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Minijob — Work up to €603 in Germany

A Minijob is employment in Germany earning up to €603 monthly without income tax or social contributions. Workers have vacation and minimum wage rights, but no health insurance coverage.

Deutsche Begriffe: Minijob | geringfügige Beschäftigung | 603-Euro-Job | Midijob | Rentenversicherung | Befreiungsantrag | Pauschalabgaben | Minijob-Zentrale | Entgeltfortzahlung | Übergangsbereich | Mindestlohn | Aufenthaltstitel | Arbeitsvertrag | Krankenversicherung | Steuererklärung | Lebensunterhalt | Knappschaft

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Minijob — work up to €603

What is a Minijob?

A Minijob (geringfügige Beschäftigung, 603-Euro-Job) is work with earnings of **max €603 per month** (as of 2026). The limit is not fixed — it rises with the minimum wage and corresponds to 130 hours at minimum wage rate (€13.90/h in 2026). Annually, this gives **€7,236**.

For the employee: almost no deductions

From a Minijob salary, you **don't pay income tax or health, care, or unemployment contributions**. The employer pays a flat rate (Pauschalabgaben, ~30%) to Minijob-Zentrale (Knappschaft).

One exception is **pension**: Minijob is by default covered by mandatory pension insurance (Rentenversicherung) — approximately **3.6%** is deducted from your salary. You can submit an **exemption request (Befreiungsantrag)** to your employer, but then you don't build up pension entitlements.

Who can work a Minijob?

• Anyone with the right to work in Germany (check your residence title)

• Students, retirees, people already employed (as additional work)

• Unemployed — with restrictions (earnings deducted from benefits)

Note: you can have **one** Minijob alongside your main job without tax. A second Minijob is added to your main salary and taxed.

Your rights — the same as a regular job

 Paid leave (proportional to days worked) Sick pay for 6 weeks (Entgeltfortzahlung) Minimum wage €13.90/h (2026) Written employment contract and paid holidays

Minijob vs Midijob

	Minijob	Midijob
Earnings	up to €603	€603.01 – €2,000
Tax	none	low
Employee contributions	pension only (optional)	reduced, increase gradually
Health insurance	none	full

Midijob (Übergangsbereich) is a "bridge" — contributions increase gently with salary, so it makes sense to exceed €603 noticeably rather than by just a few euros.

How to find a Minijob?

• Minijob-Zentrale

• Kleinanzeigen, gastronomy, retail, cleaning, care

Important for foreigners!

• Minijob **does not provide** health insurance — you must have it from another source (it's mandatory in Germany!)

• Income from a Minijob **is not sufficient** to demonstrate means of support (Lebensunterhalt) when extending a work visa

- A Minijob settled by flat rate does not go into your tax return