

## **Basic Information on Maternity Pay and Maternity Pay Supplement**

The German Federal (Social) Insurance Office (Bundesversicherungsamt) is the competent authority for your maternity pay application if you are not member in a statutory health insurance fund at the beginning of the maternity protection period before childbirth. However, if you are member of a statutory health insurance fund at that time, you must submit your maternity pay application to your health insurance fund. This also applies if you are employed on a marginal part-time basis (minijob).

Maternity pay is designed to compensate for the loss of wages or salary during the maternity protection period. For this reason

- only employees,
- who do not continue to receive their wages or salary when under maternity protection

are liable to receive maternity pay from the Maternity Pay Office at the German Federal (Social) Insurance Office.

Housewives, freelancers and self-employed workers, pupils, students and civil servants are not entitled to maternity pay. The only exception is, when these women engage in a side-line employment alongside and the payment of their wages or salary from this employment is discontinued due to maternity protection.

The maternity pay from the German Federal (Social) Insurance Office is limited to a maximum amount of 210 euros and is paid in one sum.

If you are entitled to maternity pay, you are also entitled to receive the maternity pay supplement if your net wages or salary exceed 13 Euros per calendar day. You will then receive the difference between the 13 Euros and your personal daily net wages or salary for each day of the maternity protection period. Generally, your employer will pay the maternity pay supplement. Only if your employment is terminated by your employer during your pregnancy or maternity protection period after child birth with the approval of the competent regulatory authority, the authority issuing the maternity pay will also come up for the maternity pay supplement. The same shall apply in accordance with Section 14 (3) of the German Maternity Protection Act (Mutterschutzgesetz) if your employer is not able to pay

the maternity pay supplement due to an insolvency event (= initiation of insolvency proceedings, rejection of the initiation of insolvency proceedings for lack of assets or closure of the company in Germany – if no insolvency proceedings have been applied for or are ruled out for other reasons).

This means that if you are a member of a statutory health insurance fund from which you receive maternity pay, you can under the above specified circumstances also apply for the maternity pay supplement at the fund. In case you receive your maternity pay from the Bundesversicherungsamt, you must file your application for maternity pay supplement with us.

Important – please note:

Telephone consultations and all correspondence is processed in the German language only. And also the application forms are only provided in German.

Bundesversicherungsamt  
- Mutterschaftsgeldstelle -  
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 38  
53113 Bonn

Phone: (0228) 619 - 1888

Fax: (0228) 619 - 1877

Mail: [mutterschaftsgeldstelle@bvamt.bund.de](mailto:mutterschaftsgeldstelle@bvamt.bund.de)

De-Mail: [mutterschaftsgeldstelle@bvamt.de-mail.de](mailto:mutterschaftsgeldstelle@bvamt.de-mail.de)

Internet: [www.mutterschaftsgeld.de](http://www.mutterschaftsgeld.de)

Monday - Friday from: 9.00 to 12.00

On Thursdays also from: 13.00 to 15.00