

The Clearinghouse on International Developments in Child, Youth and Family Policies
at Columbia University

Table 2: Child/Family allowance requirements and variations

	Maximum age covered	Available to Residents Only	Benefit varies by:					region
			employment status of parent	income	Ordinal position of children	age of child(ren)	family composition	
Australia	20-24*	✓		✓		✓	✓	
Austria	19-26*	✓			✓	✓		✓
Belgium	18-25*	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Canada	18	✓						
Denmark	18	✓		✓		✓	✓ ¹	
Finland	17	✓			✓		✓	
France	20	✓			✓	✓		
Germany	18-26*				✓			✓
Greece	18-22*		✓		✓			
Iceland	16	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Ireland	16-19*				✓			
Italy	18-26*		✓	✓				
Luxembourg	18-26*				✓	✓		
Netherlands	16-24*				✓	✓		
New Zealand	18			✓	✓	✓		
Norway	18	✓				✓		✓
Portugal	16-24*		✓	✓		✓		
Spain	18		✓	✓	✓			✓
Sweden	16-20*	✓			✓			
United Kingdom	16-19*	✓			✓		✓	
United States								

Sources: International Social Security Association (1999). *Social Security Programs Throughout the World*. Washington, D.C.: Social Security Administration and updates available online at <http://www.issa.int/engl/ssw.htm>; European Commission (1998). *MISSOC: Social protection in the Member States of the European Union*. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, and updates available online at http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/soc-prot/missoc99/english; International Reform Monitor (2002). *Social Policy, Labour Market Policy, Industrial Relations: Country Summary*, Bertelsmann Foundation Retrieved March 2002 from <http://www.reformmonitor.org/>; Bradshaw, J & Finch, N. (2002). *A comparison of child benefit packages in 22 countries*. York University, England: Social Policy Research Unit; and INPS (1997). *Your social security rights when moving within the European Union A practical guide*. Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities. Retrieved from <http://www.inps.it/doc/webci/pubblica/guida/inglese/gping.htm>.

¹ In Denmark, special family allowances are granted if a child's parent is a pensioner, is deceased, or if paternity has not been established.

* If child is enrolled in training or education program, upper age limit applies.