



Progetto “Orientarsi nella nebbia” Finanziato da Regione Lombardia

Pathways to citizenship

Card 3

THE MAIN INSTRUMENTS OF TAX AND WELFARE INCOME SUPPORT

This sheet has been drawn up on the basis of what was said by Dr. Brugnoni Matteo in the video conference held on 18.09.2021 within the training course envisaged by the project "Orientarsi nella nebbia" (Orient yourself in the fog).

PATRONATO: these are non-profit social assistance bodies, set up and managed by the national confederations or associations of workers. They are in charge of managing the procedures for the provision of social security and welfare benefits.

The procedure for accessing the following services is free of charge:

- Citizenship income
- Isee

The Ministry of Labour's website lists the services for which the Ministry, having reduced funding to the patronages, has given the patronages the possibility of requesting payment for processing the procedure. An agreement has therefore been established between the Ministry and the Patronati. The maximum amount provided for in the agreement is €24.

CAF: Tax Assistance Centres (CAF) provide assistance and advice in the field of tax and social benefits (Isee, tax returns).

The procedure for accessing the following services is free of charge:

- Citizenship income

INCOME SUPPORT BENEFITS

- Birth bonus (known as Mother-to-be bonus)
- Childbirth allowance (known as Baby Bonus)
- Nursery bonus
- Maternity allowance for atypical and discontinuous work pursuant to Article 75 of Legislative Decree No 151/2001 (so-called State maternity allowance)
- Emergency income - EMN
- Family allowances and temporary allowance
- Citizenship Income - CPR
- Civil invalidity



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Birth bonus (Mother-to-be bonus) It is an 800 euro bonus paid by Inps (regardless of employment activity) for the birth or adoption of a child. No income limits, Isee value or other are required. It can only be requested by the mother.

The amount is paid on the occurrence of one of the following events:

1. completion of the seventh month of pregnancy;
2. childbirth, even if it is before the beginning of the eighth month of pregnancy;
3. national or international adoption of the child, ordered by a judgment that has become final pursuant to Law No 184 of 4 May 1983;
4. National pre-adoptive fostering ordered by order pursuant to Article 22 (6) of Law 184/1983 or international pre-adoptive fostering pursuant to Article 34 of Law 184/1983.

The benefit is granted in a single instalment for each event (pregnancy, childbirth, adoption or fostering) and in relation to each child born, adopted or fostered.

Previously, the long-stay residence permit was required; following the order of the Court of Milan of 12 December 2017, the benefit is granted to all mothers legally resident in Italy.

Prescription: 1 year from the birth of the child.

Criticality:

- you must have the online medical certificate in order to apply before the birth (the paper certificate is no longer valid);
- more questions need to be asked in the case of a twin birth;
- the application must be submitted after the end of the seventh month otherwise the Inps will not accept it.

Birth grant (Bonus Baby)

It is an allowance granted by Inps for births, adoptions and pre-adoptive fostering from 2015 onwards. It can also be applied for by the father as long as he lives with the child.

The benefit is paid until the child's first birthday or one year after the child's entry (in case of adoption).

The amount varies according to the Isee value:

- Less than €7,000: €160 per month (€192 for children after the first)
- 7,000 40,000 euros: 120 euros per month (142 euros for children after the first)
- Over 40,000 (or no Isee): 80 euros per month (96 for children after the first)

There is a 20% increase from the second child.

Criticality:

- The Isee must already include the child for whom the benefit is claimed;
- if the application is made within 90 days of the birth or entry into the family (in the case of adoption) it starts from that date, if it is made after that date it starts from the month in which



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the application is made;

Example: if the child is born in September and the parent applies within 90 days, he/she will be entitled to arrears from September, but if he/she applies when more than 3 months have passed, he/she will not be entitled to arrears;

- The applicant parent must be resident in Italy and live with the child;

The CJEU on 02/09/21 confirmed that all foreigners with a permit allowing work are entitled to it (previously the Inps required a long-term residence permit).

Nursery Bonus

It is an economic contribution granted by the Inps. It can be requested for:

- payment of fees relating to attendance at authorised public and private crèches;
- the introduction of home support for children under the age of three with severe chronic illnesses.

By virtue of the decision of the Court of Milan of 09 November 2020, the bonus was also extended to holders of residence permits (Inps Message 4768 of 18.12.2020). Previously, a long-term residence permit was required.

