reside/stay in the Capital Region you should call 1813 instead of the after-hours service;
- Treatment is free of charge.

3. Specialists

- To obtain treatment by a specialist, you usually must have a referral from a general practitioner who has a contract with the public health insurance scheme;
- Treatment is free of charge.

4. Dentists

- If you need treatment by a dentist, you can contact any dentist who has a contract with the public health insurance scheme. Find a dentist in the [list of healthcare providers](#);
- The public health care reimburses a share of the costs depending on the type of dental treatment;
- On average, the reimbursement level is close to 30%, but some diagnostic procedures are subject to higher levels of reimbursement (above 60%);
- Other procedures (dentures, crowns etc.) are not reimbursed.

5. Other healthcare professionals

- To have healthcare by professional groups other than those mentioned above, for example psychologists and physiotherapists who have a contract with the public health insurance scheme, subsidised, you must have a referral from a general practitioner;
- You must pay for part of the cost for treatment.

How do you get medicines?

- In Denmark medicines are divided into three groups: 1) over-the-counter medicines sold only at pharmacies without prescription, 2) over-the-counter medicines sold at pharmacies and shops authorised by the Danish Medicines Agency without prescription, 3) prescription medicines where the medicine is only handed to you at the pharmacy if you have a prescription from a general practitioner, medical specialist or hospital.
- Over-the-counter medicines are generally not reimbursed. If you spend more than DKK 995 (2020 rate) on prescription medicine in a year, it is possible for you to have some of your expenditure reimbursed.
- Please note that you can have 60% of the amount spent on medicines for children under the age of 18 reimbursed regardless of the annual expenditure.
- The first time you purchase medicines in Denmark as a non-resident you will receive a special card with a unique number. Remember to present this card on all future purchases of medication. It has to be used when reimbursements are calculated.
- Here you can get further information on [subsidies](#) for medicines.

How can you have your expenditure in Denmark reimbursed?

- If you have paid the full price for your health care, because you did not present your European Health Insurance Card or a certificate replacing this card, it is possible for you to obtain reimbursement from the public health insurance scheme from the local municipality where you stay.
- You must present all your bills, receipts and referrals and your European Health Insurance Card/certificate replacing this card.
- Remember also to give your bank account details.

How can you have your expenditure reimbursed after you have gone home?

- Contact your health insurance company for assistance;
- Present all bills, receipts and referrals;
- Your health insurance company will then contact the Danish Patient Safety Authority to be informed of the amount of reimbursement.

Jargon busters

- **The Civil Registration System** (CPR) contains a register of all people who resides/have resided in Denmark;
- **Yellow health insurance cards** are issued to residents (persons who are registered in the CPR). New born infants do not receive the card until they have been named;
- **Special health insurance cards** are issued to persons who are entitled to public healthcare in Denmark without being registered as residents in the CPR. This card is issued by *Udbetaling Danmark*;
- **The Danish Health Authority** is the highest-level health authority in Denmark;
- **The Danish Medicines Agency** is the highest-level medicines authority in Denmark;
- **Sundhed.dk** is the online public hospital service, where personal services and data can be accessed, for example your patient record from a hospital (electronic patient record). You can also find general information on health, illness and patient rights from the public sector;
- **The Danish Patient Safety Authority** is an authority under the Ministry of Health. When expenditure on medical assistance abroad is reimbursed under the EU coordination rules, the bills are sent between the countries through central liaison bodies. The Danish Patient Safety Authority is the Danish liaison body.
- **The regions** are the five regional authorities which deal with hospitals and all public healthcare. Read more about the [regions](#).
- **Udbetaling Danmark** is the competent institution for issuance and exchange of EU-forms, issuance of European Health Insurance Card/Replacement certificate and Special Health Insurance Card.

Forms you may need to fill in

European Health Insurance Card, [self-service](#).

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information about your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- [The Healthcare Act](#);
- [Executive Order](#) on free choice of placement in insurance groups, issuing of health cards, European Health Insurance Cards, etc.;
- Guidance on [special health card](#).

European Commission website:

- [EU coordination rules](#)
- [European Health Insurance Card](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Udbetaling Danmark

Kongens Vænge 8
3400 Hillerød
DENMARK
Tel. +45 70 11 12 13
E-mail: udbetalingdanmark@atp.dk

Styrelsen for Patientsikkerhed (The Danish Patient Safety Authority)

Islands Brygge 67
2300 København S
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72286600

E-mail: stps@stps.dk
Website: www.stps.dk

Sundheds- og Ældreministeriet (The Ministry of Health)

Holbergsgade 6
1057 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72269000
E-mail: sum@sum.dk
Website: www.sum.dk

Sundhedsstyrelsen (The Danish Health Authority)

Islands Brygge 67
2300 København S
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72227400
E-mail: sst@sst.dk

Lægemiddelstyrelsen (The Danish Medicines Agency)

Axel Heides Gade 1
2300 København S
DENMARK
Tel. +45 44889595
E-mail: dkma@dkma.dk
Website: <http://laegemiddelstyrelsen.dk/>

General information on health: Sundhed.dk

For general information on coming to, living in and leaving Denmark: Borger.dk, Phone 1881 or +45 70101881

Sickness benefit

This chapter provides you with information on who is entitled to sickness benefit, how much can be paid, and how to claim this benefit.

In what situation can I claim?

Sickness benefit is intended to support persons with a connection to the labour market who are unable to work because of their own illness.

It is a short-term benefit as you are allowed in principle to have received sickness benefit for up to 22 weeks within the last 9 full calendar months.

In some situations you may be entitled to an [extended period of sickness benefit](#) after the 22 weeks.

What conditions do I need to meet?

You can receive sickness benefit if you meet the following conditions:

- you are unable to work because of your own illness, or if you have been injured;
- you live in Denmark, or are covered by Regulation (EC) No 883/04 on the coordination of social security systems;
- you pay tax on your income;
- you meet specified requirements on a connection to the labour market (employment).

The rules on how much you can be paid in sickness benefit, who pays, and how to receive payment, depend on whether you are:

- a salary-earner (including full-time, part-time employees, etc.);
- unemployed member of an unemployment insurance fund (*a-kasse*);

- self-employed.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

What can you receive in sickness benefit?

- *As a salary-earner*

Your sickness benefit is calculated on the basis of the weekly hours and the average hourly pay you have achieved for the last 3 months prior to your sickness. However, it cannot be more than DKK 4,355 per week.

The maximum amount you can receive per hour is the maximum amount of sickness benefit (DKK 4,355) divided by the normal contractual number of hours worked per week (37 hours). You can therefore receive a maximum of DKK 117.70 per hour.

If you are a part-time employee, your sickness benefit is calculated on the basis of your number of hours of work per working day, and your current hourly income, but limited by the maximum hourly rate of DKK 117.70.

If you are a salary-earner with unknown hours of work, with a fixed job rotation and shift working and with variable earnings, special rules apply which can be explained by the local authority.

- *As an unemployed member of an unemployment insurance fund*

If you are unemployed and a member of an unemployment insurance fund, you will receive the same amount in sickness benefit as you would have received in unemployment benefit.

- *As a self-employed person*

If you are self-employed, your benefit is calculated on the basis of your earnings from work in the business.

Who pays your sickness benefit, and when are you entitled to it?

- *If you are a salary-earner*

It is your employer and/or the local authority that pays the sickness benefit to you if you are in work and become ill.

From the first day of absence to the 30th day of sick leave inclusive it is your employer who pays sickness benefit to you. Please note, however, that you must have worked at least 74 hours for your employer in the last 8 weeks prior to the sickness absence, and that you do not receive full pay during sick leave. Remember that you must call your employer and report your absence due to sickness, no later than 2 hours after your appointment, unless otherwise agreed at your place of work.

The local authority will pay sickness benefit to you if one of the following situations applies to you:

- you have been employed for at least 240 hours within the last six completed calendar months prior to the first day of absence, in at least 5 of these months you have been employed for at least 40 hours in each month and you are not entitled to sick pay from your employer for the same period; you would have been entitled to unemployment benefit or a replacement benefit, if you had been unable to work;
- you would have been entitled to temporary labour-market benefit if you had not been unable to work;
- you have completed a programme of vocational training lasting at least 18 months within the last month;
- you are a trainee in a paid work placement as part of your education (regulated by or in accordance with the law);
- you are employed in a flexi-job (*fleksjob*).

If you are unemployed and a member of an unemployment insurance fund

The unemployment insurance fund pays your sickness benefit during the first 14 days of sickness. After this period, the sickness benefit will be paid by the local authority.

Please note that as an unemployed person you must report your absence due to sickness, on [jobnet](#) on the first day of sickness.

