The information in this booklet is general in nature and subject to change. It is designed to provide an overview of the entitlements available.

Some special circumstances may affect your entitlements. This will require you to contact your Caf office. Once you have submitted your information, only the Caf can determine your entitlements based on your individual circumstances. Benefit rates, stated in euros, are applicable as of April 1, 2013 (rates valid until March 31, 2014, except for certain benefits).

For more information about benefits, or to check rate adjustments for 2013, visit our website on www.caf.fr

Your Family Benefits Fund (Caf) is there to support you throughout the important events in your life. This booklet presents all of the benefits and assistance awarded by the Caf system to eligible applicants.

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05. Dependent children

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Whatever your country of citizenship, you may be eligible for family benefits.

You must be a resident of France.
In addition:
- if you are a citizen of Switzerland or of a European Union or European Economic Area member state, you must meet all legal residency requirements.
- if you are a citizen of a country other than Switzerland or the European Union and European Economic Area member states, you must show your Caf office a valid residency permit ("titre de séjour") that proves that you are residing legally in France. If your children were born in another country, you must prove that they entered France legally.

If you do not have a fixed address, you must register an address at a Ccas (Centre communal d’action sociale) or another approved organization.

If you are receiving family benefits from a foreign institution: you cannot receive French family benefits at the same time as you are receiving family benefits from a foreign institution or international organization. If you are working abroad and residing in France, and neither you nor your spouse is employed in France, only a benefit supplement, housing aid, the Active Solidarity Allowance (RSA) or the Disabled Adult allowance may be granted to you depending on your eligibility circumstances. The amount of the benefit supplement is equal to the difference between the amount of your foreign family benefits and the amount of the French family benefits for which you would be eligible from your Caf. The Caf will calculate your benefit supplement each quarter when it receives a statement from the foreign institution that is paying your family benefits.

Your financial means
- Your Caf will use your 2011 income tax return to determine your entitlements from January 1 to December 31, 2013. Your Caf automatically receives your declared income from the French tax authority each year.
- The Caf takes account of your and your spouse’s or partner’s income generated in France or abroad (salary, unemployment benefits, daily sickness benefits, retirement pensions, etc). The amounts are then compared with the income ceiling for the relevant family benefit.

Practical Information
- Under certain circumstances, the Caf does not take account of earned income for people who: stop working in order to care for a child under age 3 or for several children, are unable to work and are receiving the Allocation Adulte Handicapé (Disabled Adult Allowance – AAH), receive the Revenu de Solidarité Active (Active Solidarity Allowance – RSA), or are unemployed with no unemployment allowance.
- Under certain circumstances, the Caf may perform a “presumptive assessment” of your annual income based on your current monthly salary.
- In the event of separation, divorce or death of a spouse, the Caf will no longer take account of your former spouse’s or partner’s income as from the month following the event.
Dependent children

A child recognized as your “dependent” may entitle you to benefits.

To be eligible, you must be financially responsible for the child’s maintenance (food, housing and clothing) on a “concrete and continuous basis” and be in charge of the child’s emotional and physical upbringing. You are not required to be a blood relative of the child, who may or may not be a recognized, adopted or foster child, or a brother, sister, niece or nephew. The child must be a permanent resident of metropolitan France. There are exceptions for trips to other countries, which must not exceed three months out of the calendar year. Under certain circumstances, longer stays may be permitted to allow the child to attend school or receive medical care.

Your child is considered a dependent:

- Up to age 6: with no other conditions;
- From ages 6 to 16: if s/he meets the school registration requirements;
- From ages 16 to 20: if his/her net monthly earnings do not exceed 61.3% of the French minimum wage (Smic) based on 151.67 hours (876.52 € as of January 1, 2013);
- From ages 20 to 21: if your child meets the previous earnings requirement, the family income supplement (complément familial) and housing assistance benefit entitlements will continue until his/her 21st birthday. See page 16 for family benefits.

If you are raising a child alone

If you are living alone and raising one or more children, your Caf may offer you specific benefits: the Family Support allowance (allocation de soutien familial) (p. 14) and the Active Solidarity allowance (Rsa) (p. 23). Moreover, your Caf will take account of your circumstances when calculating your financial means and your entitlements.

Starting with pregnancy

If you are expecting a child, you may be entitled, under circumstances, to the Birth grant (prime à la naissance) (see page 6) and to the Active Solidarity allowance.

IMPORTANT

Your child will no longer be considered a “dependent” for any benefits if s/he begins receiving benefits in his/her own right or becomes the spouse or partner of a benefits recipient.

