

DID YOU KNOW...

- Info correct as of Mar '24.
- Document updated and available through: <https://theparentnest.com/resources/>
- Always check companies policies for any additional top ups/increased time on state entitlements.
- Always check health insurance policies for what your policy includes.

Information on welfare payments can be found on:

https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/social_welfare_payments/social_welfare_payments_to_families_and_children/

https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/irish_social_welfare_system/claiming_a_social_welfare_payment/taxation_of_social_welfare_payments.html

Name	What is is	How to apply
<p>Maternity Benefit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mums can take up to 26wks paid maternity benefit and 16 wks unpaid leave from work. • Current rate €274 a week • If you already on social welfare payments, this amount may be less. • PLEASE NOTE: Maternity Benefit is taxable, so if not taxed at source, it will be reclaimed in other ways depending on circumstances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply online for Maternity Benefit at MyWelfare.ie if you have a verified MyGovID account. See about MyGovID below • Postal Application - Maternity Benefit application form sent to the Maternity Benefit Section of the Department of Social Protection. • Apply at least 6 weeks before you intend to go on maternity leave. • If you are self-employed, you should apply at least 12 weeks before you intend to go on maternity leave. • Contact - maternityben@welfare.ie
<p>Paternity Benefit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment for employed and self-employed people who are on paternity leave from work and covered by social insurance (PRSI). • It is paid for 2 weeks. • Current rate €274 a week. • If you are already on certain social welfare payments, then you may get half-rate Paternity Benefit. • PLEASE NOTE: Paternity Benefit is taxable, so if not taxed at source, it will be reclaimed in other ways depending on circumstances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Info: https://www.gov.ie/en/service/apply-for-paternity-benefit/ • Apply online for Paternity Benefit at MyWelfare.ie. • If you are unable to apply online, you can contact the Paternity Benefit Section by emailing paternityben@welfare.ie or by calling 0818 690 690. • You should apply for the payment 4 weeks before you intend to go on paternity leave (12 weeks if you are self-employed). • You can start paternity leave at any time within the first 6 months following the birth or adoption placement.

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<p>Parents Benefit (Parents Leave)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent's Benefit and Parent's Leave are for parents in the first 2 years after their child's birth or adoption. • You can take 7 consecutive weeks or 7 separate weeks of leave. • Always check own company policy • Current rate €274 a week • If you already on social welfare payments, this amount may be less. • PLEASE NOTE: Parents Benefit is taxable, so if not taxed at source, it will be reclaimed in other ways depending on circumstances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply online for Parents Benefit at MyWelfare.ie. • If you are unable to apply online, you can contact the Paternity Benefit Section by emailing parentsben@welfare.ie • You must notify your employer that you intend to take parent's leave and of your intended dates no later than 6 weeks before your leave. • Apply for Parent's Benefit at least 4 weeks before the date you start your parent's leave. • If you are self-employed you should apply for Parent's Benefit 6 weeks before you intend to take parent's leave. • You need your child's PPS number to apply for Parent's Benefit.
<p>Child Benefit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Benefit is a monthly payment to the parents or guardians of children under 16 years of age • You should apply within 12mths of baby being born, baby became a member of your family. • Child Benefit is €140 a month for each child. It is paid on the first Tuesday of every month. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your baby is born in Ireland, you will need to register the birth of your baby within 3 months of the birth. After you do this, the Department of Social Protection (DSP) will begin a Child Benefit claim for your child. • Your new baby will also be given a Personal Public Service (PPS) number. • If 1st child, once registered you will be sent form to complete and info on how to claim.
<p>Working Family Payment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Family Payment (WFP) is a weekly tax-free payment for employees with children. It supports people who are on low pay (income limits outlined on citizens information) • The WFP payment you get is 60% of the difference between your average weekly family income and the WFP income limit for your family size. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Info: https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/social_welfare_payments/social_welfare_payments_to_families_and_children/family_income_supplement.html#I6835b • To apply fill in an application form for Working Family Payment (pdf). You can get a copy of this form in your Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office. They can support completing it.