- *If you are a self-employed person*

It is the local authority that pays your benefit if you are a self-employed person or co-working spouse.

To receive sickness benefit, it is a requirement that:

- you have undertaken self-employed activity to a substantial extent for at least 6 months in the last 12 months, including the last month prior to the absence;
- you have been working in your own business for at least half of normal contractual weekly hours of work, i.e. 18.5 hours.

If you have previously been a salary-earner, and have been working as a self-employed for less than 6 months, the previous employment as a salary-earner, can be counted in order to meet the requirement of working hours.

You are entitled to sickness benefit from the local authority after 2 weeks of sickness. If you wish to avail yourself of sickness benefit earlier, you can take out a sickness benefit insurance.

How is your sickness benefit paid?

- *As a salary-earner*

To enable you to receive sickness benefit, your employer must provide information in [NemRefusion](#). If you receive pay during your illness, your employer can apply for reimbursement from the local authority equivalent to the amount you could receive in sickness benefit. This is also done through [NemRefusion](#). In both cases you will receive a notification letter in your digital mailbox (*e-boks*). Request for sickness benefits must then be made digitally in *Mit Sygefravær* within 8 days of the dispatch of the notification letter and submit to the local authority.

- *As an unemployed person and member of an unemployment insurance fund*

After you have reported sickness on jobnet on the first day of sickness, your unemployment fund will report it to [NemRefusion](#). You will then receive a notification letter in your digital mailbox (*e-boks*). Request for sickness benefits must then be made digitally in *Mit Sygefravær* within 8 days of the dispatch of the notification letter which you must fill in and submit to the local authority.

- *As a self-employed person*

If you are a self-employed person, it is the local authority that pays your sickness benefit. As a self-employed person you must apply for sickness benefit yourself via [NemRefusion](#). The time limit for requesting sickness benefit from the local authority is no later than 3 weeks after the first day of absence.

If you have taken out sickness benefit insurance, you must have notified your absence no later than 1 week after the entitlement to sickness benefit has come into effect.

Jargon busters

- **A-kasse** is an abbreviation for *arbejdsløshedskasse* (unemployment insurance fund). If you pay a fixed amount to an unemployment insurance fund every month you are insured in the event of unemployment. This means that benefit can be paid to you if you become unemployed and meet a number of conditions, including having worked to a particular extent prior to unemployment.
- **Self-assessment** is a return to the tax authority stating how much has been earned in the previous year and how much tax is due to be paid.
- **Jobnet** among other things offers a job bank, a CV bank and information pages for all job-seekers and employers throughout Denmark.
- **NemRefusion** gives businesses, self-employed persons and unemployment funds access to notification and request for reimbursement of sickness and maternity benefits.
- **Mit Sygefravær** provides employees digital access to their sickness case. As a rule the employee is obliged to use *Mit Sygefravær*.
- **E-boks** is a digital mailbox, where you receive mail from public authorities.

Forms you may need to fill in

You can find relevant forms as an employer or self-employed person at <http://www.nemrefusion.dk/>.

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information about your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- The [conditions to be met for sickness benefit](#).
- Guidance on sickness benefit provides you with specific explanations based on the Sickness Benefit Act <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/retsinfo/2020/9078>
- <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/retsinfo/2019/9830>
- <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/retsinfo/2014/10374>
- <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/retsinfo/2017/9998>

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Beskæftigelsesministeriet (Ministry of Employment)

Holmens Kanal 20
1060 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72205000
Fax +45 33121378
E-mail: bm@bm.dk

[Your job centre](#).

See relevant information at [Borger.dk](#).

Home care service

Here you can get information on who is entitled to home care services, what assistance can be received, and how to apply for home care services.

In what situation can I claim?

You can receive home care (personal care, practical help and meals service) if you are unable to carry out the personal and practical tasks in your own home:

- due to temporary or permanent physical or mental impairments;
- or special social problems.

What conditions do I need to meet?

If you are legally resident in Denmark, you are entitled to receive care. Legal residence comprises both temporary and permanent residence. Temporary residence means, for example, holiday or study residence, family visits, etc. Permanent residence in Denmark may be various situations in which foreign nationals live in Denmark and either work there or receive pension from the home country. It is not of vital importance whether the recipient is a Danish citizen or not to receive care under the Social Services Act.

You can receive home care if you:

- are legally resident in Denmark;
- cannot carry out personal and/or practical tasks in your own home and need help.

Please note that you can receive care regardless of whether you live alone, in your own home, in shared accommodation, in a care home/nursing home or in other forms of accommodation.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

You can apply to the municipality to receive *home care service*.

At borger.dk you can apply for help with the tasks you are unable to carry out yourself, if you have a temporary or permanent impairment of physical or mental function or special social problems.

An assessment officer from the local authority assesses whether you can receive help on the basis of your need.

The assessment officer is entitled to take into account if and to what extent a member of the common household, for example your spouse, can assist in performing everyday tasks, such as shopping and similar. You are entitled to receive help with the tasks you are unable to carry out yourself.

Prior to assessing the need for home care, the municipal council shall assess whether a brief and time-limited rehabilitation programme will be able to improve your functional capacity and thus reduce the need for home care.

You may among other things be entitled to:

- free choice of provider of personal help, practical help and meals service in your own home;
- flexible home care;
- replacement help;
- home care during your holiday in a different local authority area in Denmark.

1. Free choice of provider of personal and practical care

- The free choice of supplier in the area of home assistance means that the municipal council is obliged to establish the frameworks for recipients of personal and practical care and the meals service to be able to choose between at least two different suppliers whereof one can be a public supplier;

- A recipient of home care has the option of designating a person to provide the personal and practical care. The designated person has to be approved by the local authority, which employs and enters into a contract with the person concerned.

2. Flexible home care

- Persons who receive home care can choose completely or partially different assistance than that agreed upon. A granted benefit which is declined cannot subsequently be requested.

3. Replacement help

- If the assistance with personal care and practical assistance is cancelled, you are entitled to replacement help.

4. Home care on your holiday in a different local authority area in Denmark

- If you are entitled to long-term home care, you can contact the local authority for your place of residence if you wish to have home assistance for a limited period when you are staying in a different local authority area.

What does home assistance cost?

If the local authority has approved personal and/or practical care for you, the assistance is for free.

If the local authority has approved [meals service](#), it is entitled to charge an amount for this service.

Meals service costs		
	Single occasion	Per month
1. Maximum payment for one main dish	DKK 55	-
2. Maximum payment for meals service	-	DKK 3,759

If you disagree with the local authority's decision on your need for home care, you can appeal within 4 weeks. When the local authority has received your appeal, it has 4 weeks to re-assess the decision.

If the local authority *does not* grant your appeal, your appeal will be forwarded to the National Social Appeals Board.

Forms you may need to fill in

You have to apply to receive *home care* by applying to your local authority.

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information about your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- You can find the [rules](#) for home care in Chapter 16 of the Social Services Act.
- You can read about the rules for payment through the following links:
- [Consolidation Act](#) on payment for general measures and for measures concerning personal and practical assistance;
- [Circular letter on adjustment as of 1 January 2020 of rates in the area of meals services](#);
- [Consolidation Act on Social Services](#).

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Sundheds- og Ældreministeriet (Ministry of Health)

Holbergsgade 6
1057 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72269000
E-mail: sum@sum.dk

Borger.dk

Phone +45 70101881.

Telephone answering hours are 8 am to 8 pm on Mondays to Thursdays and 8 am to 6 pm on Fridays

Find your municipality's [Citizen Service](#) and see [contact details](#).

Care of close relatives

Here you can get information on services and provisions for care of family members in your own home.

In what situation can I claim?

- If you have a connection to the labour market and have a close relative who is disabled or seriously ill;
- If you care for a close relative who wishes to die in their own home.

Note that salary earners, etc. are entitled to leave in connection with a caregiving relationship. Questions concerning entitlement to absence from work must be addressed to the Ministry of Employment.

What conditions do I need to meet?

Certain conditions have to be met, but they depend on the situation concerned.

Situation 1: You are caring for a close relative with a disability or serious illness

In this case you will be employed by the local authority in which your close relative lives.

The conditions to be met to be employed by the local authority which assists include:

- that the alternative to care in the home is 24-hour accommodation outside the home;
- that the need for care is equivalent to full-time work;
- that you and the sick person agree on the caregiving relationship;
- that the local authority assesses that you can cope with the task or
- that you have a connection to the labour market.

Situation 2: You are caring for a dying person

To receive carer's allowance, the following conditions, among others, must be met:

- A doctor has assessed that the dying person has a short time left to live, usually 2 to 6 months. You and your relative or a closely related person are agreed on the nursing and caring task;
- The nursing can be provided in your or your relative's home.