This will be the case if s/he receives housing aid: Low-income housing aid (Allocation de Logement Sociale –ALS) or Personalized housing aid (Aide Personnalisée au logement). However, if your child only receives the Youth Active Solidarity allowance (Rsa jeunes, p. 23) s/he will still be considered as your dependent for your family benefits, except for the Active Solidarity Allowance (Rsa) if you are a recipient.

In the event of a separation or divorce, family benefits are paid to the parent with whom the child resides.

Only one person may receive benefits for an individual child. However, family benefits may be shared between both parents if physical custody is shared (see page 16).
The early child benefit program
(Prestation d’accueil du jeune enfant (Paje))

You may be eligible for the early child benefit program (Paje) if you give birth to or adopt a child.

The Paje includes:
- a birth or adoption grant, a basic maintenance benefit, a supplement for free choice of working time and a supplement for free choice of childcare.
- The website www.mon-enfant.fr will help you make arrangements for your child’s arrival: see page 27 for more information.

The birth or adoption grant

This grant helps to cover the initial expenses incurred by your child’s arrival. You will receive one single payment for each birth or adoption.

Eligibility requirements
- You must report your pregnancy to your Caf and to your Cpam (Local sickness benefits fund – Caisse primaire d’assurance maladie) within the first 14 weeks.
- You must have adopted or be fostering with a view to adopting one (or more) children aged under 20.
- Your financial means for 2011 must not exceed the applicable ceiling (see table opposite).

Rate as of April 1, 2013
- During your 7th month of pregnancy, you will receive 923,08 €, multiplied if applicable by the number of children you are expecting (twins, triplets or more).
- For children adopted or fostered with a view to adopt, the grant comes to 1 846,15 €

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011 income ceilings. Effective from January 1 to December 31, 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children at home (born or expected)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per additional child</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Practical Information

Send your adoption bonus application to your Caf by mail. Make sure to include the adoption decree and all other documentation of the adoption.

If you have adopted from another country, the required documentation includes your approval from the French child welfare service and a document with a long stay visa (visa de long séjour) stipulating Mai (Mission de l’adoption internationale) or Sai (Service de l’adoption internationale).

The basic maintenance benefit

The basic maintenance benefit helps to cover the expenses involved in maintaining and bringing up your child.

Eligibility requirements

- Your child must be under 3 years old.
- You must have adopted a child aged under 20.
- Your 2011 income must not exceed the applicable ceiling (see table on page 6).

Length and rate of award from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014

- The basic maintenance benefit is awarded per family. However, in the event of a multiple birth (or adoption) one maintenance benefit is awarded per child born or adopted at the same time.
- The basic maintenance benefit comes to 184,62 € per month.
  -- For children born or adopted or fostered with a view to adoption, the rate of this benefit is calculated on a pro rata basis from the child’s date of birth or from the child’s arrival in the home for those adopted or fostered with a view to adoption.
  -- The basic maintenance benefit is paid until the month before the child’s third birthday, or if adopted, during the 36 consecutive months following the adoption up and until the child’s 20th birthday.
The supplement for free choice of childcare (Complément de libre choix du mode de garde (Cmg))

If your child (or children) under age 6 are cared for by a registered childminder, an in-home child care provider, an organization, a private childcare facility or a “microcrèche” (childcare facility accommodating up to 10 children).

You may be eligible if
- Over the month of your application or over the previous month
  -- You are employed and your net monthly earned income comes to a minimum of 399 € if you are a single parent or to 787 € if you are living as a couple.
  -- Or if certain special circumstances apply (student status, people receiving the Active Solidarity Allowance while entering the workforce, etc.)
- You use one of the following childcare services for one or more children ages 6 and up:
  -- One or more registered childminders providing childcare at his/her home or at a registered childminders’ center (“Maison d’assistant(e) maternel(le)). As of January 1, 2013, his/her gross salary must not exceed 47,15 € per child per day.
  -- An in-home childcare provider (this service may be shared with another family)
  -- A private facility or organization which employs one or more registered childminders and/or in-home childcare providers
   -- A “microcrèche”.

Organizations, private facilities and “microcrèches” must be accredited by the Préfecture and/or by the departmental council (Conseil général) and must not already be receiving a Caf grant. Your child must receive at least 16 hours of services there per month.

What is your CMG entitlement if you employ one or more people?
Your Caf will reimburse you for a portion of your employee’s salary depending on your child’s age and on your income (See page 9).

