

Are my special bonuses (employment, pension) counted as income?

Since January 1st 2014 holiday and Christmas bonuses of employed and retired beneficiaries are not counted as income.

Am I allowed to keep my savings?

Savings up to an allowance of 4.315,20 Euro per household can be kept.

Do I have to sell my car?

Motor vehicles which are needed for work, because of a disability or in rural areas do not have to be sold.

Do I have to sell my apartment or my house?

No! The apartment or house does not have to be sold if it is personally needed to live in. If the minimum-needs based benefits have been drawn for less than six months, there is no securing of real estate in the land register. Only if the benefits have been drawn for longer than six months, is the real estate secured in the land register by the social welfare offices retroactively.

Use of Workforce

Do I have to work if I get needs-based minimum benefits?

Those who are able to work have to be willing to work. Excluded are e.g. people with children under three years without suitable care facilities, people at retirement age or people who have started training or education before their eighteenth birthday and pursue it with determination (university education does not count).

What happens if I am not willing to work?

If someone is able to work, but not willing to, the benefits can be reduced after a written warning.

Process / Replacement

Where (at which authorities) can I apply for needs-based minimum benefits?

An application can be filed at the district administration (Bezirkshauptmannschaft – Sozialämter) and municipal councils.

What can I do if I disagree with the decision of the public authorities?

The district administration (social welfare office /Sozialamt) decides the application for needs-based minimum benefits. Those who disagree with the decision of the social welfare offices can file a complaint against this decision within four weeks.

Do I have to pay back needs-based minimum benefits?

Generally, needs-based minimum benefits do not have to be paid back. Benefits only have to be paid back if assets are inherited or if benefits have been illegally drawn because of false declarations. Regarding real estate the entry in the land register remains. We will be happy to advise you if you need needs-based minimum benefits in addition to unemployment benefit and emergency assistance.

Consultation hours:

Monday-Thursday 8.00 to 16.00

Friday 8.00 to 12.30

Please make an appointment for personal consultations.

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Minimum-benefits-Calculator:

www.mindestsicherung-salzburg.at

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THE NEEDS-BASED MINIMUM BENEFIT SYSTEM – VALUE 2018

ANSWERS TO IMPORTANT QUESTIONS



GERECHTIGKEIT MUSS SEIN

■ This service is possible thanks to your AK contribution

Answers to the most important questions about need-oriented minimum assurance

Many people who are actually entitled to receive social benefits currently waive the support because of lack of knowledge about their rights. We want to inform you about your rights so that you know which benefit within the needs-based minimum benefit system to get. Those in a financial emergency need the support of this system and should actually apply for it.

In this leaflet we want to answer in short the most important questions regarding the needs-based minimum benefit. Our experts will of course help you with any questions that you might have.

Benefits

Who gets needs-based minimum benefits?

The needs-based minimum benefit system has reformed the present extramural social assistance. This means social assistance for all those who are not accommodated in a retirement or nursing home. People who cannot earn a living for their family or themselves and do not receive third-party benefits (such as social security benefits) can obtain needs-based minimum benefits

Can people with foreign citizenship get needs-based minimum benefits?

As well as Austrian citizens, citizens of the European Union and people with an unlimited residence permit (residence longer than 5 years) can obtain needs-based minimum benefits.

How high are needs-based minimum benefits?

- Singles receive 863,04 Euro net per month (12 times annually)
- Married couples receive 1.294,56 Euro net per month (12 times annually)
- Under-age children receive 181,24 Euro net per month (14 times annually)

These flat rate benefits should cover all regular requirements (e.g. living, food, clothing, household goods etc.). Benefits for special requirements (e.g. increased health expenditures) can be granted additionally.

Are accommodation costs to be covered with needs-based minimum benefits?

The flat rate minimum benefit includes a share of 25 % for accommodation costs.

e.g. Example: A single person receives 863,04 Euro monthly. Of this sum 647,28 Euro serve to cover the costs of living and 215,76 Euro the housing costs. If the actual housing costs are higher an additional "Wohnbedarfshilfe" (housing benefits) can be applied for.

Do I have health insurance if I receive needs-based minimum benefits?

You will receive an "E-Card" and you are insured with the statutory health insurance. However, there is no retirement pension insurance.

Receipt of unemployment benefits and emergency benefits

Do I qualify for needs-based minimum benefits if I receive unemployment benefits or emergency benefits?

If the amount of the unemployment benefit or emergency benefit is below the amount of the needs-based minimum benefits, an increase of up to the amount of the needs-based minimum benefit can be drawn.

Use of income and assets

Am I entitled to needs-based minimum benefits if I receive a further income?

If the amount of other incomes, e. g. alimony payment, pensions, rental revenues, etc., is below the needs-based minimum benefits, an increase of up to the amount of the needs-based minimum benefit can be drawn.

The law recognizes exceptions: family benefits and care benefits can be drawn additionally to the needs-based minimum benefits without the latter being cut.

Am I entitled to receive needs-based minimum benefits if I am employed?

People who earn extra money must report this. If the amount of income is below the amount of the needs-based minimum benefit an increase of up to the latter can be drawn. Employed applicants can use an allowable deduction: 77,67 Euro for up to 20 hours per week and 155,35 Euro for more than 20 working hours per week. It is deducted from the income and the reduced income is offset against the needs-based minimum benefits.