You must contact the local authority where your close relative or closely related person would like to stay for his/her last days.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

The benefits you can claim depends on the specific situation.

Situation 1: You have a relative with a disability or serious illness

- You will enter into a contract of employment with the local authority where your close relative lives, and in which the more detailed conditions are described, for example the duration of the period;
- If the employment is terminated before the contract comes to an end, you are entitled to receive salary from the local authority for 1 month after the end of the month in which the contract ceases. This does not apply, however, if you have other means of support;
- You have an opportunity to apply for leave, of up to 6 months, to care for your close relative. You can then submit a new application to have the period of care extended by up to 3 months;
- By agreement with your employer, you can divide the care up into shorter periods of 3 months;
- In 2020 you will receive a salary of DKK 23,573 per month. You cannot, however, receive an amount greater than what is paid to you by your employer. Please note also that you retain your right to unemployment benefit, holiday pay and so on;
- It is possible to share the care between several persons. This does not mean that more is paid in total, but that the benefit is shared between the persons concerned.

Read more about [respite](#) or relief, when you are caring for a relative who is sick.

Situation 2: You wish to care for a dying person

- If you are entitled to carer's allowance it continues to apply, even if your close relative is temporarily hospitalised;
- If you have been paid salary during your leave, your employer can receive a reimbursement equivalent to the carer's allowance. Remember that you must inform your employer that you are going to take leave at the same time that you apply to the local authority for the carer's allowance;
- The carer's allowance cannot exceed your income to date. Care allowance is equivalent to 1.5 times the amount of sickness benefit (maximum DKK 4,405 per week) to which you will be entitled in the case of illness. If you are *not* entitled to sickness benefit, you will be paid a basic amount of DKK 16,118 a month full-time;
- The carer's allowance will in principle *not* be increased even if there are several of you who share the nursing task;
- Even if you lose your work income or are outside the labour market, and for example are a pensioner, student or similar, you can be paid a carer's allowance;
- You are *not* entitled to retirement pension or other social benefits such as housing benefit while you are receiving care allowance for caring for your close relative;
- You are entitled to receive carer's allowance until the care relationship ceases. If the cessation is due to the close relative having died, you can receive allowance for 14 days after the death;
- You have to pay tax on the carer's allowance.

Please note that dying persons can receive free, temporary home care and assistance, including paid medication and medical devices.

Jargon busters

- **Carer's allowance** is an amount that can be received to care for a close relative who is dying;
- **Sickness benefit** is granted as economic support for people who are unable to work because of their own sickness. Read more about [sickness benefit](#).

Forms you may need to fill in

- Application for [carer's allowance](#)

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information on your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- The [Social Services Act](#), see Chapter 22 on care of seriously ill close relatives and Chapter 23 on care of dying persons;
- Guidance on [adjustment of rates related to care of dying persons, as of January 1st 2020](#).

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Social- og Indenrigsministeriet (Ministry of Social Affairs and the Interior)

Holmens Kanal 22
1060 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 33929300
E-mail: sim@sim.dk

Sundheds- og Ældreministeriet (Ministry of Health)

Holbergsgade 6
1057 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72269000
E-mail: sum@sum.dk

Beskæftigelsesministeriet (Ministry of Employment)

Holmens Kanal 20
1060 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72205000
Fax +45 33121378
E-mail: bm@bm.dk

Find general information on **Borger.dk**

Phone +45 70101881.

Telephone answering hours are 8 am to 8 pm Mondays to Thursdays, and 8 am to 6 pm Fridays.

Get more information on [leave to care for dying persons](#).

The **local authority** in which your dependant lives. Find the local authority's [Citizen Service](#).

Incapacity

Industrial injuries (accidents at work and occupational diseases), including compensation for permanent loss of earning capacity and compensation for permanent injury.

Here you can get information on what an industrial injury is, when and how much you can be paid in compensation and how the money will be paid to you.

In what situation can I claim?

You may be entitled to compensation if you have suffered an accident at work or have contracted an occupational disease. The Danish definitions of accidents at work and occupational diseases are:

- *Accidents at work* are personal injuries caused by an incident or exposure (at work or due to working conditions) that occurs suddenly or within five days of incident or exposure.
- *Occupational diseases* are physical or mental diseases due to the effects of your work or working conditions. Note that an occupational disease in principle is only recognised as an occupational disease if there is a medical, documented causality between the disease and your work or working conditions.

What conditions do I need to meet?

What requirements have to be met for you to be able to receive compensation?

For the recognition of an industrial injury, and therefore for any compensation under the Danish Workers' Compensation Act, there must be a causality between the work-related accident or exposure and the injury, disease or death.

You find the main criteria for each type of compensation under [the Danish Workers' Compensation Act](#).

1. Compensation for permanent injury

A minimum of 5% permanent injury is required.

2. Compensation for permanent loss of earning capacity

A minimum of 15% permanent incapacity due to the injury or disease is required.

3. Compensation for loss of breadwinner

The surviving dependant's entitlement to compensation for loss of breadwinner depends on an overall assessment that considers the extent of financial support and the surviving dependant's changes of self-support as well as the person's age, health status, education, employment and financial situation. Compensation for loss of breadwinner can be granted to the surviving spouse or registered partner and the deceased's children until the age of 18 or 21, if the children are undertaking and education.

4. Transitional allowance to dependants in case of death

In case of death, a transitional allowance is granted to the dependants (surviving spouse, cohabiting partner or registered partner). The Act requires that the surviving spouse or partner have had been living together with the deceased at the time of death and that they had been married or living together in a marital-like relationship two years prior to be death of the deceased.

5. Expenses reimbursed

Any person with legal residence in Denmark is entitled to medical care according to need. This also apply in the event of an industrial injury. Treatments, aids, rehabilitation etc. related to the work injury or disease that are not covered by the Danish National Health Act or other such schemes may be covered by the Danish Workers' Compensation Act, if the treatment etc. is necessary to obtain the best possible cure or recovery.

For more information on which types of expenses are covered under the Danish Workers' Compensation Act read [here](#) and [here](#).

For information on expenses not covered by the Act, read [here](#).

Who has to report the injury?

1. Accidents at work

Your employer is legally bound to report accidents at work to the company's insurance and to the Danish Working Environment Authority no later than 9 days after the date of the accident if:

- you have reported in sick due to the accident for one day after or any subsequent day after the day of the accident;
- the injury is anticipated to lead to permanent injury or loss of earning capacity, and therefore compensation under the Danish Workers' Compensation Act;
- it is expected that you will not be able to resume work fully within 5 weeks from the date of the accident due to your injuries. In this situation, your employer must report the accident no later than 5 weeks from the date of the accident.

Your employer reports accidents at work electronically through the notification system EASY. If your employer does not report the accident, you can report it yourself through the notification system.

2. Occupational diseases

Doctors and dentists are legally bound to notify Labour Market Insurance and the Danish Working Environment Authority if they suspect or have confirmed that a disease is caused by work or working conditions. Diseases are reported electronically through the notification system EES.

If your doctor or dentist does not report the disease, you can report it yourself through the notification system.

By when does the injury have to be reported at the latest?

Accidents at work have to be reported no later than 1 year from the date you or your surviving dependants became aware that the disease must have been deemed to be an occupational disease.

The time limit will be disregarded if there is documentation that you have sustained an industrial injury and that you or your surviving dependants are entitled to compensation as a consequence of the industrial injury.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

What are you entitled to?

After an industrial injury, you or your surviving dependants may be entitled to the following types of compensation:

- compensation for permanent injury;
- compensation for loss of earning capacity;
- expenses towards treatment, medicine, aids, etc.
- compensation for loss of breadwinner;
- transitional allowance to dependants at death.

1. Compensation for permanent injury

The Labour Market Insurance will assess your level of permanent injury on the basis of a declaration on the consequences of the injury written by your general practitioner or a medical specialist.

You can use the Labour Market Insurance's "[permanent injury calculator](#)" to calculate what level of compensation you can expect to receive for a particular injury.

Every year, the Minister for Employment regulates the compensation level for permanent injury. In 2020, the compensation for 100% permanent injury is DKK 918,000. This means that if you for example have a 5% permanent injury the compensation will be DKK 45,900 (5% of DKK 918,000).

2. Compensation for loss of earning capacity

Labour Market Insurance calculates your loss of earning capacity in one of two ways:

- as a direct decrease in pay, if you have returned to work, but cannot earn as much as before as a result of your industrial injury;
- based on an assessment of your future opportunities to earn a living, if you have not returned to work.

The specific level of compensation you might be entitled to also depends on other factors such as your income before the injury. You may, for example, have been working full time, part time or in training when the injury occurred. Read more about compensation for loss of earning capacity [here](#).

