



Childcare allowance is paid to one of the parents (adoptive parent) or guardian or one of the grandparents (grandparents have the right to receive the childcare benefit only if one of parents (adoptive parents) of the child has the right caring for the child). The benefit is paid if you have a record of social security payments for at least **12 of the previous 24 months, until the first day of the child care leave. Your last job and insurance coverage must be established in Lithuania.**

Childcare allowance is calculated in relation to earnings (see below) and depends on the time scale chosen:

- if you chose to receive an allowance up until the child is one year old, it amounts to **77,58%** of your earnings. If you receive income or benefits from work in the first year of child-raising, he or she will be paid a difference between the amount of the childcare allowance and the income received.
- if you chose to receive an allowance up until your child is 2 years old, it amounts to **54,31%** of earnings for the first year, and **31,03%** for the second year. It is possible during the second year to work without any reduction in the allowance.

**The maximum duration of maternity leave is three years.** However, in the third year, child care benefit is no longer payable. Nevertheless, the employer is required to maintain the workplace for the person who is on parental leave. An employer must be notified of the planned child care leave at least 14 days until the end of maternity leave. Also, the months during which the person is on the child care leave, are continued to be taken into account as the periods of social insurance. In the event of a multiple birth, both parents are entitled to a child care leave.

- Childcare allowance per month **cannot be smaller** than 6 basic social insurance benefits valid in the last quarter before the date of entitlement to receive this allowance, i.e. **234 Eur** (6 x 39 Eur).
- **The maximum replacement wage** used for the calculation of childcare allowances **cannot exceed** the amount of the two average monthly salaries in force during the quarter preceding the date on which entitlement to the childcare allowance was received.

[Read more about the child care benefit](#)

Source: "Sodra"

