

Exemption from travel costs to and from school for pupils attending vocational schools

Qualified for exemption from costs are:

1. Pupils up to and including year 10 at a state or state-approved commercial school.
2. Pupils in year 10 at a state or state-approved vocational school at upper secondary level and full-time pupils at vocational schools.

In order to qualify, the way (= walking distance) to the **nearest** school of the selected vocational field and type of school has to be **longer than 3 km** one way.

Qualified for reimbursement of travel costs are:

1. Pupils taking part-time courses at a vocational school
2. Pupils from year 11 onwards at state or state-approved vocational schools at upper secondary level, commercial schools, specialised upper secondary schools and two-year full-time vocational schools

Requirements:

- attendance of the **nearest or compulsory school** for compulsory or compulsory optional lessons,
- the way to school (= walking distance) is **longer than 3 km** one way and
- the travel costs per family and year **exceed € 440** (financial limit for families).

Important: The application for reimbursement of the travel costs can only be filed until **31 October for the previous school year** (preclusive deadline).
Only verified costs exceeding the financial limit for families will be reimbursed.

The financial limit for families is excluded if

- the party financially supporting the pupil receives **child benefits for three or more children** or
- the party financially supporting the pupil or the pupil receives **subsistence grants** or **minimum level of income** according to the **Twelfth Book of the German Social Code (SGB XII)**, **unemployment benefits II** (*Arbeitslosengeld II*) or **social benefits** according to the **Second Book of the German Social Code (SGB II)** or **benefits according to the Asylum Seekers' Benefits Act** (*Asylbewerberleistungsgesetz*).

In these cases, the travel costs will be **reimbursed** to the full amount or **free tokens** will be issued upon proof of these benefits.

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