



Financial support

Income support and assistance for other living expenses

Supplementary information/counselling support

Right to assistance

Everyone living in the municipality who are unable to support themselves through any other means have the right to assistance in the form of income assistance (income support) and assistance for other living expenses.

The assistance is means-tested and is paid by the **Humanities Committee, (Humanistiska nämnden)**.

“Chap. 4 Right to assistance

Section 1 Those who are unable to support themselves through any other means have the right to assistance in the form of income assistance (income support) and assistance for other living expenses.”

What is required?

We require you to do whatever you can to make ends meet and solve temporary financial problems.

If you are unemployed, you need to show that you are actively looking for work by submitting an individual action plan/planning from the employment agency.

You are required to apply for other allowances/benefits that you may be entitled to, e.g. unemployment insurance (Alfa) and housing allowance for example.

When you apply for income support you need to bring documents that corroborate your income and expense information, e.g. pay slips, tax certificate and a copy of your tax return, rent contract, rent payment slip and rent receipt, home insurance, notification about child care fee, trade union fee and a sick note (if you are sick-listed).

How much money am I entitled to?

According to the Swedish Social Services Act everyone has the right to a reasonable standard of living. The level of a ‘reasonable standard of living is assessed using the National Standard for Income Support. The National Standard applies for the whole country and is based on nationwide price level evaluations. The standard amount that will apply in your case depends on the size of your family, housing expenses and the age of your children. When we calculate the standard amount we may deduct income after tax (if applicable).

Your income reduces your income support

Income after tax shall be deducted from the standard amount. This includes:

- * Unemployment benefit/Alfa
- * Child allowance including large family supplement
- * Housing allowance including any retroactive payments
- * Parental benefit
- * Annuity/insurance
- * Salary/fees
- * Pension/sickness benefit/activity compensation
- * Sickness benefit
- * Tax rebate
- * Various kinds of study allowance
- * Maintenance allowance
- * Maintenance support/supplementary allowance
- * Activity compensation
- * Care allowance-taxable portion
- * AFA, SPV and KPA insurance compensation

What income support is supposed to cover

The income support should be sufficient to cover reasonable costs for:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| * groceries | * clothes & shoes | * consumables |
| * play & leisure | * health & hygiene | * daily newspaper |
| * telephone | * TV licence fee | * housing |
| * household electricity | * work travel | * home insurance |
| * unemployment insurance | * trade union fees | * child insurance |

The income support should also cover bills that arrive a limited number of times a year, e.g. telephone charges & newspaper subscriptions.

Assistance for living expenses in general

Financial assistance can also be granted in special cases for child care costs, prescription glasses, dental care, medical care, medicine, furniture, etc. if there are grounds for it.

In addition to this you can also apply for assistance for other costs that you or the children may need.

Special calculation rule – WORK INCENTIVE

The idea behind the work incentive scheme is that it should pay to get a job or increase your working hours when you are claiming financial assistance.

If you have received income support for six consecutive months, 25 percent of your work income will not be taken into account when your assistance entitlement is calculated.

The special calculation rule applies for two years. After that, the six-month requirement on income support must be fulfilled from the beginning in order for the special calculation rule to apply again.

Örnsköldsvik Municipality has also decided on a special work incentive scheme for young people under 25. This comes into effect the first time you apply, without a qualifying period, and means that SEK 2,000 of your salary income will not affect your income support.

