

# Checklist: Just arrived in Belgium! What now?

Did you just arrive in Belgium with your children?  
What do you need to arrange in Brussels?



## Administration

### Register with the municipality

Register your family with the municipality where you live and inform yourself about the conditions and steps to obtain a residency permit for more than three months. This is the first thing you need to do.

### Integration process

Contact BAPA, VIA, Convivial or BON for an integration process (living and working in Brussels, language courses, etc.) in your own language or a language you understand.

Visit: [bewelcome.brussels/en](http://bewelcome.brussels/en)

## Social assistance

### CPAS/OCMW

For social assistance, such as support with housing, psychosocial guidance, emergency medical aid or financial support: contact the CPAS/OCMW in your municipality.



## Finance

### Child benefits

**Do you have any children?** Then you may be entitled to child benefits starting the month after your registration with the municipality.

**Child benefits** support you in raising and caring for your children.

In Brussels it includes:

- a monthly basic amount of approximately €170 per child;
- possible supplements depending on your family situation and income;
- an annual school bonus based on your child's age;
- if your child attends a Dutch-speaking school or Dutch-speaking daycare, you may be eligible for additional supplements.

Make sure your child(ren) have a valid residence permit, register with a child benefits fund, and provide them with your bank account details.

**Expecting a baby?** Apply for your maternity allowance. This is a one-time birth allowance of more than €1,300 for your first child and over €600 as of your second child in Brussels. If you apply during pregnancy, you can receive it as early as two months before the expected date of birth, provided the mother is residing in the Brussels Capital region.



## Health

### Health insurance fund

Join a health insurance fund to get a refund of your medical expenses. You can choose which health insurance fund you want to register with.

For an overview of **health insurance funds**: [www.parentia.be/welcomebxl](http://www.parentia.be/welcomebxl)

### Medical care

Make sure you have the necessary contacts for medical assistance:

- **Visit a medical centre** (a list is available at [www.parentia.be/welcomebxl](http://www.parentia.be/welcomebxl))
- **Looking for a general practitioner in your area?**  
Go to [www.famgb.be/en](http://www.famgb.be/en)



#### Emergency numbers:

- Night and weekend calls: call 1733 or visit [www.gbbw.be](http://www.gbbw.be)
- Urgent assistance: 112 (or the 112 app)
- Poison Control Centre: 070/245.245
- Tele-Onthaal or Télé-Accueil (emotional support): 106/107

## Work

### Find a job that suits you

Actiris helps you with your job search and suitable training programs.

**Visit:** [www.actiris.brussels](http://www.actiris.brussels)

## Child care and school

### Child care (children aged 0-3)

Looking for child care for your children aged 0 to 3?

ONE or Kind & Gezin will guide you. — [my.one.be](http://my.one.be) or [www.kindengezin.be/en/child-and-family](http://www.kindengezin.be/en/child-and-family)

### Preschool, primary and secondary education (children aged 3-18)

In Belgium, children between the ages of 5 and 18 are required to attend school.

Start looking for a school in time via [www.inschrijveninbrussel.be](http://www.inschrijveninbrussel.be) or [www.enseignement.be](http://www.enseignement.be). **More info and brochures in several languages at [www.parentia.be/welcomebxl](http://www.parentia.be/welcomebxl).**

Are your children in secondary school? Check if you are eligible for a scholarship.

Want to learn Dutch quickly? Non-Dutch-speaking newcomers can learn Dutch fast through **OKAN** reception classes.

### Higher education (children aged 18-25)

Are your children continuing their studies after secondary school?

Check if you are eligible for a scholarship.



OKAN



Scholarship