The amount of the annual contribution (paid in eleven monthly instalments) varies according to Isee:

- Isee minors up to € 25,000 = amount payable € 3,000
- Isee minors between 25,001 euro and 40,000 euro = amount payable 2,500 euro
- Isee minors from 40,001 (or no Isee) = amount payable 1,500 euros

The application for a contribution towards the payment of crèche fees must be submitted by the parent who bears the cost and must indicate the monthly payments relating to the periods of school attendance, between January and December 2021.

The application for a contribution for the introduction of forms of home support must be submitted by the parent living with the child for whom the service is requested and must be accompanied by a certificate issued by the freely chosen paediatrician declaring that the child is unable to attend day-care centres for the entire year due to a serious chronic pathology.

Payment is made in one instalment.

Criticality:

It is not a file that ends the moment it is sent. As the bonus is linked to attendance and the nursery bills, receipts corresponding to the payment of fees must be attached by the end of the month in question and, in any case, no later than 1 April 2022.

Receipts must contain:

- name and VAT number of the crèche;
- tax code of the child;
- reference month;



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- details of the payment or receipt of payment;
- the name of the parent bearing the cost of the fees.

If the invoices submitted do not have all these data, Inps allows you to supplement the documentation with a new receipt containing all the required data, otherwise it does not make the payment. In addition, if the invoices are not submitted by the due date (for the year 2021, 1 April 2022), the contribution for the months for which the invoices were not attached is lost.

State maternity allowance

The amount of the allowance is €2,143.05 in the case of a full measure.

It is a benefit that is not linked to Isee or even to having a job.

It is usually used by mothers who cannot receive ordinary maternity leave because they do not have or have lost their job.

Requirements:

- residence in Italy;
- Italian citizenship or citizenship of a European Union Member State, if non-EU citizens, possession of an EC long-term residence permit;
- have at least 3 months of maternity contributions in the period between 18 and 9 months prior to the birth or the child's actual entry into the family in case of national adoption, pre-adoptive fostering or in Italy in case of international adoption.

It can also be claimed by difference, i.e. if the person has a job and receives a maternity allowance of less than €2,143.05 for the 5 months of maternity leave, she can claim the State maternity allowance for the difference.

The application must be made within 6 months of the child's birth or entry into the family otherwise the benefit cannot be granted because it is considered time barred.

The application must be submitted to the Inps, using the telematic procedure.

Emergency Income - REM is a benefit designed to support people left without an income. After the 5 monthly payments for 2020, and 3 for 2021, the D.L. Sostegni bis introduced 4 additional monthly payments (June, July, August and September)

The amount varies between EUR 400 and EUR 800 (EUR 820 with disabled family members).

Requirements:

- residence in Italy;
- value of household income, referring to the month of April 2021, lower than a threshold equal to the amount of Remuneration potentially due based on the composition of the household. For households residing in rented accommodation, this threshold is increased by one twelfth of the annual value of the rent as declared for Isee purposes;
- the value of family assets, with reference to the year 2020 (verified as at 31 December 2020), below a threshold of €10,000, increased by €5,000 for each member after the first and up to a maximum of €20,000. The threshold and the ceiling shall be increased by €5,000 for each member who is seriously disabled or not self-sufficient;



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- a valid ordinary or current Isee value of less than €15,000.
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Attention: When applying for Rem, not only the Isee value but also the household income of the whole family must be taken into account and not only of the applicant.

Single cheque

The delegated law 01/04/2021 n.46 established the universal single allowance as an economic measure for all families with children. It was supposed to enter into force on 01/07/21 but the implementing decrees have not yet been approved. It should therefore enter into force on 01 January 2022.

It is a support for all households with children. The amount of the single allowance is linked to the Isee value, so as the Isee increases, the value of the allowance decreases.

It will be paid for all children up to the age of 21, unlike child benefit which is paid for children up to the age of 18.

It will replace the following benefits: tax deductions for dependent children, family allowance (ANF) and family allowances, childbirth allowance 'bonus bebè', birth premium, allowance for families with at least three minor children granted by municipalities, etc.

The only bonus that will remain in place is the crèche bonus.

The government, during this temporary situation from 01/07/21 to 31/12/21 has:

- extended the ANF with an increase of €37.5 for households with two children and €55 for households with three children;
- introduced temporary child benefit for households not entitled to ANF.