Trainee scheme requirement

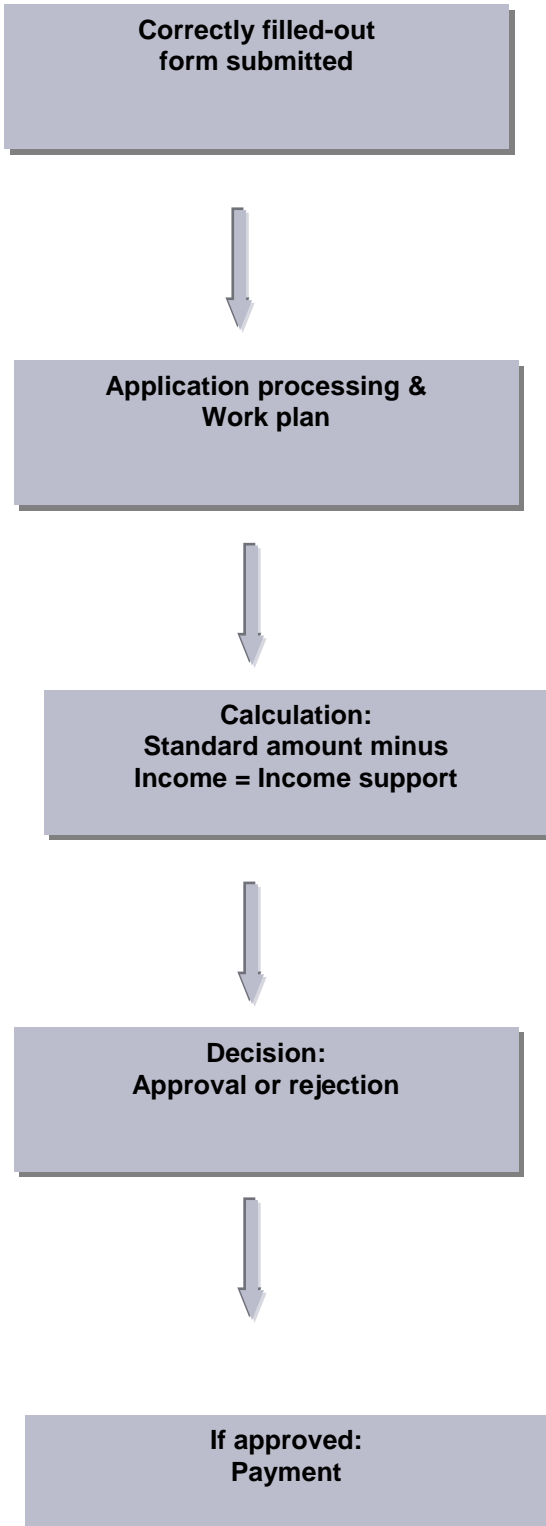
We can require that you take part in a trainee scheme or other skill enhancement activity in order for you to get income support. We will require you to take part in a trainee scheme if you have been unable to arrange a job or a suitable labour market policy measure.

The trainee scheme is skill-enhancing and will increase your possibilities of getting a job. When we suggest a trainee scheme or other skill enhancement activity, we take your requirements and needs into consideration. If you decline to take part in a trainee programme or other skill enhancement activity for non-acceptable reasons, your income support can be reduced or revoked.

Repayment

We may demand that you repay the financial assistance if, for example, it has been paid to you with a repayment condition or

Procedure for application for financial assistance



for any of the following reasons:

- *When income or benefits are delayed for some reason
- *If the person becomes involved in an industrial dispute
- *Under condition of repayment
- *Due to incomplete or incorrect information provided
- *Incorrect or excessive amount claimed.

Other forms of assistance

The right to receive assistance from the municipality is not limited to income support. There are different kinds of assistance or treatment options or other forms of social service, e.g. financial advice, home care, contact person or care in a treatment home.

Approval of personal data register check

As income support is means tested, we will investigate your assistance needs. By signing the application form you approve that an information check is run at the authorities and registers specified on the form. We do not contact anyone else without your consent.

You can appeal

If your application for income support or other assistance is rejected, you have the right to appeal the decision.

Information about the conditions for income support, about assistance over the national standard level, about the possibilities for appealing the decision will be provided by your case worker.

Processing of personal data

The Social Services use computer-aided support/information technology to process personal details. The details that it processes are name, civic registration number and address, investigations in social service matters, journal entries regarding previous interventions, income details and information about your health and whether or not it is needed for investigative or custody disputes.

Secrecy, confidentiality

You are protected by the Swedish Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act when you talk to us.

This means that our entire personnel is bound by confidentiality and that the details that you provide to us and whatever we discuss at meetings may not be disclosed to unauthorised people.

Contact details

Case worker's name.....

Postal address.....

Tel. no.....

Telephone hours.....

Excerpt the Social Services Act:

”Those who are unable to support themselves through any other means have the right to assistance in the form of income assistance and assistance for their other living expenses according to the conditions in Chap. 4, Section 1”

“The social services administration may require that the person who receives income support for a certain period shall take part in a trainee scheme or other skill enhancement activity designated by the administration if the person has not been able to find a suitable labour market policy measure...”



ÖRNSKÖLDSVIKS KOMMUN