

ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE

FOR PERSONS RECEIVING RETIREMENT BENEFITS

? Who is entitled to receive “Pflegegeld” (Attendance Allowance)?

Attendance Allowance will be granted, if

- the residence of the person in need of nursing care respectively in need of attendance is in Austria or if the person is receiving Austrian Retirement Benefits and her/his residence is not in Austria and
- the person, basing on a physical, mental or psychological as well as sensory handicap, is in need of permanent attendance and support on a certain temporary minimum basis and
- this state lasts at least for 6 months.

For Austrian citizens and citizens of a EU or EEA country or of Switzerland the habitual residence in one of these countries is under certain conditions equated to residence in Austria.

? When does attendance need exist and how much time must be spent for it?

Attendance need exists, if the person in attendance need must rely on a caregiver to perform daily necessities such as cooking, eating, dressing and undressing, body care, transport of food, medicine, room cleaning and heating etc. provided that attendance needs require more than 60 hours per month! According to the different attendance needs applicants are entitled to categories between 1 and 7 (from € 154,20 to € 1.655,80).

Table: Summary of single categories of Attendance Allowance.

CATEGORY	TEMPORARY REQUIREMENT	EURO
Persons entitled for categories 1 and 2 need permanent attendance and support.		
Category 1	On an average more than 60 hours per month	€ 154,20
Category 2	On an average more than 85 hours per month	€ 284,30
Persons normally entitled for categories 3 and 4 are high-grade visually handicapped, blind or in need of a wheelchair.		
Category 3	On an average more than 120 hours per month	€ 442,90
Category 4	On an average more than 160 hours per month	€ 664,30
Severely and totally handicapped persons or persons in need of permanent supervision by a caregiver as well as deaf-blind persons are entitled to category 5 to 7.		
Category 5	On an average more than 180 hours per month and additionally extraordinary expenses for attendance needs	€ 902,30
Category 6	On an average more than 180 hours per month, attendance measures incompatible in time and permanent supervision for 24 hours per day	€ 1.260,00
Category 7	On an average more than 180 hours per month and in fact inability to move	€ 1.655,80

? When is it possible to apply for increase of Attendance Allowance?

If you are already receiving Attendance Allowance and your health status has become worse. The worsening of the health status has to be satisfied by the presentation of a medical certificate. If a

higher category of Attendance Allowance is accepted, the amount will be paid retroactively up from the month of having submitted the application.

? How to apply for Attendance Allowance or for upgrading your Attendance Allowance?

By Application form (2 pages) or also informal by a letter.

The application form may be obtained at the pension insurance institution (PVA) or for download on the Internet at: www.pensionsversicherung.at (click: "Leistungen" (services); click: "Pflegegeld" (Attendance Allowance)).

? What kind of documents, confirmations and information does the pension insurance institution (PVA) need from you?

Attestations, confirming your attendance need, as for example recent medical reports.

In most cases an expert opinion of the examining doctor must be delivered, i.e., a medical examiner to be chosen by the Austrian Embassy delivers an expert opinion by an examination determining the actual attendance need according to hours per month. The expert opinion is based on average values for performing daily necessities.

Please file applications for Attendance Allowance at:

Pensionsversicherungsanstalt (PVA)
Friedrich Hillegeist-Straße 1
A-1021 Wien, Austria

Phone: +43-(0)-503 03
Fax: +43-(0)-503 03-28850
E-mail: pva@pensionsversicherung.at
www.pensionsversicherung.at

You also may file your application at the relevant Austrian representation (embassy, consulate) in your country!

Only in case that you or the deceased person receive/received pension payments of another Austrian pension insurance institution, please file your applications for Attendance Allowance directly at the relevant pension insurance institution.

For information in English for Attendance Allowance

Phone: +43-(0)-503 03-81144 (Mr. Jörg Gollenbeck)

Furthermore do not hesitate to contact in case of questions the relevant case specialist of the pension insurance institution (PVA) mentioned in each letter with phone number, fax number and e-mail address.



If you are not sure whether you are eligible to file an application, please contact the pension insurance institution (PVA)!

Please note that the surviving dependants of deceased claimants have to file an application for continuation of the proceedings with the pension insurance institution in order to be able to receive the outstanding pension payments or Attendance Allowance accrued between the date of application and the date of death of the insured.