**Entitlement to family benefits in Slovakia for EU citizens employed in Slovakia**

Citizens of other EU states who **are employed in Slovakia are also entitled to family benefits in Slovakia.** They are subject to both Slovak and EU legislation. Slovakia can pay **full** family benefits to such employees or only a **compensatory benefit** if they have benefits paid in the child’s country of residence. Under the implementation rules, it is also not possible to pay full benefits in two or more EU countries.

 Migrant workers from other EU states employed in Slovakia can apply for child benefits, parental benefits and foster care allowances. Benefits are paid by the relevant Office of Labour, Social Affairs and the Family according to the employee’s place of work or residence.

Basic family benefits under Slovak legislation are:

* Child benefits
* application in English here
* application in German here
* Parental benefits
* application in English here
* application in German here

**The applications include** a list of documents to be submitted for the assessment of entitlement to benefits.

**When does entitlement to family benefits arise?**

Entitlement arises for a biological child even if the child’s parents:

* are divorced
* do not live with the child’s other parent
* the child is placed in the custody of one parent by a court
* they receive maternity benefits from Slovakia
* they receive sickness benefits from Slovakia

The Slovak Republic will pay full family benefits to migrant employees or only a compensatory benefit in addition to benefits paid in the country of residence of the child and the other parent.

**Which State pays family benefits to migrant workers, and to what extent?**

Family benefits cannot be paid for the same period **in two States simultaneously**. When assessing entitlement to family benefits, the social status of both biological parents and the place of residence of the child/children are considered.

The **full amount** of family benefits will be paid by Slovakia if it is competent to pay as the first state on the grounds that the child’s second parent is unemployed in the other EU state.

In a situation where a parent in another EU country is employed or receives maternity, sickness, or unemployment benefits, **the Slovak Republic will pay only a compensatory benefit up to the amount of benefits under Slovak legislation,** since the relevant State for the payment of family benefits is the State of employment of the other parent, provided that the child lives with that parent.

Example 1:

One of the child’s parents is employed in Slovakia, the other parent lives with the child in Austria and is unemployed. In this case, Slovakia will pay the full amount of family benefits and Austria will pay the compensatory benefit due to residence.

Example 2:

One of the child’s parents is employed in Hungary, where the parent lives with the child. The other parent is employed in Slovakia. In this case, Hungary will pay the full amount of family benefits and Slovakia pays the compensatory benefit due to residence.

**When will benefits be paid to migrant workers?**

Upon submission of the application, the competent authority will contact the State of the other parent in writing to determine entitlement to family benefits. For this purpose, e-forms are used to exchange information between the States. Once the information has been received, the authority can decide on the entitlement to benefits and will determine, on the basis of the documents submitted, whether the employee of the other EU country is entitled to the full amount of benefits or only to a compensatory benefit in Slovakia.