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## Kindergeld — Child Allowance in Germany (€259/month)

How to apply for Kindergeld and receive €259 monthly per child in Germany.

**Deutsche Begriffe:** Kindergeld | Familienkasse | Kinderzuschlag | Elterngeld

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## Kindergeld — Child Allowance in Germany

### How much will you get?

From 2025, Kindergeld amounts to **€255 monthly per child**:

- 1 child = €255
- 2 children = €510
- 3 children = €765

Paid until **age 18** (or 25 if the child is studying).

### Who can get Kindergeld?

- You live in Germany (have Anmeldung)
- You work in Germany or pay taxes there
- The child lives with you (or you support them)

**Important:** EU citizens receive Kindergeld even if the child lives in Poland/another EU country!

### How to apply?

## 1. Fill out the forms

You need:

- **Antrag auf Kindergeld** (main application)
- **Anlage Kind** (attachment for each child)

Download forms: [familienkasse.de](https://familienkasse.de)

## 2. Prepare documents

Document	Purpose
Your passport/ID (copy)	Proof of identity
Child's birth certificate	Proof child exists
Meldebescheinigung	Proof of residence
Steuer-ID for you and child	Tax identification

## 3. Send to Familienkasse

Familienkasse is the office paying Kindergeld. Find yours at: [familienkasse.de](https://familienkasse.de)

You can send:

- By mail (most common)
- Online via [familienkasse-digital.de](https://familienkasse-digital.de)

## 4. Wait for decision

- Processing takes 4-8 weeks
- You'll receive a decision letter (Bescheid)
- If approved — money transfers to your account monthly

## Retroactive Kindergeld

You can receive Kindergeld **up to 6 months retroactively** from the application date. Don't delay!

## Common mistakes

- ☐ Missing child's Steuer-ID — order it from Finanzamt first
- ☐ Outdated address — always update Anmeldung
- ☐ No birth certificate — translate and certify it

## Child in Poland, you in Germany?

As an EU citizen working in Germany, you're entitled to Kindergeld even if your child lives in Poland. You fill:

- Standard application
- Attachment **Anlage Ausland** (for children abroad)

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