Your Caf will also pay part of the social security contributions you would normally pay as an employer:

---100% if you employ a registered childminder;
---50% if you employ an in-home childcare provider, up to 434 € per month for children aged under 3 and up to 217 € per month for children ages 3 to 6

Practical Information

If you hire someone directly to provide childcare, you will need to:
- draw up an employment contract or a letter of appointment. A model is available for use on www.pajemploi.urssaf.fr;
- check that your registered childminder holds valid accreditation to ensure your children’s safety.
If it is not or is no longer valid, you will not be eligible for the Cmg.
- Apply to your Caf for the Cmg. Once your application is received, the Caf will declare and register your employee with the “Pajemploi” (Early Childhood Benefit Program Employment) center. If you are already a benefits recipient, you can apply through the “Mon compte” (my account”) section on caf.fr;
- Declare your employee’s salary each month through the website www.pajemploi.urssaf.fr. The Pajemploi center will then calculate the social security contributions which are covered by the Caf and notify you of any contributions payable by you. The Caf will then calculate and pay you your supplement. Your Pajemploi center then sends your employee his/her payslip directly.
What is your Cmg entitlement if you use a private facility, an organization or a “microcrèche”?

-The proportion of your expenses paid directly to the facility will depend on your income and on the number and age of your children (see table opposite).

How is your Cmg entitlement calculated?

CMG is paid:

- per child if you use one or more registered childcare providers or a “microcrèche”,
- per family for the use of one or more in-home childcare providers.

If you use several types of childcare during the same month: your Cmg award will take account of all of your expenses. However, your award will not exceed a given ceiling. Ask your Caf for more information.

Whatever type of childcare you use:

- under certain circumstances, these amounts may be increased by 10% if you use childcare services at night between 10 p.m. and 6 p.m., on Sundays or on bank holidays, or if you and your spouse are working during these hours.
- if you are a single parent and/or a recipient of the Disabled adults’ allowance (allocation aux adultes handicapés), you may be granted an increased income ceiling and/or an increased Cmg award.

Under all circumstances, you will be responsible for at least 15% of your childcare expenses.

Cmg is paid for as long as you have custody of your child, up to and including the month of his/her 6th birthday.

Required actions

You must apply for a Cmg award. If you use a childcare facility, the appropriate form is available for download on caf.fr. If you employ your childcare provider directly, please refer to the information on page 8.

IMPORTANT

Apply to your Caf for the “Free choice of childcare” during the same month you hire your employee, even if there is an initial probationary or training period. Assuming you are eligible, you will only begin receiving your Cmg payments from the month of your application.

Tip

Your remaining childcare expenses after your Cmg payments are deducted may entitle you to a tax reduction or tax credit. Only the parent declaring the children on his/her tax return may be entitled to this. This is something to consider before you draw up your employment contract and submit your application to your Caf.

### Amounts covered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dependent child(ren)</th>
<th>2011 income ceilings and maximum financial means, applicable from January 1 to December 31, 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 child</td>
<td>20 706 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 children</td>
<td>23 840 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 children</td>
<td>27 601 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your child’s age</th>
<th>Maximum monthly amounts covered by the Caf if you pay your employee directly, applicable from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under age 3</td>
<td>458,18 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 3 to 6</td>
<td>229,09 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your child’s age</th>
<th>If the organization or private facility employs a registered childcare provider, or if you use a “microcrèche”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under age 3</td>
<td>693,34 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 3 to 6</td>
<td>346,67 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your child’s age</th>
<th>Maximum monthly amounts covered out of your total billed expenses, applicable from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under age 3</td>
<td>837,81 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 3 to 6</td>
<td>418,91 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The supplement for free choice of working time (Clca)

Starting with your first child, and for each additional child, you may be eligible for the Clca if you stop work or reduce your working time to raise your child(ren).

Eligibility requirements
- Your child is under 3 years old;
- You have adopted a child under 20 years old;
- You have stopped working or cut back to part time work. If you are working part-time and have traveling sales representative (VRP) or self-employed status, you will need to meet an income criterion;
- You must have accrued at least 8 quarters of retirement pension contributions over the previous 2 years if you are claiming for your first child; over the previous 4 years if you have just had a second child, and over the previous 5 years for your 3rd child and up. The following are included in your working time: medical leave, paid maternity leave, paid professional training, periods of unemployment with paid benefits (except for your first child), and periods during which you receive the “free choice of working time” supplement (except for your first child).

