

Care and provision for a child in an emergency situation

If you find yourself in a situation where both you and the other parent are unavailable to care for your child who is not yet 14 years old, the Office of Social Services will assist you.

Competent Department

- [Amt für Soziale Dienste](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 1 - Nord](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 2 - Gröpelingen / Walle](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 3 - Mitte/östliche Vorstadt/Findorff](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 4 - Süd](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 5 - Vahr/ Schwachhausen/ Horn-Lehe](#)
- [Amt für Soziale Dienste Sozialzentrum 6 - Hemelingen/ Osterholz](#)

Basic information

- The care and provision of the child in emergency situations takes place in the form of short-term care in accordance with § 20 SGB VIII. Short-term care within the framework of § 20 Para. 2 SGB VIII is only to be used if the care of the child in the parental home, which is the primary objective, is not possible because a suitable caregiver is not available to care for the child during the day and night.
- It is intended to ensure that a child can remain in his or her original living environment and be cared for and provided for there, even in an acute family emergency situation. In this way, the spatial and social environment is maintained.
- Assistance is to be provided as long as there is a possibility that family circumstances will stabilize again. In this way, the parents can resume family life after the emergency situation has been overcome.
- The support is coordinated and planned together with the family according to the respective emergency situation. It is intended to compensate for the absence of the parent as far as possible.

Requirements

Under the following conditions, care and provision for a child in an emergency situation may be resorted to:

- The parent who primarily cares for a child is absent for health or other compelling reasons (for example, childbirth, spa treatment, or criminal detention).
- The other parent is unable to take care of the child.
- Other forms of care, such as day care or day nurseries, cannot adequately meet the child's care needs during the absence of the parent who primarily cares for the child.
- The assistance is necessary to ensure the child's well-being.

- At least one child under the age of 14 lives in the household affected by an emergency situation.

Procedure

Support for the care and provision of a child in emergency situations is subject to application. The Office of Social Services will promptly determine whether and what assistance is needed and whether the legal requirements are met. The applicant will be notified in writing of the granting or denial of assistance. In urgent cases, a decision shall be made orally and the decision confirmed in writing.

Priority claims for household assistance against health insurance funds and pension insurance institutions

In the case of children under 12 years of age and disabled children, it must be examined on a case-by-case basis whether there are priority claims for household assistance pursuant to § 38 SGB V against a health insurance fund or a pension insurance institution. In these cases, the decision on the form of service provision lies with the respective health insurance fund or the respective pension insurance institution. The examination in the individual case takes place by the carrier PiB-Pflegekinder in Bremen gGmbH, if the beneficiaries can no longer bring about a decision of the health insurance or the pension insurance carrier.

Legal bases

- [§ 20 Sozialgesetzbuch VIII \(Achstes Buch\)](#)

More information

Options for kinship assistance should also be considered when caring for and providing for children in emergency situations. If relatives living in the same household as the child help out with care, they do not receive any remuneration or reimbursement of costs. Relatives who do not live in the same household with the child may be reimbursed for documented travel expenses and documented loss of earnings for the time spent caring for and caring for the child.

If help from relatives is not possible or not sufficient, existing possibilities of neighborhood help should be encouraged, used and - if necessary - promoted. If the child is looked after and cared for on a voluntary basis, a so-called expense allowance is paid.

What are the costs?

Processing fees are not charged. Depending on their financial circumstances, the child and its parents will be charged for the costs of the measure.