Family Allowances (ANF)

They have been extended until 31.12.2021. The benefit refers to the household. The subjects that contribute to its formation are:

- THE APPLICANT
- THE SPOUSE (NOT LEGALLY AND EFFECTIVELY SEPARATED)
- THE CIVILLY UNITED
- MINOR OR DISABLED CHILDREN AND THEIR EQUIVALENTS
- BROTHERS, SISTERS
- MINOR OR INABLE grandchildren (including those not formally in the grandparent's care but actually living in the grandparent's care)
- SINGLE-PARENT NUCLEES consisting of a single person in the case of a minor orphan or a disabled person entitled to a survivor's pension
- CHILDREN BETWEEN 18 AND 21 IF STUDENTS OR APPRENTICES if there are at least 4 children or equivalent in the household (under 26 years of age)

Income requirement:

The allowance is payable if the household's income does not exceed the income limits laid down by law. There are different tables according to the different cases: family unit without minor children,



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family unit with minor children, family unit with only one parent and a minor child, single-parent family unit, i.e. only minors or incapacitated adults.

The other requirement relates to family income. The total income earned by each member in the calendar year prior to 1 July each year must derive from employment for at least 70% of the total income.

Example: If a worker started working on 1 July 2021, and did not work before, the previous year's income will be used for income calculation purposes. If the worker did not work and does not even own any buildings (the so-called main house), he or she may be entitled to child benefit because the income in 2020 is zero.

But if the worker has not worked in the previous year, nor has anyone in his household, but owns a property (main house) even with a cadastral income of €300, he will not be entitled to child benefit because 70% of the 2020 income, in this case €300, does not come from employment but is all from buildings, even if the amount is low.

Family allowances are paid from 01/07 to 30/06 of the following year.

They contribute to household income:

- Income subject to personal income tax (net of social security contributions);
- the dwelling house;
- income earned abroad;
- separately taxed income (excluding severance pay);
- tax-exempt income (only if higher than EUR 1032.92 per year) such as interest on cct, bot, btp, social pensions, civil disability.

Excluded income:

- Inail annuities;
- war pensions;
- accompaniment, communication and attendance allowances;
- compensation under Law 210/92 for damage caused by vaccinations, transfusions and blood products;
- social increases;
- birth bonus (c.d. mother bonus);
- childbirth allowance (so-called baby bonus).

Submission and application

To apply for family allowances it is sufficient to be resident in Italy, so foreign workers only need to have a residence permit.

One of the critical points with respect to child benefit, in the case of employees, is that until 31/03/2019 the application had to be submitted to the employer. Therefore, even if the worker was no longer employed by the company for which he worked, but had worked in that company during



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the period for which he was applying for the allowance, he had to submit the paper application to the employer and the employer would advance the child benefit in the payroll.

However, from 01/04/2019, employees must apply online on the Inps website.

It is always the employer who pays the child benefit, but the Inps has found that companies often made mistakes in paying child benefit, and since the Inps check was made after the company had paid the benefit, they changed the procedure for submitting it.

The Inps communicates with the company, via the company drawer, the amount of the cheques it has to pay to the worker. It is not Inps that pays the cheques, Inps only informs the employer of the amount to be paid, even if the worker is no longer an employee.

Example: If a person worked for a company from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020, and is now unemployed or has changed companies, if he/she has to claim child benefit for 2020, the company for which the worker was employed during the period for which child benefit is claimed is the one that pays.

The following categories continue to apply to the Inps electronically:

- domestic workers;
- members of the G.S.;
- agricultural workers;
- unemployed/Mobility.

Payment

The cheque is paid:

- By the employer, on behalf of Inps directly in the pay slip, to the employees (even if the request was made after the termination of the contract, within the 5-year limitation period).
- By the Inps in the case of:
 - o domestic workers
 - o G.S. members
 - o Agricultural workers
 - o Mobility/Ds

Authorisation

The problem of applying for authorisation concerns all those households that do not consist of two parents and one or more children.

In the case of separated or divorced spouses or even cohabiting spouses, the family unit for the purposes of family allowances is not the same as the family unit shown on the family register.

An application for authorisation must therefore be made to the Inps electronically in the event that the household must be included:

- children and equivalents of separated or divorced spouses;
- natural children of their own or of their spouse recognised by both parents
- brothers sisters and nephews orphans of both parents not entitled to a survivor's pension
- grandchildren in a direct line dependent on the grandparent
- family members residing abroad of an Italian, EU or convention state citizen



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- children and related, students or apprentices, aged between 18 and 21 as long as they are part of a large household.