Length of award
- For one dependent child: the supplement is paid for a maximum of 6 months beginning the same month as the daily maternity, paternity, adoption or sickness benefits end, or, in the absence of daily benefits, beginning from the child’s date of birth. Ask your Caf about any paid leave or collective agreement leave (“congés conventionnels”) you may have taken before stopping or cutting back on your working hours.
- For two or more dependent children: The supplement is paid until the month before the youngest child’s 3rd birthday, if the eligibility requirements continue to be met. Lengths of award are different in the event of adoption. Contact your Caf for more information.

The optional supplement for free choice of working time
The Colca (optional “free choice of working time” supplement) is paid at a higher rate than the full-rate Clca but for a shorter time.

Eligibility requirements
- You must have stopped working and have at least three children.
- The choice between Colca and Clca is final. You cannot stop receiving the Colca to receive the Clca at a full or partial rate for the same child.
Length of award and rates from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014

- Amount of the Colca if you are not receiving the basic maintenance benefit: 819,14 €;
- If you are receiving the basic maintenance benefit: 634,53 €.
- It can be paid until the month before the child's first birthday or, if the child is adopted, for a maximum of 12 months beginning from the child's arrival in your home.

If you are receiving daily benefits (maternity, paternity, sickness, etc.) and all of the requirements are met, you will begin receiving the Colca from the month these benefits end. Indeed, the Colca cannot be paid at the same time as these daily benefits.

**IMPORTANT**

For adoptions, the length of the “free choice of working time” supplement award depends on specific conditions. Ask your CAF for more information.

### Receiving different Paje benefits at the same time

*Only certain Paje benefits can be paid out at the same time.*

- **Paje benefits (the birth or adoption bonus, the basic maintenance allowance, the “free choice of working time” supplement, and the “free choice of childcare” supplement) can be paid out at the same time, with a few exceptions:**
  - You cannot receive two basic maintenance allowances at the same time, except for a multiple birth or simultaneous adoptions;
  - You and your spouse cannot each receive a “free choice of working time” supplement at the full rate (only two supplements at a partial rate, adding up to a maximum amount of one supplement at the full rate);
  - The “free choice of childcare” supplement cannot be paid at the same time as the Colca at the full rate.

- **Some other benefits also cannot be paid at the same time as a Paje benefit:**
  - The family supplement (complément familial/ Cf) with the basic maintenance allowance cannot be paid along with the Paje “free choice of working time” supplement;
  - The daily parental presence allowance (allocation journalière de présence parentale/ Ajpp) cannot be paid along with the “free choice of working time” supplement to the same recipient.

- **You cannot receive the “free choice of working time” supplement (full or partial rate) if you are receiving:**
  - daily benefits (sickness, maternity, etc);
  - a disability or retirement pension
  - unemployment benefits (however, you can request that these be temporarily suspended in order to receive the supplement).

- **If you resume full or part-time work,** you can receive the “free choice of working time” supplement at the full rate along with your pay for two months if your child is aged between 18 and under 30 months (or 60 months if you have triplets or more). This provision does not apply to those receiving the optional “free choice of working time” supplement or the “free choice of working time” supplement for a single child.
The daily parental presence allowance (Allocation journalière de présence parentale/Ajpp)

The daily parental presence allowance (Allocation journalière de présence parentale/Ajpp) is a benefit that you may receive when caring for a seriously ill, injured or disabled child.

Eligibility requirements

- Your dependent child must be under 20 years old and suffering from a serious illness, disability or injury that requires someone to care for him/her.
- You temporarily stop working in order to care for your child. If you are a salaried worker, you must ask your employer for parental presence leave (congé de présence parentale). If you are unemployed, the Caf will have your unemployment benefits suspended as soon as you start receiving the Ajpp. If you are unemployed without paid unemployment benefits, you are not eligible for the Ajpp.
- You must provide a detailed medical certificate that specifies the need for time-consuming care and for your ongoing presence alongside the child, along with the child’s expected length of treatment.

Rates from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014

- Every month, you will be paid an amount of daily allowances based on the number of days of “parental presence” leave you have taken each month (up to 22 days). The daily allowance comes to 42,71 € for a couple and to 50,75 € for a single parent.
- Your entitlement will be for a 6 month renewable period, for a maximum length of 3 years. You can receive 310 daily allowances during that period. If your child suffers from a new accident, illness or disability, you can apply for your entitlement to be renewed before the end of that three-year period.
- If you have out-of-pocket healthcare expenses for your child, you may be eligible for a monthly supplement of 109,25 € under certain conditions.

Practical Information

The daily parental presence allowance (Ajpp) entitles you to health benefits in kind and to old-age insurance for as long as you receive it.
- Your application will be reviewed by the medical examiner of your child’s health insurance fund. Your entitlements may be stopped on review.
- Download the application form on caf.fr or pick it up at your Caf office.
The disabled child’s education allowance (Allocation d’éducation de l’enfant handicapé/ Aeeh).

