

Changes in regulations concerning attendance benefits

From July 1, 2013 the carer's allowances are now awarded on new terms. The amendment of the law on family benefits in effect since January 1, 2013, results in changes in determining the right to receiving attendance benefits and introduces a new benefit – the so called carer's special allowance.

At the end of June 30, 2013 by virtue of law all the decisions awarding attendance benefits issued based on laws in effect until December 31, 2013 concerning family benefits have expired. Individuals who want to acquire the right to an attendance benefit must hand in a new motion to local authorities.

Changes from July 1, 2013

The amount of the attendance benefit has increased from PLN 520 to PLN 620 . It is due regardless of the income of the family by way of care for a disabled child. There are bonuses applied to the attendance benefit: PLN 100 for each month from January until June, 2013 and PLN 200 for each month from April until December, 2013.

The attendance benefit is awarded first to a mother and father, to the child's actual guardians and to a related foster family. The benefit may be awarded to individuals not related in the first degree to the person requiring care only after meeting additional requirements.

The carer's special allowance

The carer's special allowance is awarded to individuals which are charged with a maintenance obligation if they renounce their employment in order to permanently care for a person with a certified disability.

The carer's special allowance amounts to PLN 520, although it is awarded when the combined income of the family of the person performing the care and the family of the person requiring care (calculated per person) does not exceed the income criteria of PLN 623 net value.

The person seeking an allowance has to additionally issue a document proving the resignation from an employment e.g. an employment certificate.

It is important to note that the authority awarding the right to this allowance conducts family interviews in order to verify if the person qualifies for the allowance. Furthermore, the authority also rates if the person seeking an allowance has indeed resigned from employment to care for a disabled child or was it due to other circumstances.

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Justyna Sędek
HR and Payroll Specialist, **HR and Payroll Department ACC Advanced Solutions**