

FAQs – Extension family allowance/childcare allowance from 01.07.26

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1. Who is entitled to Family Allowance / Childcare Allowance from 01 July 2026?

Displaced persons from Ukraine are entitled to Family Allowance (FBH) from 01 July 2026, provided that all general eligibility requirements continue to be met and **no benefits under the Basic Care Support system are received**.

It is irrelevant what type of Basic Care benefit is received. This includes cash benefits as well as all forms of benefits in kind (such as health insurance coverage).

An exception is provided only for recipients of increased Family Allowance who care for and support a child with a severe disability.

The additional requirement previously necessary until 30 June 2026 (**employment or registration with the Austrian Public Employment Service (AMS)**) is **no longer required** under the new regulation and no longer needs to be submitted to the Tax Office for periods from 01 July 2026 onward.

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2. Who is exempt from the rule that Family Allowance cannot be received while receiving Basic Care?

- Only recipients of increased Family Allowance who care for and support a child with a severe disability are exempt.
- No other exceptions are provided, including for parents with disabilities, health impairments, or grandparents with legal custody.

3. Is entitlement to Family Allowance and Childcare Allowance for displaced persons from Ukraine once again time-limited?

No. From 01 July 2026 onward, entitlement to Family Allowance and Childcare Allowance is no longer limited to a specific date but is linked to the duration and validity of the Displaced Persons Regulation.

Currently, displaced-person status is valid until **4 March 2028**.

4. Is a new application for Family Allowance required, or will it be automatically extended?

Yes. A new application for Family Allowance must be submitted to the Austrian Tax Office.

All displaced persons from Ukraine may already submit applications for Family Allowance for their children (one application per child) to ensure continued entitlement from 01 July 2026.

However, the Tax Office can only process applications once the legal basis has been formally enacted and published in the Federal Law Gazette.

Retroactive payment remains possible after the legal basis enters into force, provided that a new application has been submitted and all eligibility requirements are met.

Automatic continuation of benefits is not possible.

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5. Do I need to submit a new application if I already hold an RWR+ Card?

Family Allowance for persons (and their children) holding a valid Red-White-Red Card Plus (RWR+) was generally not time-limited. Therefore, a new application is normally not required.

If you no longer receive Family Allowance from July 2026 onwards:

- Check whether your RWR+ card was properly reported and uploaded.
- Contact the Tax Office if necessary and inform them of your RWR+ residence status.

If your residence status changed only recently and you were granted an RWR+ Card, it is recommended to upload a copy of the card through FinanzOnline under "Other Applications" or send a copy by post to the Tax Office.

The status change (from displaced-person status to RWR+ status) will then be recorded in the system.

Please note that Family Allowance may still be limited for other reasons, such as when a child reaches 18 years of age.

6. Do I also need to inform the Tax Office about extensions of my RWR+ Card?

Yes.

Please inform the Tax Office about extensions of your own residence permit and those of your children, for example by uploading the updated RWR+ cards through FinanzOnline.

7. Can holders of an RWR+ Card who receive Basic Care Benefits continue to receive Family Allowance?

No.

Following the amendment to the law, Section 2(10) of the Family Burdens Equalization Act 1967 provides that **any person receiving benefits from the Basic Care Support system is excluded from receiving Family Allowance**, regardless of residence status.

8. How should the application be submitted?

Applications can be submitted:

- Via post, or
- Via FinanzOnline

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Applications cannot be submitted by email.

9. Can I continue to receive Family Allowance if I do not receive Basic Care benefits, but my child does?

No.

If the child receives benefits under the Basic Care system, there is no entitlement to Family Allowance.

This includes benefits such as:

- Rental subsidies
- Food and clothing allowances
- Health insurance coverage

10. Will I receive Family Allowance if I only receive partial benefits from the Basic Care support System?

No.

Any support received through the Basic Care Support system excludes entitlement to Family Allowance, even if it consists only of partial benefits.

Examples for partial benefits:

- Health insurance coverage only
- Accommodation in a Basic Care facility without cash benefits

Basic Care Support benefits generally include:

- Food allowance
- Rent subsidies
- Pocket money
- Clothing vouchers
- Medical aids
- Health insurance
- Organised accommodation

11. Do I need to provide proof that I do not receive Basic Care benefits?

No.