The disabled child’s education allowance (Allocation d’éducation de l’enfant handicapé/ Aeeh) helps you to cover your disabled child’s educational and healthcare needs.

Eligibility requirements
Your child is under 20 years old.
- S/he has a permanent disability of:
  - at least 80%
  - or between 50 and 80%. In this case, your child must be enrolled in a special school or his/her disability requires special educational services or home health care.
- Your child must not be institutionalized with all boarding expenses covered by the French health insurance system, the State or the welfare system.

Rates from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014
- The basic Aeeh allowance comes to 129,21 € per month.
- This amount may be topped up by a supplement that varies according to a number of factors: whether you (totally or partially) stop working, and/or whether you hire outside help to care for your child, and/or the out-of-pocket amount of your child’s healthcare expenses.

There are six categories of supplement:
Category 1: 96,91 €; Category 2: 262,46 €; Category 3: 371,49 €; Category 4: 575,68 €; Category 5: 735,75 €; Category 6: 1 096,50 €.

The rate of the Category 6 supplement is valid until March 31, 2012.

Single parents receiving the Aeeh supplement for outside help can receive an additional increase to pay for outside help, whether the outside help is actually provided by the parent him/her self or by a paid third party.

Depending on the category, this additional increase comes to:
Category 2: 52,49 €; category 3: 72,68 €; category 4: 230,16 €; category 5: 294,77 €; category 6: 432,06 €.

No additional increase is awarded for the Category 1 supplement.

Important: The Aehh supplements cannot be paid at the same time as the daily parental presence allowance (Ajpp).

Length of award
- The Departmental disabled persons’ entitlement and independence committee will assess your child’s or teenager’s state of health and decide whether or not to award the Aeeh and any supplement, for a renewable period of one to five years (except if the disability percentage increases).

Families receiving the basic Aeeh allowance can choose:
- either an Aeeh supplement,
- or the disability compensation benefit (Pch) paid by the “conseil général” (departmental council).

Practical Information
- Your must submit your Aeeh and Pch application (Disability compensation benefit (Prestation de compensation du handicap)) along with the required documentation to the “Maison départementale des personnes handicapées” (Departmental disabled persons’ office). This office will then send your information to the “Commission des droits et de l’autonomie des personnes handicapées” (Disabled persons’ entitlement and independence committee).
- If your child is institutionalized, you can receive the Aeeh for the periods when your child returns home (such as weekends or school holidays).
The Family Support Allowance (Allocation de soutien familial (Asf))

The Family Support Allowance (Allocation de soutien familial) is paid to help raise a child without the support of one or both of his/her parents. This assistance substitutes for parents’ legal obligation to support their children («obligation d’entretien»). When the amount of this obligation is determined by a court of law, it is met through child support payments or a contribution to household expenses.

Several possible situations

❖ You are raising at least one child under 20 years old:
   --- either you are his/her father or mother and living alone,
   --- or you are fostering the child. If fostering, you can receive the family support allowance (Asf) even if you are living as a couple.

❖ If the other parent has not been meeting or has only been partially meeting his/her support obligation for at least two consecutive months, Asf will be paid for four months. To extend your Asf entitlement beyond this period, you must take one of the following actions to within the first four months in order to obtain a child support determination:
   - apply to the Family Court judge (Juge aux affaires familiales) at your local district court (Tribunal de grande instance) for a child support order if you do not have a decree;
   - apply to the same judge for a modification of the decree if you have a decree without a child support order;
   - begin family mediation to determine child support responsibilities.

❖ If the other parent fails to pay all or part of his/her court-ordered child support for at least two months in a row, you will receive Asf as an advance payment on the child support you are due. By applying for Asf, you are authorizing your Caf to act exclusively on your behalf to collect this money from the defaulting parent.

Asf rates from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014

❖ 90,40 € per dependent child if you are raising your child alone;
❖ 120,54 € per dependent child if you are fostering a child with no support from either of his/her parents.

Practical Information

❖ Asf payments stop if the recipient marries, remarries, enters into a civil union (Pacs) or begins living as a couple, except if s/he is fostering a child and is neither the father nor the mother.
❖ If you are not entitled to Asf as an advance payment (e.g. if you are living as a couple), the Caf can also help you to collect back child support under the following circumstances:
   -- the child support must be due for one or more minor children at the time of the application;
   -- you have already brought civil action which was not successful in collecting the back child support.
The back-to-school benefit (Allocation de rentrée scolaire/ Ars) helps you to cover back-to-school expenses for your children ages 6 to 18.