Example: cohabiting parents, unmarried, with one child, all three will appear on the family register because they live together, but for child benefit purposes the household consists of one parent who is the applicant for child benefit and the child for whom child benefit is claimed. The other parent is not married and is not included in the household for child benefit purposes. In this case, the parent who wants to receive child benefit must apply to the Inps for authorisation. The same applies to separated or divorced parents. This also applies if the grandparents apply for child benefit.

Family members living abroad

When the ANF applicant is an Italian citizen or a citizen of an EU Member State, the family member, even if residing abroad, is always part of the household (subject to the need to apply for authorisation). If an EU citizen wishes to receive family allowances, he must apply for authorisation to the Inps. The legislation also stipulates that the amount that the EU citizen receives in his country of origin must be verified, and Italy will have to pay any difference that it should receive according to its own tables.

Example: Romanian citizen working in Italy with children residing in Romania. If he receives 20 euros in Romania according to their legislation, he will receive 80 euros in Italy.

The problem arises when a non-EU citizen has children residing in a non-EU country. In this case, the non-EU citizen has to apply for family allowances:

- he must be a national of a foreign country that recognises family benefits for Italians resident on its territory (condition of reciprocity);
- must be a national of a foreign country that has concluded an international convention on family treatment.

List of countries with agreements:

Cape Verde, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Macedonia, former Yugoslavia, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Switzerland, Tunisia (maximum 4 children); for pensioners: Australia, Canada (and Quebec), Norway, United States and Uruguay.

Non-EU citizens in Italy who have family members residing abroad and who do not fall into the two categories mentioned above cannot apply for ANF and therefore suffer discrimination.

Inps rejects their applications despite the fact that the Court of Justice of the EU (25.11.2020) ruled that all foreigners who have a long-term permit or a single work permit have the right to obtain arrears for family members living abroad.

The problems start with the submission of the application. Previously the procedure was on paper, but now it is electronic. When the application is sent, the Fiscal Code of the family members is requested. Whenever a person wants to apply for a benefit for himself or for a member of his family, he has to have the Fiscal Code. But if the family member is resident abroad he/she will not be able to have the CF. So it is not possible to send the application. You can only do it when the relatives are resident in Italy and have a CF.



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Temporary allowance

It is a transitional measure for minor children in force from 01 July 2021 until 31 December 2021. It should be made clear that it is not the single allowance because people often tend to confuse benefits. It is aimed at all households not entitled to family allowances.

This also includes households that exceed the income limit for family allowances or that do not reach the requirement of 70% of earned income as a proportion of total income.

Requirements:

- being an Italian citizen or a citizen of a European Union Member State, or a family member, holder of the right of residence or the right of permanent residence, or a citizen of a non-European Union Member State in possession of an EU long-term residence permit or a residence permit for work or research purposes of at least six months' duration;
- "be subject to the payment of income tax in Italy";
- be domiciled and resident in Italy and have dependent children (for tax purposes) until the age of 18;
- be resident in Italy for at least two years, even if not continuous, or hold an employment contract of indefinite or fixed-term duration of at least six months;
- have an Isee value of less than 50,000 euro
 - o below an Isee value of € 7000, the amounts are paid in full, i.e. € 167.5 per child in the case of households with one or two children, or € 217.8 per child in the case of large households (increased by € 50 with disabled children);
 - o for higher Isee values, the amount decreases to zero above 50,000 euro Isee value.

If the temporary allowance is requested by 30 September, it is paid with arrears from the first of July, but if it is requested after 30 September, it is paid from the month in which it is requested.

Citizenship Income (RDC)

The Citizenship Income is an active labour policy and anti-poverty tool introduced, as of April 2019, into Italian law by Law No. 26 of 28 March 2019.

Family unit

The applicant's family unit is made up of the subjects making up the registered family at the date of submission of the DSU, which is the application with which the Rdc is requested (art. 3 DPCM 159/2013) with the following further specifications:

- the spouses remain in the same household even after separation or divorce, if they continue to reside in the same dwelling;
- the adult child not living with the parents, if under 26 years of age, who is a dependent of the parents, if unmarried and without children, is part of the parents' household.

Requirements (age, assets, income)

- the applicant must have Italian or EU citizenship, or be a holder of an EU long-term resident's pds or of international protection or statelessness;
- the applicant must have been resident for at least 10 years at the time the application is submitted, the last two years of which must have been continuous;



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- the Isee value must be below € 9360;
- the value of the real estate must be below € 30,000 (not including the house);
- the value of movable assets must not exceed:
 - o 6,000 € for 1 family member
 - o 8,000 € for 2 family members
 - o 10,000 € for 3 or more family members, increased by 1,000 € for each child from the third onwards;
- the value of the family income must be less than 6,000 € (9,360 € for those who live in a rented house) (7560 € for the Citizens' Pension) per year; this threshold is multiplied by the corresponding parameter of the equivalence scale for Rdc purposes.