Compensation for loss of earning capacity under 50% is automatically paid as a lump sum.

Please note that compensation which is paid as a regular (monthly) benefit is liable to tax, unlike compensation which is paid as a lump sum.

3. Expenses towards treatment, medicine, aids, etc.

You are entitled to reimbursement of necessary expenses for:

- treatment while the case is pending;
- medicine;
- tooth injuries;
- medical aids – for instance prostheses, spectacles, or similar aids that you need because of your recognised industrial injury;
- future treatment expenses, medicine, aids, etc.

You are also entitled to reimbursement of necessary expenses in connection with processing of the claim – for instance transport and meals in connection with medical examinations.

For more information on which types of expenses are covered under the Danish Workers' Compensation Act read [here](#) and [here](#).

For information on expenses not covered read [here](#).

4. For loss of breadwinner

There are various forms of compensation for survivors. Below you can find information on the various types of compensation and see what can be paid to you if you have lost your breadwinner:

- [Compensation for spouse/cohabiting partner/registered partner](#). Whole or partial lump-sum compensation if you find it difficult to provide for yourself as a result of the death;
- [Compensation for the deceased person's children and others](#). Compensation which you, as the child of a deceased person, can receive once a month until you reach the age of 18, or until you are 21 if you are undertaking an education. This also applies if you are an adopted child of the deceased. You may also be entitled to compensation if the deceased person provided for you wholly or partially;
- [Special compensation for survivors](#). A special form of compensation you can be awarded as a lump sum if another person caused the death intentionally or by gross intent.

Transitional allowance to dependants in case of death

You can see the current compensation levels for each type of compensation under the Danish Workers' Compensation Act [here](#).

How and when do you receive your compensation?

It is the insurance company or the Labour Market Insurance that pays the compensation. The money will be paid into your NemKonto account within 4 weeks after the Labour Market Insurance has made a decision on your case and has recognised your illness as an occupational disease. It may take longer if the insurance company or Labour Market Insurance appeals against the Labour Market Insurance's decision, or if you receive any social security benefits.

Read more about [payment](#) of compensation and time limits for payment.

You can [appeal](#) against any decision Labour Market Insurance has made regarding compensation and recognition of your industrial injury claim. Read more about how to appeal [here](#) and [here](#).

Jargon busters

- **Labour Market Insurance** is a self-governing, public-law unit, which assesses whether a disease or injury can be recognised as an industrial injury.
- **The Occupational Diseases Committee** has to ensure that occupational diseases due to work are recognised, even if they are not in the Danish national list of occupational diseases.
- **The Social Appeals Board** is an independent authority, in the area of social affairs and employment, which assesses appeals;
- **The Danish Working Environment Authority** supervises, formulates regulations for and guides activities concerning the working environment in Denmark on the basis of the Working Environment Act. It also handles coordination, law- and policy matters and development tasks in relation to workers' compensation.
- **The National Social Appeals Board** examines appeals against decisions made by the Danish Working Environment Authority.
- **NemKonto.** You can choose for yourself which of your bank accounts is to be your [NemKonto](#) account. The public authorities will pay into this account.
- **Udbetaling Danmark** is a public authority which is responsible for payment of a number of public benefits to citizens.

Forms you may need to fill in

- Self-service at lifeindenmark.borger.dk: Here you can:
 - notify an accident at work;
 - notify an occupational disease;
 - calculate compensation for industrial injuries;
 - view your industrial injury case;
 - appeal against a decision of the Labour Market Insurance.

Know your rights

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Arbejdsmarkedets Erhvervssikring (Labour Market Insurance)

Kongens Vænge 8

3400 Hillerød

DENMARK

Tel. +45 72206000

E-mail: aes@aes.dk

Website: <http://aes.dk/da/English.aspx>

Get more information on [industrial injuries](#).

Ankestyrelsen (National Social Appeals Board)

7998 Statsservice

DENMARK

Telephone: +45 33 41 12 00, Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm.

E-mail: ast@ast.dk

Arbejdstilsynet (Danish Working Environment Authority)

Landskronagade 33

2100 København Ø

DENMARK

Telephone: +45 70121288, Mondays-Thursdays 8 am to 3 pm, Fridays 8 am to 2 pm

E-mail: at@at.dk

Website: <http://amid.dk/en>

Beskæftigelsesministeriet (Ministry of Employment)

Holmens Kanal 20

1060 København K

DENMARK

Tel. +45 72205000

E-mail: bm@bm.dk

Disability pension, senior disability pension and flexi-job

Here you can get information on who is entitled to disability pension, how much can be paid and how to be granted disability pension. In general, persons below the age of 40 will not be granted disability pension, unless the workability obviously cannot be improved.

You can also read about senior disability pension that can be granted to people with a current and long attachment to the labour market and less than six years to the public retirement age.

You can also get information on who is entitled to a flexi-job, and how much you can be paid in a flexi-job.

In what situation can I claim?

You can be granted disability pension, if your capacity for work is permanently and substantially reduced in such a degree that you will never be able to provide for yourself by working – not even in a flexi-job.

You can be entitled to a flexi-job, if your local authority finds that your capacity for work is permanently and substantially reduced.

If you have been assessed for a flexi-job, the following rules apply:

- A flexi-job is granted for 5 years (it is therefore known as a *temporary flexi-job*);
- After 4½ years the local authority has to assess whether you are still entitled to a flexi-job. Note that this does not mean that you have to change jobs;
- If you are over the age of 40 and still meet the conditions for a flexi-job *after* your first flexi-job, however, it is possible for you to obtain a *permanent flexi-job*;
- You can be employed in a flexi-job at your previous place of work (a *retention flexi-job*), if you have been employed under the social chapter of the agreement or on special terms for a minimum of 12 months. However, you need not meet the requirements if you have suffered an acute serious industrial injury or are suddenly affected by a serious illness.

What conditions do I need to meet?

In order to be granted disability pension, your workability must have been assessed through a 'resource' scheme (*ressourceforløb*) which takes into account different factors, such as physical and mental health, education, previous jobs, and social networks. It must have been concluded that your workability is substantially and permanently reduced in such a degree that self-providing from any kind of work, including flexi-job, is precluded. Disability pension will not be granted if your workability can be improved through activation, treatment, rehabilitation, resource schemes or in other ways, except if you are less than six years to the public retirement age and have a current and long attachment to the labour market. In this last case, you can be granted a Senior disability pension, if your workability is substantially and permanently reduced in such a degree that you can only work 15 hours a week. In such cases, no attempt will be made to improve the workability through for example activation, rehabilitation or resource schemes.

After a Senior disability pension is granted, the pension will be identical to ordinary disability pension.

In general, if you are below the age of 40 you will not be granted disability pension, unless the workability cannot be improved. Instead, you will be offered a resource scheme in order to try to improve your workability.

As a general rule you must in addition:

- be a Danish citizen;
- have permanent residence in Denmark;
- have lived in Denmark for at least 10 years from your 15th birthday (at least 5 of these years just before you are granted disability pension).

If you *do not* fulfil the 3 conditions above, you may nevertheless be entitled to Danish disability pension if:

- You are a Danish citizen or a citizen of another EU/EEA country or Switzerland;
- you are a citizen of an EU/EEA country or Switzerland, stateless or a refugee;
- you have a total of at least 3 years of earned entitlement to pension from an EU/EEA country or Switzerland, of which at least 1 year was earned in Denmark, and
- you have worked in an EU/EEA country or Switzerland.

If you are not a citizen of another EU/EEA country or Switzerland, you may nevertheless be entitled to Danish disability pension. Read more about [Danish disability pension](#).

In a flexi-job, account is taken of the fact that your capacity for work is reduced. A flexi-job can be granted to you by the local authority if:

- you are below retirement age;
- your work input is permanently and substantially reduced;
- all your options for holding a job on normal terms have been examined and excluded;
- You should note that you *cannot* be granted a flexi-job if you are entitled to a disability pension.

Please note that it is also possible for you to get a grant as a self-employed person on special terms if your work capacity is permanently and substantially reduced.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Disability pension

The Danish disability pension scheme was reformed in 2003.

Disability pension amounts to DKK 19,092 per month for single persons and DKK 16,229 for a recipient with a spouse or partner.

For both schemes, the benefit rate will be adjusted according to personal income of a certain amount. If the person has a spouse or partner the benefit can also be adjusted according to the income of the spouse or partner if this exceeds a certain ceiling. The

disability pension is granted permanently. At the pensionable age, it will be replaced by the old-age pension.

The amount may be smaller if you have lived outside the Danish Realm (Denmark, Greenland, the Faroes) during the period from when you reached the age of 15 until you were granted disability pension.