Eligibility requirements
- You must have one or more dependent children ages 6 to 18 who are enrolled in school or higher education or performing an apprenticeship. For the 2013 back-to-school period, Ars can be paid for each school going child born between September 16, 1995 and December 31, 2007 included, and for each younger child already enrolled in “Cp” (primary school). Children enrolled in “Maternelle” (nursery school) do not entitle you to the Ars.
- Your 2011 income must not exceed the relevant ceiling. Below are the 2011 income ceilings applicable to the 2013 back-to-school period.

Payment date
- The ARS is paid in late August (see box), except for teenagers ages 16 to 18.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011 income ceilings</th>
<th>Depending on family circumstances as of July 31, 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of dependent children</td>
<td>Ceiling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>23 687 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>29 153 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>34 619 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per additional child</td>
<td>5 466 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rates for the 2013 back-to-school period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s age</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-10 (1)</td>
<td>360,47 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-14 (2)</td>
<td>380,36 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-18 (3)</td>
<td>393,54 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Children who have reached age 6 by January 1st of the current school year and have not reached age 11 by December 31st of the current school year, and younger children already enrolled in primary school (“Cp”).
2. Children who have reached age 11 by December 31st of the current school year and have not reached age 15 by that same date.
3. Children who have reached age 15 by December 31st of the current school year and have not reached age 18 by September 15th of the current school year.

Practical Information
- If you are already receiving Caf benefits and are entitled to the Ars, there is no need to apply: you will receive it automatically for your children ages 6 to 16. However, if you are not or are no longer receiving Caf benefits, contact your Caf in May or June 2013.
- For teenagers ages 16 to 18 (born between September 16, 1995 and December 31, 1997 included), you will receive your Ars payment once you have sent your Caf proof of their enrollment in school or an apprenticeship program.
- If your child was born after December 31, 2007 and has already begun primary school (“Cp”), you must send your Caf a certificate of enrollment which will be provided by the school.
- If your income is slightly above the ceiling, you may receive a reduced back-to-school benefit.
RAISING CHILDREN – From your second child

Family benefits (Allocations familiales/ Af)

You will receive Af (Family benefits) automatically beginning with your second dependent child.

Eligibility requirements
- You must have at least two dependent children aged under 20.
- The monthly rate of family benefits depends on the number of dependent children:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of dependent children</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>128,57 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>293,30 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>458,02 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per additional child</td>
<td>+164,73 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Applicable rates
From April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014

In addition, your family benefit rates increase as your children grow up.

- For children born after April 30, 1997:
  - When your child turns 14, you will receive a 64,29 € monthly top-up for that child in addition to your basic family benefits as from the calendar month following your child’s birthday.
  - This top-up increases to 64,29 € as from the month after your child turns 16.

If you only have two dependent children, you will only receive a top-up for the elder child.

Length of award
Family benefits are paid from the calendar month following the birth or arrival in your home of your second child, then your third child, etc. When you only have one or no dependent children left at home, your benefits will stop as of the end of the calendar month prior to this change in circumstances.

An 81,30 €/month flat-rate benefit is paid for one year to families with three or more children once the eldest child turns 20 (rate applicable from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014). If the child(ren)’s physical custody is shared, family benefits can also be shared between both parents.

Practical Information
- There is no need to apply for family benefits. You will receive them automatically starting with your second dependent child if you have notified your Caf of the arrival of an additional child.

  -- If you are not already receiving Caf benefits, you will need to submit a “déclaration de situation” (family information sheet).
  -- To request that family benefits be shared for children for whom you share physical custody, you can download an application at www.caf.fr or pick up a form from your Caf office.

- Family benefits (Af) can be paid at the same time as all other benefits.
The family supplement
(Complément familial/ Cf)

If you have at least three children, you may be eligible for the family supplement
(Complément familial/ Cf). You will then receive it following your youngest child’s third birthday, beginning with your third child.

Eligibility requirements
- You must have at least three dependent children, all between 3 and 21 years of age.
- Your 2011 income must not exceed the relevant ceiling (see table opposite).
- The ceiling is higher:
  -- If you are living alone;
  -- If you are living as a couple with two incomes (assuming each partner’s 2011 earned income was 4 808 € or more).

Applicable rate from April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014
Whether you have three or more dependent children, you will receive 167,34 € per month.
If your income is slightly above the relevant ceiling, you will receive the family supplement at a reduced rate.