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<p>Parental Leave</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For parents and guardians of children under 12. • Entitled to 26wks - unpaid (each parent entitled to 26wks) • Give at least 6 weeks' notice to your employer • Take the leave in either one continuous period, or in blocks of at least 6 weeks (unless your employer agrees to let you take the leave differently) • If you have more than one child, parental leave is limited to 26 weeks in a 12-month period. This can be longer if your employer agrees. • If you work part-time, your entitlement to parental leave is reduced on a 'pro-rata basis'. You can break your parental leave into working days or hours (or a combination of both) if your employer agrees to this. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you plan to take parental leave, you must give written notice to your employer at least 6 weeks before the leave is due to start. • Your written notice should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The date you plan to start parental leave ◦ The way in which the leave will be taken (for example, in one continuous block of 26 weeks or 1 day off a week) ◦ The duration of the leave • You must sign a confirmation document with your employer, confirming the details of your parental leave, at least 4 weeks before the leave is due to start. • Employers should write to the Client Eligibility Services section of Department of Social Protection (DSP), confirming the duration, number of weeks and exact dates of parental leave.
<p>Under 8's free GP visit Card</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children under 8 years of age living in Ireland can get a GP visit card (previously 6yrs old) • Medication & hospital costs not covered 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply online at https://www.sspcrs.ie/portal/free-gp-care-web/pub • Email or postal forms available on HSE website, email to pcrs.applications@hse.ie • Will need your PPS, Childs PPS and GPs name (Can check if your GP registered) • https://www2.hse.ie/services/schemes-allowances/gp-visit-cards/under-6s/
<p>European Health Insurance Card (EHIC - was E1-11)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free or reduced cost healthcare when travelling in Europe • Each family member needs their own EHIC. The card is free and there's no charge to apply. 	<p>You can apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In person - visit your local health office • By post - post a completed application form to your local EHIC office • Online - if you have a medical card or drugs payment scheme card • https://www2.hse.ie/services/schemes-allowances/ehic/apply/

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A Public Service Card	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authenticates your identity to help you access a range of public services in an easy and safe manner such as getting social welfare payments. • Once you have this you can get a verified MyGovId account 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.gov.ie/en/service/make-a-public-service-card-psc-personal-public-service-number-ppsn-application-appointment/
MyGovId Account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A single account that lets you access government services • Great to access MyWelfare, Passport services, National Childcare Scheme to name a few. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign up for a basic MyGovID account online, all you need is your name and an email address https://www.mygovid.ie/ • To access all services available through your MyGovID, need to verify your basic MyGovID account. • You need your PPS number, your Public Services Card and a phone number that has been verified by the department. • Info: https://www.gov.ie/en/service/b6ecfd-sign-up-for-mygovid/
Drug Payment Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you don't have a medical card, you can apply for Drugs Payment Scheme (DPS) card for you or your family and you will not pay more than €80 each calendar month for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ approved prescribed drugs and medicines ◦ rental costs for a continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machine ◦ rental costs for oxygen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply online: https://www.mydps.ie/ • To apply will need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ PPS number ◦ email address ◦ DOB ◦ Copy of utility bill/bank statement...
National Childcare scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A subsidy for a child in childcare • For aged 6mths up to 15 yrs. • Universal Subsidy - Not means tested - Will receive €1.40 an hour up to max 45hrs per week • Income Assessed Subsidy - Means Tested. Based on annual reckonable income of up to €60k. Rules and deductibles outlined on Citizens information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The childcare needs to be registered with Tulsa who have a NCS contract with Govt • Can apply online through MyGovID or paper application by contacting Parent Support Centre • You apply, but its paid directly to childcare provider who takes it off your bill

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Force Majeure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have a family crisis, you have a right to limited time off work. By law, you are entitled to take up to 3 days force majeure leave in any 12-month period, or 5 days in a 36-month period. • Force majeure leave can be taken for an urgent family reason, such as the unexpected injury or illness of a 'close family member'. For definition of 'close family member' see https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/employment/employment-rights-and-conditions/leave-and-holidays/types-of-leave-from-work/#48e41d • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You must tell your employer as soon as possible that you need to take force majeure leave. Then, immediately on your return to work, you must make your application in writing to your employer. • Your written application should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Your name ◦ PPS number ◦ Employer's name and address ◦ Date(s) you took force majeure leave and the reasons why ◦ Your relationship to the person who was injured or ill • You may need to complete an employer form or provide medical cert
Carer's Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carer's leave allows employees to leave work temporarily to provide full-time care and attention for someone who needs it. A deciding officer of the DSP will decide whether they need this care after checking with their GP. • You can take carer's leave for a minimum of 13 weeks and up to a maximum of 104 weeks. • Carer's leave from employment is unpaid but your job will be kept open for when you return. • Your employer does not pay you while you are on carer's leave. However, if you have enough PRSI contributions, you can apply for <u>Carer's Benefit</u>. If you do not have enough PRSI contributions, you can apply for a means-tested <u>Carer's Allowance</u>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first step to getting carer's leave is to complete the <u>application form for Carer's Benefit (pdf)</u>. • The GP of the person you will be caring for must complete part of the form. • Your employer must also fill in part of this form to confirm that you are an employee • Send the completed application form to the Carer's Benefit Section at the DSP • You must apply formally in writing to your employer 6 weeks before you want to take this leave. • In your letter you must state: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ You want to take carer's leave under the Carer's Leave Act 2001 ◦ The date you want to start the carer's leave ◦ The way in which you intend to take this leave (that is, in one block, or in a series of shorter blocks) • You have asked the DSP to confirm that the person you will be caring for needs this care