You are entitled to the full disability pension, if you have lived in Denmark for 9/10 of the time from the age of 15 till you were granted disability pension, otherwise you are entitled to a [fraction of disability pension](#) (calculated as fraction between the time you have lived in the Denmark and 9/10 of the time from you turned 15 till you were granted disability pension).

You can [appeal](#) within four weeks against a decision on a disability pension.

Flexi-job

If you have been employed in a flexi-job from 1 January 2013 or later you will be paid a salary for the work input you actually complete. For example, your employer has to pay you for 10 hours if you work 20 hours a week and your work intensity is only 50%. It is the job centre that assesses your work intensity and the number of hours you can work.

Besides a salary from your employer you receive a flexible pay subsidy as a supplement from the local authority. This is calculated on the basis of an amount corresponding to 98% of the maximum level of unemployment benefit.

If you were employed in your flexi-job before 1 January 2013, the rules from before this time apply. This means that you receive contractual pay, and your terms of employment are set in cooperation with the trade-union organisations. Your employer receives a public subsidy that is equivalent to half or two-thirds of the minimum contractual pay. The level of the subsidy depends on your work capacity. It is regularly assessed whether the subsidy is to be increased, reduced or cease altogether.

Self-employed persons

Self-employed persons can receive pay subsidy to continue working in their own business, if they have a reduced working capacity. If you have started to receive pay subsidy after 1 January 2013 the level of the grant depends on the earnings of the business.

If you started to receive pay subsidy before 1 January 2013, the subsidy is set according to the same principles as for salaried employees who started a flexi-job before 1 January 2013.

Read also about the [unemployment benefit](#) you may be entitled to before or after a flexi-job, including during holidays.

Jargon busters

- **Resource scheme** (*ressourceforløb*) is a form for assessing the workability of a person which takes into account different factors, such as physical and mental health, education, previous jobs, social networks.
- **Borger.dk** is your portal to the public sector. Here you can get more information on disability pension and flexi-job.
- **Udbetaling Danmark** (Payment Denmark) is a public authority which is responsible for payment of a number of public benefits to the citizens. These are tasks which were previously dealt with by the country's 98 municipalities.
- **NemKonto** (Easy Account) is an ordinary bank account which you have beforehand. You can choose for yourself which of your bank accounts is to be your [NemKonto](#) account. The public authorities pay into this account.

Forms you may need to fill in

Self-service at borger.dk: get an overview and search on [disability pension or flexi-job](#).

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information on your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- Pension [Act](#);
- Pension [Executive Order \(disability pension and old age pension\)](#);
- [Executive Order on senior disability pension](#)
- [Guidance on adjustment of rates in the area of the Ministry of Employment, as of January 2020](#);
- [Executive Order on flexi-jobs](#);
- [Executive Order on Calculation of and Deductions in Flexible Pay Subsidies](#);
- [Act on Active Employment Initiative](#) - Chapter 20 on flexi-jobs, etc.;
- [Guidance](#) on flexi-jobs, etc.

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Beskæftigelsesministeriet (Ministry of Employment)

Holmens Kanal 20
1060 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72205000
E-mail: bm@bm.dk

See relevant information about disability pension at lifeindenmark.dk and at borger.dk. You can also get assistance with self-service at borger.dk by phoning 1881 or +45 70101881.

If it is not possible for you to use the on-line self-service facility, you can get assistance from **your local authority's citizen service**. Find your local authority's [Citizen Service](#).

Old-age and survivors

Old-age pension and survivors

Here you can get information on who is entitled to old-age pension (*folkepension*) and benefits for survivors (*efterlevelseshjælp*), how much can be paid and how to apply for the benefits.

In what situation can I claim?

You can receive public old-age pension when you reach the public retirement age, and if you meet a number of conditions. The public retirement age depends on the date of birth. You can see the [public retirement age here](#).

You will automatically be paid *ATP Life-long Pension* when ATP contributions have been paid for you and you reach the public retirement age. This is a statutory pension which the majority of the Danish population receive in addition to the public old age pension.

If your spouse/cohabiting partner dies and you both received old age pension, you are also entitled to receive his/her old age pension for 3 months after his/her death (known as *survivor's pension*). If this is *not* the case, you can apply instead for a lump sum (known as *assistance for survivors*). Please note that you can also apply for a *death grant*.

What conditions do I need to meet?

You must have reached the public retirement age and applied for the old age pension.

The public retirement age will be gradually raised until 2022, i.e. by ½ year on each 1 January and each 1 July.

Date of birth	Public retirement age
31 December 1953 or earlier	65
1 January 1954 - 30 June 1954	65½
1 July 1954 - 31 December 1954	66
1 January 1955 - 30 June 1955	66½
1 July 1955 - 31 December 1962	67
1 January 1963	68
1 January 1967	68+ (depending on future indexations)

If you are not a Danish citizen, the general rule for receiving Danish state pension is that you are a citizen of another EU/EEA country or Switzerland and have had a total of at least 3 years of earned entitlement to pension from an EU/EEA country or Switzerland, of which at least 1 year was earned in Denmark.

ATP Life-long Pension is compulsory by law for citizens who have been employed on the private or public labour market (see [here](#) for more information – in Danish only).

You pay ATP contributions from your income when you:

- are an employee;
- have reached the age of 16;
- work in Denmark or are posted by a Danish employer to short-term work abroad;
- work at least 9 hours a week or receive a number of social benefits (transfer income).

A few groups can choose for themselves whether they wish to pay into ATP. See [what benefits you pay ATP contribution from](#).

Please note that you can choose for yourself to pay into ATP Life-long Pension, if you:

- are [self-employed](#);
- receive voluntary early retirement pension (*efterløn*);
- receive flexible working allowance (*fleksydelse*);
- receive disability pension (granted before 1 January 2003);
- receive partial pension (*delpension*).

You have to pay into ATP, as long as you are working, regardless of how old you are - even if you have started to be paid ATP Life-long Pension.

From 1 January 2020 payment of contribution to the Compulsory pension scheme (*Obligatorisk Pensionsordning*) is compulsory by law for recipients of some social benefits, such as unemployment benefit, sickness benefit, disability pension, senior pension, educational assistance (*uddannelseshjælp*), social assistance (*kontanthjælp*), etc. If contribution is paid both to the compulsory pension scheme (*Obligatorisk Pensionsordning*) and to the supplementary pension (*Arbejdsmarkedets Tillægspension, ATP*) for the same citizen the contributions will be added together.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

The public old age pension is a life-long benefit and consists of a basic amount and a pension supplement. The basic amount is the same for single people and cohabiting people, while the size of the pension supplement depends on whether you are single, married/cohabiting.

Public old age pension per month before tax		
	As a single person:	As a married/cohabiting person:
Basic amount	DKK 6,419	DKK 6,419
Pension supplement	DKK 7,122	DKK 3,576
Total:	DKK 13,541	DKK 9,995

Your economic situation also affects what you can receive in public old age pension.

Income from interest, individual pension or labour-market pension does not affect the basic amount, but it may be reduced if you have an income from work of more than DKK 336,900 per year.

You cannot receive the basic amount if you have an annual income from work of more than DKK 587,300. If your income from work is high you can consider [deferring your pension](#). This gives you entitlement to receive a supplement known as [percentage for deferment](#) when deferment is terminated.

Your *pension supplement* depends on your and your spouse's/cohabiting partner's [income](#).

	Your pension supplement is reduced to an annual income of	You cannot receive the supplement if your annual income exceeds
Single person	DKK 88,700	DKK 365,300
Married/cohabiting pensioner with	DKK 177,700	DKK 446,000
Married/cohabiting non-pensioner with	DKK 177,700	DKK 311,800

The first DKK 122,004 you earn from personal work is disregarded in calculating the pension supplement.

Please note that you have to pay tax on both the basic amount and the pension supplement.

If you live or have lived abroad

The amount may be smaller if you have lived for periods in other EU/EEA countries/Switzerland from age 15 until retirement age.

If you reach the public retirement age no later than 30th June 2025 you have the right to the full old age pension rate. You obtain this right after 40 years of residence in Denmark, from 15 to retirement age.

If you reach the public retirement age after 30th June 2025, you have the right to the full old age pension rate provided that you have resided in Denmark for at least 9/10 of the time from age 15 to public retirement age.

If you are not entitled to a full old age pension you might be entitled to a partial pension.

Survivor's pension/assistance for survivors

If both you and your cohabiting partner/spouse were recipients of old age or disability pension, and your partner/spouse dies, you can additionally have his/her old age pension

paid to you for 3 months after his/her death (known as survivor's pension). The money will automatically be deposited in your NemKonto account for those 3 months, after which your pension will be automatically recalculated according to the rate for single persons.

