

Information for academic fellows (stipend/ scholarship/ grant holders)

If you are holding a stipend/ scholarship/ grant and have family duties, there are special legal conditions, independent of your academic status (student, PhD student or postdoc).

1. Financial support by providers of stipends/ scholarships/ grants

The regulations can be very different depending on the provider. Please ask for regulations as:

1. Additional financial support for family or child/ren
2. Prolongation of sponsorship period because of child care
3. Early demand of financial resources instead of prolongation of sponsorship period
4. Other options

2. Maternity allowance

Maternity allowance is usually paid by your health insurance during the time of maternity leave (6 weeks before and 8 weeks [multiples 12 weeks] after birth). Please ask your health insurance if you are eligible for maternity allowance (often you won't be). The right to maternity allowance and the amount of it can differ from insurance to insurance. It depends on your insurance status (legal [gesetzlich versichert]; private [privat versichert]; dependent [familienversichert]).

3. Employer's contribution to maternity allowance

Due to the fact that academic fellows do not have an employer, there's no right for employer's contribution.

4. Parental leave

Academic fellows can not apply for parental leave, because they are not in a dependent employment relationship.

5. Parental allowance (from the state)

Academic fellows can only receive the basic allowance of 300€ per month, because scholarships are not seen as taxable income. If the scholarship provider pays an additional (tax-free) financial support for your child/ren or family, the academic fellow has nevertheless the right to receive 300€ basic parental allowance per month. The payment of parental allowance begins with the date of birth, if the health insurance doesn't pay any maternity allowance. In all other cases maternity allowance would be credited against parental allowance. For **non-EU citizens** the eligibility to parental allowance depends on their residence permit.

6. Child allowance

Academic fellows have the right to get 184€ child allowance per month (first and second child, higher amount after the third child). For **non-EU citizens** the eligibility to child allowance depends on their residence permit.

7. Adjourment of scholarship – yes or no?

Generally the scholarship can be interrupted in mutual agreement because of family issues. Practically you will still hold your stipend/ scholarship/ grant, but you won't receive any funding.

For **non-EU citizens** this probably means that they will have to leave the country, if there is no other funding available (depending on their residence status!).

EU and citizens, that are eligible for parental and child allowance, might still have troubles in financially supporting themselves and their family. They usually can't apply for "unemployment benefit I" (Arbeitslosengeld I). It might be possible to get "unemployment benefit II" (Arbeitslosengeld 2/Hartz IV) and accommodation allowance.

Further information is provided by:

Family Service Office CAU

Christian-Albrechts-Platz 4, "Verwaltungshochhaus", 8th floor, room 817

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E-Mail: familienservice@uv.uni-kiel.de

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Social counseling service (student union)

Mensa II, Leibnizstr.12

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Family Commissioner at graduate center

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