

ASSEGNO DI MATERNITÀ DI BASE

BASIC MATERNITY ALLOWANCE

2022

The basic maternity allowance, also known as the "municipal maternity allowance", is a benefit that supports mothers on the birth of each son/daughter or entry into the family of an adopted minor or in pre-adoptive foster care, when the maternity allowance for female employees is not applicable.

The application for basic maternity allowance must be presented by the mother **to the Local Council (Comune) of residence within six months** of the birth of the child from the entry of a minor into the family. It is usually downloaded directly from the website of the Local Council of residence and must be filled in and returned by e-mail or delivered by hand to the offices of the Local Council; it can also be presented by certified e-mail (pec). The Local Council then verifies the requirements and sends the name to the INPS office which will pay for the service.

Mothers **residents in Italy who are in one of the following conditions** are entitled to the allowance:

- Italian citizens
- EU citizens or their family members (even if they are non-EU citizens)
- Citizens of non-EU countries in possession of a long-term residence permit
- Citizens of non-EU countries holding a single work permit authorizing employment for periods longer than 6 months
- Citizens of non-EU countries holding a permit for research purposes valid for periods of more than 6 months

You can access the allowance on the basis of the income limits set each year by the INPS: for 2022, the maximum ISEE income is **17,747.58 euros**.

The contribution amounts to **354.73 euros** per month for 5 months so for a total of **1,773.65 euros**.

Even **fathers** may be entitled to the allowance if the child has been entrusted exclusively to them, if the mother has died, for adopting fathers or pre-adoptive foster care, or if spouses separate during the custody procedure.

Maternity allowance is compatible with the All-Inclusive Family Allowance (Assegno Unico Universale): it is therefore possible to receive both benefits.

If you have been in occasional employment and therefore have some contribution payments (but not enough to obtain the maternity allowance for employees), **you can request the basic maternity allowance directly from INPS** and not the Local Council: in this case, the amount you will receive is slightly higher and consequently it is more advantageous to request this type of allowance. Before deciding which of the two to request ("local council" or INPS), check the situation with a Citizens Advice Bureau (patronato) or an association.

The residence permits required are in any case the same for both allowances.

N.B.:

- **Do you have one of the residence permits required to receive the maternity allowance (as indicated above) but your Local Council raises difficulties over presenting the application?**

In any case, you can present it within 6 months of the birth by registered letter or certified e-mail (pec) to your Local Council, attaching the necessary documentation. If you need support, you can contact a Citizens Advice Bureau (patronato), a trade union or an association in your area that provides assistance for migrants (such as ASGI) to receive more information.

- Holders of the following residence permits are currently **excluded** from the basic maternity allowance:
 - permit for international protection
 - single work permit if duration is 6 months or less
 - permit to request asylum
 - permit for special protection
 - permit for social protection
 - permit for domestic violence
 - permit for labour exploitation
 - permits for seasonal work
 - permit for study purposes (even if you work)
 - permit for assistance of minors

ASGI believes that these exclusions are illegitimate (in particular the exclusion of international protection permits: we are waiting for clarification of this matter from INPS which, until February 2022, had always acknowledged this benefit). We are also working together with other associations to ensure that holders of other residence permits can also access these allowance, if necessary even through legal action.

In any case, send your application within 6 months from birth by registered letter or certified email (pec) to your Local Council and the INPS office for your area, specifying the type of residence permit you have; also contact a Citizens Advice Bureau (patronato), trade unions or organizations such as ASGI to learn more about your rights and evaluate the possibility of taking legal action.

ISEE	Indicatore della Situazione Economica Equivalente - Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator. The formula used to assess the economic situation of families who intend to apply for subsidized social benefits. https://www.lavoro.gov.it/strumenti-e-servizi/ISEE/Pagine/default.aspx .
INPS	Istituto Nazionale Previdenza Sociale - Italian Social Security Institute.
IRPEF	Tax on personal income.