If you are *not* entitled to survivor's pension *and* you have lived together with your spouse/cohabiting partner for 3 years prior to his/her death, you can apply for *assistance for survivors* from the *Udbetaling Danmark*. You have to apply no later than 6 months after the death. If you live abroad, you have to apply to *Udbetaling Danmark*, International Pension, to receive it. Assistance for survivors is a lump sum up to a maximum of DKK 14,860. Read more about [aid to survivors](#).

Death grant

You can apply for a death grant if the deceased was entitled to Danish health insurance (if he/she had moved to Denmark, or if he/she had been resident here, the person concerned would have been entitled to public health benefits). You apply for death grant at [borger.dk](#). You can also apply to the municipality's citizen service if you do not have Internet access. It is *Udbetaling Danmark* that pays the amount.

Death grant depends on the age of the deceased person, and whether he/she leaves assets.

Age of the deceased	Death grant	
Deceased is below the age of 18	Maximum DKK 9,550	
Deceased is over the age of 18	Maximum DKK 11,400	
Deceased was born before 1 April 1957	Minimum DKK 1,050	
	The deceased has left children under the age of 18 or a spouse	The deceased was a single person and has not left any children under the age of 18
Entitlement to the full amount of death grant:	The married couple's combined capital assets are no more than DKK 38,200 (thereafter the grant is cut)	The deceased's combined capital assets are no more than DKK 19,150 (thereafter the grant is cut)
Death grant lapses:	The married couple's combined capital assets are DKK 49,600 or more	The capital assets are DKK 30,550 or more

Please note that *Udbetaling Danmark* as a rule does not pay the death grant until the probate court has completed settlement of the estate. Get more information on [death grant](#).

ATP

The amount you receive in ATP Life-long Pension depends on how much you have contributed to the ATP Life-long Pension and, after 1 January 2020, to the compulsory pension scheme (*Obligatorisk Pensionsordning*) over the course of your life. The earlier you have contributed, the more pension you receive from it. Log in to [borger.dk](#) and get your [pension overview from ATP](#).

You will receive a letter from ATP a few months before you reach retirement age. It will tell you how much you can expect to be paid. Your ATP Life-long Pension will automatically be deposited in your NemKonto account on the last banking day of the month in which you reach public retirement age.

If you live outside Denmark you have to request your ATP Life-long Pension.

If you receive more than DKK 3,050 annually, you will receive a monthly payment for the rest of your life. If the amount is DKK 3,050 or below, you will receive a lump sum.

Your retirement age depends on your date of birth:

31 December 1953 or earlier	65
1 January 1954 - 30 June 1954	65½
1 July 1954 - 31 December 1954	66
1 January 1955 - 30 June 1955	66½
1 July 1955 - 31 December 1962	67
1 January 1963	68

1 January 1967 or later

68+ (depending on future indexations)

You can opt to defer your pension from ATP until 10 years after you have reached the retirement age. Your pension will be increased for each month you opt to [defer](#) it.

Please note that some survivors can be paid a lump sum from ATP Life-long Pension when you die. However, there are various rules which depend on whether it is to your spouse, cohabiting partner or children. The payment is made automatically 3 weeks after the death. If you live outside Denmark on the date of your death or your survivors live outside Denmark the survivors have to request the lump sum. Read more about [payment on death](#).

Read more about [ATP Life-long Pension](#) and the compulsory pension scheme (*Obligatorisk Pensionsordning*) at [borger.dk](#). Here you can get information related among other things to whether you live abroad, annual costs of ATP, and taxation of ATP.

Jargon busters

- **Udbetaling Danmark** (Payment Denmark) is a public authority which is responsible for payment of a number of public benefits to the citizens. These are tasks which were previously dealt with by the country's 98 municipalities;
- **Borger.dk** is your portal to the public sector. Here you can get more information about pension benefits and benefits for survivors;
- **NemKonto** (Easy Account) is an ordinary bank account which you have beforehand. You can choose for yourself which of your bank accounts is to be your [NemKonto](#) account. The public authorities pay into this account.

Forms you may need to fill in

- Self-service at [borger.dk](#):
 - [ATP Life-long Pension](#)
 - [Public Old Age pension and the compulsory pension scheme \(*Obligatorisk Pensionsordning*\)](#)
 - [Death grant](#)
 - [Aid to survivors](#)

Know your rights

At the links below you can obtain information on your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- [ATP Act](#)
- [Pension Act](#)
- [Pensions Executive Order](#)
- [Executive Order on Deferred Pension](#)
- [Guidance on public pension](#)
- [Guidance on adjustment of rates in the area of Employment](#)
- [Adjustment of death grant](#) under the [Health Act](#)
- [Executive Order on Aid to Survivors](#)

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Udbetaling Danmark

Kongens Vænge 8

3400 Hillerød

DENMARK

Tel. +45 70 11 12 13

E-mail: udbetalingdanmark@atp.dk

Beskæftigelsesministeriet (Ministry of Employment)

Holmens Kanal 20
1060 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72205000
Fax +45 33121378
E-mail: bm@bm.dk

ATP Livslang Pension

Tel. +45 70128000 Monday-Wednesday 8.00 am - 4.00 pm, Thursday 8.00 am – 6.00 pm and Friday 8.00 am – 3.30 pm.

Get more information at borger.dk. You can also get assistance with service at borger.dk by phoning 1881 or +45 70101881.

If it is not possible for you to use the online self-service facility, you can obtain assistance from the local authority's Citizen Service. Find your local authority's [Citizen Service](#).

Social assistance

Social assistance

Here you can get information on who is entitled to receive social assistance, how much you can be paid and how to claim it.

In what situation can I claim?

You can apply for social assistance (*kontanthjælp*) if you have experienced a change in your social conditions (because of, for example, unemployment, illness or divorce) and you are no longer able to support yourself and your family.

What conditions do I need to meet?

It is a prerequisite that you have experienced changes in your social conditions.

You *cannot* receive the benefit if you have other means of supporting yourself. You are for instance receiving unemployment benefit or have assets you can sell or your spouse can provide for you and your family.

You have to make yourself available to the labour market and apply for jobs and attend the courses and other activities that the job centre provides for you. If you do not have an education you will have to clarify your educational goal together with the job centre.

The job centre will decide whether you are ready for job/education or if you have health, social or other problems to such a degree that you should follow other activities that can bring you closer to the labour market.

A deduction or reduction will be made from your social assistance if you do not comply with the requirements which your job centre sets for you in relation to looking for a job and attending the activities you are asked to perform.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

The amount that can be paid to you in social assistance depends, among other things, on whether you:

- have reached the age of 30;
- have educational qualifications, if you are below the age of 30;
- have children you have to provide for;
- can be provided for by your spouse or cohabiting partner;
- have had residence in Denmark for a combined period of seven years within the previous eight years.

You can see the various rates, and what you can receive in social assistance, in the tables below.

As a recipient of social assistance you may also claim housing supplement (*særlig støtte*) which is a supplement based on the recipient's need to cover severe expenses for family support or housing.

Cap on social assistance and housing allowances and the work requirement

- *The cap on social assistance and housing allowances*

For all recipients of social assistance there is a cap on the total amount of housing supplement (*særlig støtte*) and housing benefit (*boligstøtte*) that you are entitled to receive. Recipients of social assistance who live in certain special housing due to disability are exempted from the cap.

- *Work requirement*

If you are a recipient of social assistance, to secure your availability to the labour market, you must fulfil a work requirement (*225-timersreglen*), meaning that you have to work at least 225 hours a year to be entitled to full social assistance. You are exempted from this

requirement, if your capacity for work is reduced to such a degree that you are not able to work at least 225 hours a year.

How much can I receive in social assistance if I'm at least 30 years old or have an education (kontanthjælp)?

- *Living at home/living away*

Below the age of 25, living at home/away	DKK 3,594 per month/	DKK 7,448 per month
Aged 25-29 and living at home/away	DKK 3,594 per month/	DKK 7,448 per month
Aged 30 or over, providing for children	DKK 15,355 per month	
Aged 30 or over, others	DKK 11,554 per month	

- *As provider/pregnant/liable for maintenance*

Single providers, below the age of 30	DKK 14,677 per month	
Providers	DKK 10,268 per month	
Below the age of 30, pregnant (passed 12th week of pregnancy)	DKK 11,554	per month
Below the age of 30, liable for maintenance, maximum allowance incl. supplements	DKK 15,355	per month

- *For mental illness*

Below the age of 30, with mental illness, duty to provide for family	DKK 15,355 per month
Below the age of 30, with mental illness, living away	DKK 11,554 per month

- *As lump-sum allowance*

Over the age of 25, and living away below the age of 25 (max.)	DKK 6,175 per month
Living at home below the age of 25 (max.)	DKK 3,070 per month

- *As allowance to certain groups of persons*

Reached age of voluntary early retirement, not earned pension entitlement	DKK 9,995 per month
Child support amount, not earned pension entitlement	DKK 3,108 per month

You can receive a monthly activity supplement to your social assistance if you are not ready for job or education.