* The maximum income ceilings are increased by €5,000 for each disabled member and by €7,500 for each severely disabled or non-self-sufficient member of the household.

Equivalence scale

The equivalence scale is determined as follows:

- Coefficient 1 for the first member of the household
- + 0.4 for each additional household member > 18 years;
- + 0.2 for each additional household member > 18 years;
- Max 2.1 without severely disabled people
- Max 2.2 with severely disabled or dependent persons

Use of durable goods

- for the right to the Rdc no member of the family must be the owner in any capacity or have full availability of motor vehicles registered in the 6 months prior to the request, or motor vehicles > 1600 c.c. or motorbikes > 250 cc registered in the 2 years prior to the application for Rdc (except motor vehicles or motorbikes with tax benefits for the disabled);
- finally, no member of the household must own or have full use of a vessel or harbour craft.

Compatibility with NASpI and work activity

- The Rdc is compatible with the receipt of NASpI and other income support benefits in case of involuntary unemployment;
- Moreover, the Rdc is also compatible with the performance of a work activity by one or more members of the household (subject to the maintenance of the requirements mentioned above). In case of receiving the citizenship income and one of the family members should start an activity as employee or self-employed, he/she has to communicate it to Inps within 30 days from the beginning of the activity. The communication procedure is called Rdc com.

Size and duration of the economic benefit

The Rdc amount on an annual basis is given by the sum of a family income supplement component (what Inps calls quota A) and a contribution for rent or mortgage (quota B).

How Quota A is calculated:



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Supplements the household income up to the maximum threshold obtained by multiplying €6,000 by the equivalence scale parameter (as identified above).

How Quota B is calculated:

In the case of a rented household, it is equal to the amount of the rent (as determined for Isee purposes), up to a maximum of €3,360 per year (€280 per month).

In the case of a mortgage (for home improvement or construction) the maximum benefit is €1,800 per year (€150 per month).

The benefit cannot therefore in any case exceed a threshold of € 9,360 per year (multiplied by the corresponding equivalence scale parameter) nor be less than € 480 per year (€ 40 per month is therefore the minimum amount recognised). Therefore, if the calculation results in an amount of Rdc below € 40 per month, a minimum of € 40 per month of Rdc is guaranteed.

Reduced electricity and natural gas tariffs for economically disadvantaged households are extended to DRC beneficiaries (the so-called 'electricity bonus' and 'gas bonus').

Example: Household composed of 2 adults and 2 minors who meet the requirements for access to the Rdc and an equivalence scale of 1.8.

- Case 1: The household lives in its own home, without paying a mortgage, and has an income of € 5,300. The household is only entitled to quota A, which is calculated as the difference between the threshold of 6,000 euros, multiplied by the s.e., and the household income. SHARE A $[(6,000 * 1.8) - 5,300] = 5,500$ euros per year, or 458 euros per month.
- Case 2. The household lives in its own home with an annual mortgage of € 8,000 and has an income of € 5,300. In addition to the A share, the household is also entitled to the B share, reduced to the maximum of € 1,800 required by the law for the mortgage. SHARE A = €5,500 a year, equal to €458 a month. SHARE B = €1,800 a year, equal to €150 a month. TOTAL = €7,300 a year, equal to €608 a month
- Case 3. The household lives in a rented house with an annual rent of 4,000 euros and has a household income of 12,000 euros. This household is not entitled to quota A, as its income is higher than €10,800 (6,000*1.8), but only quota B. QUOTA B = €3,360 per year (maximum amount recognised), equivalent to €280 per month.

The benefit starts from the month following the month in which the application is submitted and is granted for a duration of 18 months. It is paid through the Carta Rdc. At the end of the 18 months it can be renewed by re-submitting the application and after a one-month suspension.

In addition to meeting the requirements of the shopping card, the Carta Rdc allows cash withdrawals up to a monthly limit of no more than EUR 100.00 for an individual, multiplied by the equivalence scale; as well as, in the case of rent supplements, a monthly transfer to the landlord or for the mortgage.



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Criticality

The most critical issue concerns the unavailability of people. If the municipality declares that the person is untraceable, the service is suspended.