The proposed legislation provides for a data interface between the Tax Office and social insurance institutions, allowing verification of whether Basic Care benefits are being received.

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12. Will I lose my organised accommodation if I apply for Family Allowance?

No.

Applying for Family Allowance does not affect organized accommodation.

However, Family Allowance cannot be received while Basic Care benefits are being received. Organized accommodation itself also constitutes a Basic Care benefit.

13. What are the general eligibility requirements for Family Allowance?

Parents are entitled to Family Allowance if:

- The child lives in the same household, or
- The parent provides the majority of financial support.

Children may include:

- Biological children
- Adopted children
- Foster children

- Stepchildren
- Grandchildren

Where both parents live with the child, the mother has priority entitlement unless she waives this right in favor of the father.

Persons with temporary residence rights under the Displaced Persons Regulation are eligible provided the child also has the same residence status.

Currently, residence rights for displaced persons from Ukraine remain valid until **4 March 2028**.

14. Childcare Allowance (KBG)

- A new application for Childcare Allowance must be submitted from 01 July 2026.
- The rule excluding recipients of Basic Care Benefits also applies to Childcare Allowance.
- Parental leave under Austrian maternity protection legislation is treated as employment.
- Applicants should seek advice from their competent health insurance institution where appropriate.
- Persons on maternity leave may attach a copy of the Mother-Child Passport to facilitate processing.

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15. What must I do if I am on parental leave?

- A new Family Allowance application must be submitted from 01 July 2026.
- Family Allowance will not be renewed automatically.
- A confirmation of parental leave from the employer must be attached to the application or uploaded via FinanzOnline.

16. What must be done if the reasons for receiving increased Family Allowance no longer apply?

If a child's health condition improves and eligibility for increased Family Allowance ceases, while Basic Care benefits are still being received, this must be reported to the Tax Office immediately.

Otherwise, incorrectly received benefits may be reclaimed.

17. In which cases is there no entitlement to Family Allowance / Childcare Allowance?

There is no entitlement if:

- General eligibility requirements are not fulfilled, or

- Benefits from the Basic Care Support system are being received.

18. Can Family Allowance be reclaimed, for example if I lose my job and start receiving Basic Care benefits again?

- Any change in circumstances must be reported to the Tax Office immediately, as otherwise Family Allowance may be reclaimed (for example, if employment ceases, Basic Care benefits are received again, or if entitlement changes from increased Family Allowance to regular Family Allowance).
- The receipt of Basic Care benefits may also be checked on a random basis while Family Allowance is being paid.
- If the Tax Office is not informed about renewed receipt of Basic Care benefits, Family Allowance already paid may be reclaimed.

19. What is the rule regarding parents? Is it sufficient that only one parent does not receive Basic Care benefits, provided that parent applies for Family Allowance? Or must neither parent receive Basic Care?

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- If the parents live separately, the parent who does not live with the child is generally not entitled to Family Allowance and therefore cannot claim it.
- The parent submitting the Family Allowance application must not receive Basic Care benefits and must fulfil all eligibility requirements.
- For example, if an unmarried couple lives together with their child, the mother is employed and the father receives Basic Care benefits, the mother may apply for Family Allowance because she does not receive Basic Care.
- If both parents fulfil the eligibility requirements, the mother has priority entitlement.

20. Do the authorities responsible for Basic Care automatically inform the Tax Office if I start receiving Basic Care benefits again?

No.

As a rule, this information is not automatically forwarded. If you begin receiving Basic Care benefits again, you must inform the Tax Office yourself in order to avoid possible repayment claims.

21. Are children over the age of 18 entitled to Family Allowance?

- Parents are entitled to Family Allowance for adult children only if the child is undergoing education or vocational training.
- Shortly before the child turns 18, the Austrian Tax Office sends a notification letter. Parents should wait for this letter and follow the instructions provided.
- Family Allowance for university students is generally paid to the parents. Upon request, the payment may be transferred directly to the student's bank account.
- The parents must also reside in Austria in order for entitlement to exist.
- As a general rule, the child is not entitled to Family Allowance in their own right; however, certain exceptions exist, for example for orphans (self-entitlement).