If you are under 30 years old and have no education/training (uddannelseshjælp)

- *Living at home/away*

Below the age of 25 and living at home/away	DKK 2,728 per month/	DKK 6,331 per month
Aged 25-29 and living at home/away	DKK 2,728 per month/	DKK 6,331 per month

- *As provider/pregnant/child support obligation*

Single provider	DKK 12,663 per month
Provider living with a partner	DKK 8,862 per month
Pregnant (passed 12th week of pregnancy)	DKK 11,554 per month
Have child support obligation max. assistance incl. supplements	DKK 15,355 per month

- *For mental illness*

With mental illness, duty to provide for children	DKK 15,355 per month
With mental illness, living away	DKK 11,554 per month

Note that you can receive a monthly activity supplement if you are not ready for educational training.

When will my social assistance be paid?

Your local authority will calculate and pay social assistance monthly. The money will be deposited in your NemKonto account and will be available at the end of the month. Please note that the benefits are liable to tax.

You can appeal against a decision on social assistance and education allowance. Read more about how to [appeal](#).

Jargon busters

- **Borger.dk** is your portal to the public sector. Here you can get more information about child benefit;
- **NemKonto** (Easy Account) is an ordinary bank account which you have opened beforehand. You can choose for yourself which of your bank accounts is to be your NemKonto. The public authorities pay to this account;
- **Job centre**: Here case officers and employment advisers help unemployed persons in getting a job, and assist businesses in finding new employees. Find your job centre, see [contact details](#).

Forms you may need to fill in

- Self-service at borger.dk: apply for social assistance, register with a job centre and view your activities at the job centre:
 - you are [below the age of 30 and have educational qualifications](#);
 - you are [below the age of 30, but do not have educational qualifications](#);
 - you are [aged 30 or more](#).
- You can find relevant forms on the website of Local Government Denmark under the subjects of employment endeavour and activity of unemployed persons.

Know your rights

At the links below you can obtain information on your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- [Consolidation Act](#) on active social policy including social assistance and training allowance;
- [Guidance](#) on rates, including social assistance and training allowance;
- [Act](#) amending the Active Employment Effort Act.

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Beskæftigelsesministeriet (Ministry of Employment)

Holmens Kanal 20
1060 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72205000
Fax +45 33121378
E-mail: bm@bm.dk

See relevant information at [borger.dk](#). You can also obtain assistance with self-service at borger.dk by phoning 1881 or +45 70101881.

If it is not possible for you to use the online self-service facility, you can obtain assistance in **your local authority's citizen service**. Find your local authority's [Citizen Service](#).

Find your job centre, see [contact details](#).

Unemployment

Unemployment benefit

Here you can get information on who is entitled to unemployment benefit, how much can be paid, and how to apply for unemployment benefit.

In what situation can I claim?

You can receive unemployment benefit in Denmark if you have been a member of a recognised unemployment insurance fund for at least 1 year, and you are out of work at the same time. For full-time members, a minimum income of DKK 238,512 (DKK 159,012 for part-time members) during the 3 preceding years is required. Only a maximum of DKK 19,876 per month can be included (DKK 13,251 for part-time members).

A self-employed member is entitled to benefits if the total income from own business and paid employment is at least DKK 238,512 over the last 3 years. You may be entitled to unemployment benefit even if you have not been a member for 1 year, due to completion of education.

You have to meet specific requirements to be eligible for unemployment benefit: persons may be admitted as members of a voluntary unemployment insurance fund if they are above 18, have less than 2 years prior to retirement age and have resided in Denmark (which also includes the Faroe Islands and Greenland) or in another EU/EEA country or Switzerland for 5 years within the last 12 years. This residence requirement is repealed from 1st February 2020.

Persons under the age of 18 can also be admitted if they have completed vocational training of at least 18 months.

An unemployment benefit period gives you entitlement to benefit for 2 years within a maximum period of 3 years.

To obtain entitlement to a new period of unemployment benefit, it is a requirement that you work full time for a minimum of 52 weeks (1,942 hours), if you are insured full-time, or at least 34 weeks (1,258 hours) if you are insured part-time, within a period of 3 years. Each member has a two-year unemployment benefit period with the option of flexible extension by up to one year. The extension of the unemployment benefit period is 1:2. One month's work gives two extra months of unemployment benefit.

What conditions do I need to meet?

You can receive unemployment benefit in Denmark if you:

- have been a member of a recognised unemployment insurance fund for at least 1 year;
- have resided in Denmark (which also includes the Faroe Islands and Greenland) or in another EU/EEA country or Switzerland for 5 years within the last 12 years (requirement repealed from 1st February 2020);
- have registered at *jobcentret* (the Public Employment Service);
- fulfil the employment requirement;
- meet the availability requirement; if your unemployment is self-induced there is a waiting period of 3 weeks before you can receive unemployment benefit.

Registration at *Jobcentret*

On your first day of unemployment you register yourself on jobnet.dk using your NEMID and sign yourself up as unemployed.

On jobnet.dk you have to register at least one of the areas where you are going to look for work.

You have to check the proposed jobs on jobnet.dk every seventh day.

During the first two weeks of your unemployment you have to create a CV on jobnet.dk and make it available for companies to seek. Your unemployment insurance fund assesses whether you meet the availability requirement, i.e.:

- you have to be available 30 hours a week as a part-timed insured and 37 hours a week as a full-time insured.

To fulfil the availability requirement you have to:

- be registered for employment at *jobcentret* (the Public Employment Service);
- have a CV, which is approved, on jobnet.dk;
- reside and stay in Denmark;
- be able to undertake work at one days' notice;
- be actively seeking all available work.

Supplementary benefit

If you start working part-time or are part-time unemployed, you are entitled to receive *supplementary benefit*. However, you must work less than 160.33 hours in a given month and fulfil the same conditions as for full-time benefits in order to receive supplementary benefit. There is a minimum requirement for payment of 14.8 hours (*mindsteudbetalingsreglen*) in a given month. If you work more than 145.53 hours a month, you will not receive partial benefits.

You can receive supplementary benefit for a maximum of 30 weeks within a period of 104 weeks.

To be able to receive supplementary benefit, you must meet the other conditions for entitlement to unemployment benefit.

Note that your employer has to provide you with a discharge certificate if you are given notice of termination. The discharge certificate means that you can start a new job with more hours at a day's notice.

If you are a self-employed person and run your business as your main employment, you cannot receive supplementary benefit.

Unemployment benefit during holiday

Please note that you may be entitled to receive unemployment benefit during holiday. You are entitled to holiday benefit if, at the time you take holiday, you:

- meet the requirements to receive unemployment benefits, except the availability requirements;
- entitlement to unemployment benefits;
- have exhausted your right to holiday payment;
- have residence in Denmark or in another EEA country according to Art. 65 of Regulation 883/2004, and you are physically in Denmark or the other EEA country at the beginning of the holiday.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

Unemployment benefits for a wage earner

The amount that can be paid to you in unemployment benefits depends, among other things, on:

- your previous salary, but no more than 90% of it;
- whether you are full-time or part-time insured;
- whether you have just completed your education or training, and haven't previously been employed;
- whether you have just completed your education or training, and have not previously been employed, and you have children you have to provide for;
- whether you have reached the age of 25.

How much can I receive in unemployment benefits?

The highest unemployment benefit you can receive is:

- DKK 19,083 a month for a full-time ensured;
- DKK 12,722 a month for a part-time ensured.

If you have just completed your education or training:

- DKK 13,644 a month for a full-time ensured;
- DKK 9,096 a month for a part-time ensured.

If you have just completed your education or training and are providing for a child:

- DKK 15,648 a month for a full-time ensured;
- DKK 10,432 a month for a part-time ensured.

If you are under the age of 25:

- DKK 9,542 a month for a full-time ensured;
- DKK 6,361 a month for a part-time ensured.

Unemployment benefits for a self-employed person

The highest unemployment benefit you can receive is DKK 19,083 a month.

How to claim unemployment benefits

On the first day of your unemployment you have to register for employment at jobnet.dk. It is a condition for you to receive unemployment benefits, that you register and you stay registered the entire period of your unemployment.

Within two weeks after you become unemployed, you must upload and activate a CV on jobnet.dk and then contact your *a-kasse* (unemployment insurance fund).