Length of award
You will receive the family supplement once your youngest child turns 3.
Payments will stop:
- Once you have fewer than 3 dependent children ages 3 and up left at home;
- Once you have a dependent child under age 3;
- Once you begin receiving the Paje (early child benefit program) basic maintenance benefit or “free choice of working time” supplement for a new child.

Practical Information
- There is no need to apply for the family supplement. You will receive it automatically if you meet the eligibility requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011 income ceilings. Applicable from January 1 to December 31, 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of dependent children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per additional child</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Housing assistance programs
AplMT, AlfMT and AlsMT

If you are paying rent or repaying a loan for your main residence and have a low income, you may be eligible for one of the following three housing assistance programs: Personalized housing assistance (Aide personnalisée au logement/Apl), the Family housing benefit (Allocation de logement familiale/Alf) or the Low-income housing benefit (Allocation de logement sociale/Als). They cannot be paid at the same time and are awarded according to the following order of priority: Apl, Alf, Als.

Apl : Personalized housing assistance
This program is designed for anyone:
► renting new or pre-existing accommodations where future rent increases, length of lease, maintenance conditions, and standards of comfort are regulated by a government agreement with the owner;
► becoming or already a homeowner who has taken out a low-income home loan (prêt d’accession sociale/ Pas), a subsidized home loan (prêt aidé à l’accession à la propriété/Pap) or a government-regulated loan (prêt conventionné/PC) for the purchase of new or pre-existing accommodations, with or without improvements, or for the expansion or adaptation of the accommodations.

Alf : The Family housing benefit (Allocation de logement à caractère familial/Alf) is intended for people not eligible for Personalized housing assistance (Apl) and who:
► have dependent children or certain other dependents,
► or have been married for under five years, provided the marriage was performed before either spouse had reached age 40.

Als : The Low-income housing benefit (allocation de logement à caractère social) is intended for those not eligible either for Apl or for Alf. Most of the eligibility requirements are the same for these three benefits.

Eligibility requirements
1. You have housing expenses (rent or loan payments).
► If you are renting, the owner must not be your or your spouse’s or partner’s parent, grandparent, child or grandchild.
► The following may also be eligible for housing assistance:
   -- people living in a hostel, hotel, furnished apartment or university residence;
   -- elderly or disabled people paying to live in another household, or living in a hostel, retirement home, or long-term care facility.

2. These accommodations must be your main residence and be occupied at least eight months per year by yourself, your spouse or partner, or one of your dependents. In addition to dependent children as defined for family benefits purposes (see page 5), the Caf also considers certain close relatives living in your home as dependents:
if they are retired or disabled or recognized as unfit for work by the Disabled persons’ entitlement and independence committee;
and if their 2011 income does not exceed 11 134,18 €.

3. Your own income combined with that of the people living with you must not exceed certain ceilings.
A 2 589 € allowance is granted on the family’s or single person’s income if two residences must be maintained for professional reasons. Under certain circumstances, income is calculated as a default value or considered at least equal to a minimum level. For example, for students living in a residence, income is calculated at 4 900 € if the applicant has a scholarship or 5 800 € without a scholarship.

Housing-related requirements
Your accommodations must be considered decent, meet minimum comfort standards and comply with applicable health and safety requirements.

Floor space must be at least:
9 m² for a single person;
16 m² for two people (+ 9 m² for each additional person);
and, for Family housing benefits (Alf), 70 m² for eight people and up.

If these requirements are not met, the Caf may grant an exception to allow housing benefits to be paid.

Rates
Your Caf will calculate your housing benefit rates according to a variety of factors:
your number of children and other dependents;
your place of residence;
the amount of your rent or monthly loan payments (up to a certain ceiling);
household income, etc.

As a large number of criteria are used, it is not possible to specify possible rates in this brochure. You can estimate the assistance for which you may be eligible on the website www.caf.fr.
Housing assistance is not paid if it comes to under 15 €; however, it may entitle you to a moving bonus.

Practical Information
When all requirements are met, housing assistance is paid from the following month. Make sure to apply as soon as you move in as payments are not retroactive.
If renting, the lease and all rent receipts must always be in the name of the housing assistance applicant.
Personalized housing assistance (Apl) is paid directly to the owner or to the lender, who will deduct the amount from your rent or monthly loan payments. Alf and Als are paid directly to you but can be paid to the owner or lender at their request.
If you have not been paying your rent or loan payments for two or more months, your housing assistance payments may be stopped. Ask your Caf for help.
If you have too much debt, do not delay in contacting a community welfare center (centre communal d’action sociale) or your town hall (mairie).
The moving bonus (prime de déménagement)

The moving bonus is intended for large families who move due to an addition to their family. You must meet three requirements in order to receive this bonus within the six months following your move:

-- you must have at least three dependent children (born or expected),
-- you move between the first day of the calendar month following the end of your third month of pregnancy and the last day of the month prior to your youngest child’s second birthday;
-- you are entitled to Apl or Alf for your new accommodations.

