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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