Jargon busters

- **A-kasse** is an abbreviation for *arbejdsløshedskasse* (unemployment insurance fund). If you pay a fixed amount to an unemployment fund every month, you are insured in the event of unemployment. That is to say, you will be paid money if you become unemployed and otherwise meet the conditions for entitlement to unemployment benefit;
- **Unemployment benefit** is paid to unemployed persons who are members of an unemployment insurance fund (*a-kasse*) and at the same time are out of work and available to the labour market. Read more about [unemployment benefit](#);
- **Job centre**: here unemployed persons can obtain help in finding a job, and the administrative staff and job advisers at the job centre can help businesses find new employees. See [what job centre](#) you belong to.

Forms you may need to fill in

- You have to register as a job seeker at the Job Centre. You also have to register as out of work and apply for unemployment benefit at your unemployment insurance fund by filling in a declaration of unemployment;
- You can obtain a discharge certificate from your unemployment insurance fund.

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information on your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- The [Consolidation Act on Unemployment Insurance](#), etc. provides information among other things on *entitlement to benefit*, and how benefit is calculated.

- Other laws, executive orders and guidance on unemployment benefit can be found by entering the search term *arbejdsløshedsdagpenge* (unemployment benefit) at retsinformation.dk.
- At borger.dk you can obtain information on what the law says.

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Beskæftigelsesministeriet (Ministry of Employment)

Holmens Kanal 20
1060 København K
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72205000
Fax +45 33121378
E-mail: bm@bm.dk

Center for Klager om Arbejdsløshedsforsikring

Bredgade 60, 9700 Bønderslev
DENMARK
Tel. +45 72 21 74 08
E-mail: star@star.dk

Unemployment insurance funds

You can find a list of unemployment insurance funds [here](#).

Find [your job centre](#).

See relevant information on [unemployment benefit](#) at borger.dk.

Moving abroad

Previous coverage–protection abroad can count

This chapter provides you with information on moving within the EU, and what significance this has for your social security benefits.

In what situation can I claim?

If you have to work in another EEA country, you will generally no longer be part of the social security system in the country you leave, and you will be subject to the laws of the new country.

If you have paid social security contributions in another EEA country, the contributions you have paid in another EEA country can be taken into account when your benefits are calculated in Denmark.

What conditions do I need to meet?

If you come to Denmark, your previous social security record in other EEA countries may affect benefits in the following situations:

- sickness and maternity, e.g. sickness insurance, sickness benefit and maternity/paternity benefit;
- incapacity, including benefits aimed at preserving and improving capacity for work, e.g. pension and rehabilitation;
- old age and benefits for survivors, e.g. pension;
- accidents at work and occupational diseases, e.g. compensation for permanent injury;
- death, e.g. death grant;
- unemployment, e.g. unemployment insurance;
- family, e.g. family benefits.

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

If you apply for a Danish social security benefit, you will be asked whether you have lived or worked in another EEA country or Switzerland. You must be prepared to be able to present documentary evidence of:

- which country you have worked in;
- name and address of the employer abroad;
- periods of work abroad;
- your registration number abroad.

There may also be various practical things you have to do, depending on whether you are resident in Denmark temporarily, move to Denmark or work in Denmark.

At www.lifeindenmark.dk you will find guidance on what you need to do under 'Coming to Denmark', 'Living in Denmark' and 'Cross borders'.

Jargon busters

- **CPR number:** all citizens in Denmark have a personal registration number, which is known as the CPR number. CPR stands for Central Person Register.
- **NemID** is Denmark's general logon solution for social service benefits, Internet banking, etc. NemID consists of a user ID, a password and an authentication card with single-use codes. You do not need to be a Danish citizen to obtain a NemID. You can obtain a NemID if you have a CPR number and proof of ID.
- **Nemkonto** (Easy Account) is a normal bank account you select yourself as the account at which public authorities can transfer money directly to you, e.g. family benefits, tax refunds, unemployment benefit.
- **Health card/health insurance card** is your documentation if you are entitled to social service benefits offered as part of the public health system. The card shows name and address, CPR number and the name and address of your doctor. It is compulsory every time you need to see a doctor or dentist or have to go to hospital.
- **PDU 1** is a document used to provide evidence of previous periods of employment and/or insurance.
- **PDU 2:** if you meet the conditions to take your unemployment benefit with you to another EU country, your unemployment insurance fund (*a-kasse*) can issue a document known as PDU 2.

Forms you may need to fill in

If you do not have NemID

You can use the self-service solutions at lifeindenmark.dk and the websites of Danish authorities. Contact the authority responsible for registration or the benefit you wish to apply for instead.

If you have NemID

You can use self-service solutions at lifeindenmark.dk.

Know your rights

At the links below you can get information on your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- www.lifeindenmark.dk
- www.workindenmark.dk
- <https://skat.dk/skat.aspx?oid=2234754>

European Commission publications and website:

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Citizen service

You can obtain assistance from your local Citizen Service.

Udbetaling Danmark

Kongens Vænge 8
3400 Hillerød
DENMARK

Tel. +45 11 12 13

E-mail: udbetalingdanmark@atp.dk

Unemployment funds

You can find a list of unemployment funds [here](#).

SKAT (Central Customs and Tax Administration)

Tel.: +45 72221818

Main residence

Primary country of residence

This chapter provides you with the necessary knowledge in relation to the conditions you must meet to be entitled to social security benefits when your primary country of residence (also known as *your habitual residency*) is Denmark.

In what situation can I claim?

The expression habitual residency refers to the country where you have your usual place of residence, i.e. the country where you have your most important interests.

Some social security benefits in Denmark are or may be conditional upon habitual residency.

The assessment of the country in which you have your habitual residency includes in particular:

- your family status and family ties;
- the duration and continuity of your presence in the country;
- your employment situation (in particular the place where you normally perform your job, the employment stability and the employment contract duration);
- where you perform any unpaid activity;
- if you are a student, your income;
- the stability of your housing situation;
- the country where you pay taxes;
- reasons for moving;
- your intentions, as revealed by all the circumstances.

Other relevant factors may also be taken into account. Population registration is not in itself of significance.

Evidence that you are habitually resident depends to a great extent on facts. If you have lived in Denmark all your life, you are unlikely to have any difficulty in satisfying the factors that indicate habitual residence.

Forms you may have to fill in

At the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (SIRI) you can book an appointment and apply for [residence as an EU/EEA citizen or a Nordic citizen](#).

[Notification of change of address to the national municipality](#).

What am I entitled to and how can I claim?

If you move to work in another EEA country, you will generally no longer be part of the social security system in the country you leave, and you will be subject to the laws of the new country. This may concern a range of benefits, such as:

- sickness and maternity, e.g. sickness insurance, sickness benefit and maternity/paternity benefit;
- incapacity, including benefits aimed at preserving and improving capacity for work, e.g. pension and rehabilitation;
- old age and benefits for survivors, e.g. pension;
- accidents at work and occupational diseases, e.g. compensation for permanent injury;
- death, e.g. death grant;
- unemployment, e.g. unemployment insurance;
- family, e.g. family benefits.

Note that if you have paid social security contributions in another EEA country, the contributions you have paid there can be taken into account when your benefits are calculated in Denmark.

Jargon busters

- **The Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (SIRI)** is a public agency under the Ministry of Immigration and Integration. Among other things, SIRI issues EU residence documents to EU/EEA citizens;
- An **EU residence document** is your proof that as an EU citizen - or as a family member of an EU citizen - you have a right to reside in Denmark;
- **The population registry** is called the *Civil Registration System (CPR)*. It was set up in 1968 and contains information on all people who live/have lived in Denmark.

Know your rights

The links below you can get information on your legal rights. They do not refer to European Commission websites and therefore do not represent the views of the Commission:

- [Coming to Denmark](#)
- [CPR - Registration in Denmark](#)

European Commission publications and website

- [EU Social Security Coordination](#)

Who do you need to contact?

Styrelsen for International Rekruttering og Integration, (SIRI) (Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration)

Carl Jacobsens Vej 39
2500 Valby

EU office tel.: +45 72 14 20 04

Phone hours

Monday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday closed

Wednesday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - 12 noon

[Other ways to contact SIRI](#)

You can submit your application to one of SIRI's five branch offices, located in Copenhagen, Odense, Aalborg, Aarhus, and Aabenraa. If you are located in Bornholm, you can submit your application for an EU residence document to the [police in Rønne](#). You can find the branch office addresses [here](#).

You can also apply at the International Citizen Service (ICS) in Copenhagen, Aarhus, Odense or Aalborg. Read about the [ICS](#) here.

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:

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

Finding information about the EU

Online

Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website at: europa.eu/european-union/index_en

EU publications

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

EU law and related documents

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

Open data from the EU

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

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