It is advisable to suggest that people, especially foreigners but not only, periodically check that they maintain their residence because it is important in order to benefit from social benefits (Rdc and Invalidity).

Declaration of Immediate Availability (DID) AND LABOR AGREEMENT

The benefit is conditional on the declaration of immediate availability for work (DID) by the members of the household who are over 18 years old, as well as on their adherence to a personalised pathway to work integration and social inclusion that includes activities at the service of the community, professional retraining, completion of studies, as well as other commitments identified by the competent services aimed at labour market integration and social inclusion.

These obligations (DID and work pact) apply to all family members of age who are not already in employment and not attending regular education and training.

Excluded are: holders of Citizenship Pension or direct pension or over 65; members with disabilities as defined for compulsory employment (1.68/99).

Disabled people can still ask to voluntarily join the personalised employment pathway.

The following may also be excluded: family members with care responsibilities (for children under 3 years of age or people with serious disabilities or non-self-sufficiency); workers who carry out low-intensity activities (income less than 8,000 for employees or 4,800 for the self-employed). Any other cases identified by the Unified State-Region Conference.

The DID must be made within 30 days from the recognition of the benefit through the information system of ANPAL.

CIVIL INVALIDITY

Civil invalidity does not require contributions. It is granted to all persons who have health problems and have an income below the defined limits.

These are all benefits that fall under the umbrella of civil invalidity, divided into:

- Economic performance
- Non-economic benefits

Economic performance

All you need is a residence permit to receive this benefit:

- monthly allowance;
- retirement;
- monthly attendance allowance;



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- accompaniment allowance.

Non-economic performance:

- job placement (e.g. recruitment as a protected category);
- health care (exemptions, aids, prostheses, etc.);
- handicap.

Monthly allowance:

- age between 18 and 67 for the year 2021 (the age increases as for the Social Allowance);
- glued to work;
- disability exceeding 74%;
- economic need: personal income 2021 (the income of other family members is not taken into account): €4931.29.

Pension:

- age between 18 and 67;
- 100% disability;
- economic need (lower income 2021: 16,982.49).

Monthly attendance allowance:

- under 18 years of age;
- no disability report is issued but only recognition of persistent difficulty in performing the tasks and functions of one's age;
- attendance at institutions, rehabilitation centres...;
- economic need (limit equal to the monthly allowance).

Accompaniment allowance:

- Totally incapacitated persons who find themselves:
 - o unable to walk without the permanent help of an accompanying person
 - o or who require continuous assistance because they are unable to perform the daily acts of life.
- They are not admitted free of charge.

For civil invalidity, the only document needed is the medical certificate, which must be electronic and requested from the attending physician. It is valid for 90 days. Within 90 days the application can be submitted through a patronage, the person will be called to make the medical examination at the Asl (which makes the examinations on behalf of the Inps). At the time of the examination, the Asl (local health authority) checks the medical situation (including the administrative requirements), draws up the report and sends it to Inps for approval. The Inps has 60 days to reply. Once the report is validated, it is sent to the person concerned and if he/she is entitled to the economic benefit it is paid by Inps.

Blindness



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Absolute civil blindness is considered to be the person who is completely sightless, or with mere perception of light or hand movement (motu manu).

The following are considered to be partially blind: persons with a visual residue not exceeding a total of one twentieth in both eyes or with a binocular perimetric residue of less than 10%.

On the other hand, minor visual impairments may fall under civil invalidity and therefore be percentageised.

Related benefits:

- allowance for blind twenty-somethings (not linked to income);
- partial blind pension (income-related);
- absolute blind pension (income-related);
- Accompaniment allowance for the totally blind (not linked to income).

Deaf-mutism

A deaf-mute is considered to be a person with a sensory disability of hearing affected by congenital or acquired deafness during development (up to 12 years of age) which has prevented him from learning to speak normally, provided that the deafness is not exclusively of a mental nature or dependent on war, work or service causes.

Related benefits are:

- the communication allowance is granted for life, it is not linked to income;
- The pension is linked to income, usually if a deaf-mute is employed by a company the pension is suspended. But in the periods when he/she is not working and has an income below the limit he/she can be entitled to a pension.

Non-economic welfare benefits

- reimbursement of prostheses and aids if you are recognised as at least 34% disabled;
- compulsory placement if you have a recognised disability of 46% or more
- exemption from co-payment if you are recognised as 67% disabled;
- Handicap and related benefits.