22. Are student parents entitled to Family Allowance for their children?

- Student parents are entitled to Family Allowance only if they do **not** receive Basic Care benefits.

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23. How is Family Allowance granted for children with severe disabilities (at least 50%)?

- Parents caring for a child with a severe disability are exempt from the new requirement that no Basic Care benefits may be received.
- This means that recipients of increased Family Allowance may continue to receive both Basic Care benefits and Family Allowance simultaneously.
- If a parent is already receiving increased Family Allowance for a severely disabled child and receives a review letter from the Tax Office, no new application for that child is required. Instead, the review form should be completed and returned to the Austrian Tax Office, if necessary with a note referring to the exemption due to caring for a severely disabled child.
- New applicants with severely disabled children must submit a new application for increased Family Allowance from 01 July 2026.

24. If there is one child (or several children) with a severe disability in a family and increased Family Allowance is being received, do all children in the family receive Family Allowance?

Yes.

All children in the family remain eligible to receive Family Allowance.

25. Are family caregivers who receive care allowance entitled to Family Allowance?

- If you receive care allowance for caring for your child and also receive increased Family Allowance, you remain entitled to Family Allowance even if you receive Basic Care benefits.
- If you receive care allowance for caring for another relative, such as a parent, the requirement of not receiving Basic Care benefits must still be fulfilled.
- If the receipt of care allowance results in your removal from the Basic Care support system, you may apply for Family Allowance provided that all other eligibility requirements are met.

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26. Can Family Allowance be received while engaged in marginal employment?

Persons in marginal employment are entitled to Family Allowance only if they do **not** receive any Basic Care benefits as a result.

Even if:

- only a residual entitlement to Basic Care remains, or
- health insurance is still provided through the Basic Care Support system,

there is no entitlement to Family Allowance.

Family Allowance is only granted if the person earns at least the full marginal earnings threshold of **EUR 551.10**.

Persons earning less than EUR 551.10 are generally not entitled to Family Allowance.

27. I am a student, over 18 years old and do not receive Basic Care benefits. Am I entitled to Family Allowance?

If you are over 18 years of age, do not receive Basic Care benefits, and your parents do not provide the majority of your financial support, you may be entitled to Family Allowance in your own right, provided that all other general eligibility requirements are fulfilled.

28. Can unaccompanied minor refugees receive Family Allowance if they are accommodated in Basic Care facilities or child and youth welfare facilities?

No.

Under the new regulation, no exception is provided for this group if they simultaneously receive benefits from the Basic Care support system.

29. I have displaced-person status, work for a (Ukrainian) company outside Austria and submit an annual tax return. Am I entitled to Family Allowance from July 2026?

Employment must generally be:

- subject to Austrian social insurance contributions, and
- carried out in Austria, either as employed or self-employed work.

Employment for a Ukrainian company alone is not sufficient and does not in itself establish entitlement to Family Allowance.

However, if it can be demonstrated that your centre of vital interests is in Austria, entitlement to Family Allowance may exist.

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30. Will Family Allowance for holders of a Red-White-Red Card Plus also be limited until the expiration of the Displaced Persons Regulation?

- No. Family Allowance for persons (and their children) holding a valid **Red-White-Red Card Plus (RWR+)** is generally not subject to a time limitation linked to the Displaced Persons Regulation.
- Time limitations may still occur for other reasons, for example if the child has displaced-person status or reaches the age of 18.
- Once residence status changes and a Red-White-Red Card Plus is granted, it is recommended to upload a copy of the residence card via **FinanzOnline** under “Other Applications” or send a copy by post to the Tax Office.
- The change of status (from displaced-person status to RWR+ status) will then be recorded in the system.

Further information:

- BKA: <https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/agenda/familie/familienbeihilfe/familienbeihilfe-fuer-aus-der-ukraine-vertriebene.html>
- BBU Ukraine website: <https://www.bbu.gv.at/ukraine>