

# Apply for subsidy for infertility treatment

Do you have an unfulfilled desire to have children? Couples can get financial support for infertility treatment.

# **Competent Department**

• <u>Die Senatorin für Gesundheit, Frauen und Verbraucherschutz | Referat 22 - Ärztliche</u> <u>Fragen im Gesundheitswesen, Infektionsschutz, öffentlicher Gesundheitsdienst</u>

# **Basic information**

If you as a couple have an unfulfilled desire to have a child, you can apply for a state subsidy for the costs of fertility treatment. You must apply together as a couple and before the start of treatment. You will need to submit various supporting documents with the application.

The subsidy is available up to a maximum of the fourth treatment attempt. Exactly which treatment cycles are subsidized may vary from state to state. You must apply for the subsidy for each treatment attempt individually.

Only certain types of treatment are supported:

- In vitro fertilization (IVF).
- Intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI).

The necessity of the treatment must be certified by a medical doctor.

You can apply for the fertility treatment grant through the online service or in paper form. If you meet all the requirements, you will receive a preliminary grant decision. The reproduction facility will receive a copy of the notice.

After you receive the preliminary grant decision, have the fertility treatment performed within half a year. After the treatment, you will have to apply for the final approval and payment of the grant.

# Requirements

Only couples are eligible. One of them must be a woman or a person who has female reproductive organs and is to carry the child to be conceived.

The following couples are eligible:

- Different-sex, same-sex or diverse married couples.
- Same-sex domestic partner:s living together under the Domestic Partnership Act.
- Different-sex, same-sex or diverse couples living in a non-marital partnership.

You must also meet the following requirements:

- You live in Bremen (main residence) at the time of application and treatment.
- The age of the person who is to become pregnant is between 25 and 40.
- The age of the other person is between 25 and 50 years.
- The treatment takes place in a reproduction facility in Bremen or Lower Saxony.
- You have a medical determination of infertility.
- You meet the requirements for artificial insemination according to § 27a of the Fifth Social Code (SGB V) if applicable.

# What documents do I need?

- Joint written statement
  - The declaration is part of the application form.
  - They declare that they are involuntarily childless.
  - You declare that you are not permanently separated.
  - You declare that the treatment has not yet been started.
- · Identity cards and, if applicable, current registration certificates or residence titles
- Treatment plan
  - In the case of statutory health insurance: approved treatment plan for assisted reproduction measures in accordance with § 27a SGB V. This also includes a medical statement on the necessity of the measure.
  - In the case of private health insurance or a subsidy agency: treatment plan from the physician. In addition, the cost assumption declaration and a medical declaration on the necessity of the measure.
- Cost estimate
  - In case of non-support by the statutory health insurance or medical care
- Cost absorption declaration
  - If subsidized by statutory or private health insurance or by allowance or medical assistance
- Medical statement on the necessity of the measure
  - At the 4th treatment cycle.
  - If subsidized by private health insurance, allowance or medical care.
  - For same-sex couples.
  - For unmarried couples.
- Negative certificate of the health insurance company
  - In case of non-subsidization by the health insurance
- · Proof of a permanent civil partnership
  - For unmarried couples.
- Evidence of counseling on the medical, psychological and social aspects of infertility treatment.

# Procedure

You can apply for the fertility treatment subsidy through the online service or in paper form:

#### Online service

- The online service guides you through the application step by step.
- You can submit the required documents digitally.
- The application is automatically cached for 4 days if you use the service account. Otherwise, no caching is currently available.
- To fill out and submit the online application, you either need a service account or you can authenticate with the new ID card and the AusweisApp2. If you do not yet have a service account, you can register for one. You can do this during the online application process.
- The application must be signed either digitally via AusweisApp2 with the new ID card or on paper via the mantel sheet.
- If you meet all the requirements, you will receive a provisional notification of funding.

#### Paper form

- You can find the application for printing here in the service portal under "Forms" or on site at the responsible office in paper form.
- Complete the application.
- Attach a copy of the required documents to the application.
- Send everything by mail to the competent office or hand in the documents on site.
- If you meet all the requirements, you will receive a provisional grant decision.

After you receive the preliminary grant decision, have the fertility treatment within half a year. After the treatment, you will have to apply for the final approval and payment of the grant. You can find more information about the application for final approval and payment in the service "Application for payment of the grant for fertility treatment".

# Legal bases

- <u>Richtlinie zur Förderung assistierter Reproduktion</u>
- <u>§ 27a Fünftes Sozialgesetzbuch (SGB V)</u>
- <u>Richtlinie des Bundesministeriums für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend über die Gewährung von Zuwendungen zur Förderung von Maßnahmen der assistierten Reproduktion</u>

# More information

The measure is borne proportionally by the federal government and the respective state.

The federal government only supports heterosexual married and unmarried couples.

The regulations of the individual states may differ from this.

If there are not enough federal funds available, you will only receive the share of the state to which you apply for the subsidy.

# What deadlines must be paid attention to?

The grant must be applied for prior to the start of treatment. The treatment may only be carried out after receipt of the provisional grant decision.

# How long does it take to process

Processing usually takes two to three weeks.