The amount of the bonus paid by the Caf is equal to your actual moving expenses, up to 969,10 € for three dependent children (80,76 € per additional child) as from April 1, 2013.

You must apply for the moving bonus within the six months following your move, by providing the Caf with a paid mover’s bill or proof of other expenses if you handled the move yourself (such as car rental, gasoline or highway toll receipts).

The home improvement loan (prêt à l’amélioration de l’habitat)

You own or are renting your main residence and want to undertake renovation, improvement, sanitation or insulation works (not including maintenance such as wallpaper and paint).

If you are already receiving CAF benefits, you may be eligible for a home improvement loan. However, you will not be eligible if you are only receiving Als, Apl, Aah or Rsa payments.

The loan can cover up to 80% of your planned expenses, coming to a maximum of 1 067,14 €, at an interest rate of 1%. It is repayable in equal installments over a maximum period of 36 months. Half of the amount is paid when the loan is signed, once the quote has been provided, and the other half when the works are concluded, once the final bill has been provided.

The childcare facility improvement loan (prêt à l’amélioration du lieu d’accueil/ Pala)

Whether or not they are already receiving CAF benefits, registered childminders running a childcare facility from their home or providing care at a separate facility may receive a loan to cover works to improve the facility or the health or safety of the children using their services. In addition, if running a childcare facility from their home, registered childminders can also receive a loan to help them obtain, renew or extend their accreditation. This interest-free loan, which comes to a maximum of 10 000 € per registered childminder, can cover up to 80% of the cost of the works and is repayable in up to 120 monthly installments.
The Disabled adults’ allowance (Allocation aux adultes handicapés/ Aah)

If you have a disability, you can receive the Aah (Disabled adults’ allowance) in addition to your other revenue to guarantee a minimum income.

Eligibility requirements
- You must be at least 20 years old; 16 under certain circumstances.
- Your disability percentage as determined by the Disabled persons’ entitlement and independence committee (Cdaph) must be:
  -- at least 80%.
  -- or, if your disability percentage is between 50% and 80%, you must not have reached legal retirement age and your disability must constitute a substantial and going obstacle to employment, recognized by the Cdaph.
- You must not be receiving a retirement, disability or industrial accident pension above or equal to 776.59 € per month.
- If you are not working, your 2011 income must not exceed the ceiling applicable to your family circumstances: 9 319.08 € if you are living alone or 18 638.16 € if you are living as a couple. These amounts increase by 4 659.54 € per dependent child.

If you are working in a standard workplace or as an employer or self-employed worker, see the box on the next page.

Rates as of April 1, 2013
- If you had no declared income for 2011, you will receive the maximum Aah rate of 776.59 € per month.
- If you declared earned income, your Aah will be calculated based on a portion of your income.
- If you are only receiving a pension (disability, retirement, or industrial accident compensation) you will receive the difference between the amount of your pension and the maximum Aah rate.
- If you are working in a sheltered environment (établissement ou service d’aide par le travail/ Ésat) your entitlement will be calculated on an individual basis.

The income supplement
- You may receive the income supplement if:
  -- your disability percentage is at least 80;
  -- you are receiving the Aah at the full rate or in addition to an old-age, disability or industrial accident pension.
  -- you have not reached legal retirement age;
  -- your fitness for work as determined by the Cdaph is below 5%;
  -- you have not received any earned income for at least a year on the date of your application and are not currently working;
  -- you are living in independent accommodations.

Rate: 179.31 € per month
The independent living top-up (Majoration pour la vie autonome/ Mva)

- You will receive the Mva automatically if you meet the following requirements:
  - your disability percentage must be at least 80%;
  - you are receiving the Aah at the full rate or in addition to an old-age, disability or industrial accident pension.
  - you are not working;
  - you are living in independent accommodations for which you are receiving housing assistance.

Rate: 104,77 €

Practical Information

- Apply for the Aah and the income supplement through your local "Maison départementale des personnes handicapées" (Departmental disabled persons’ office).

- If you are receiving Additional disability allowance (Allocation supplémentaire d’invalidité/ Asi) or Disability solidarity fund (Fonds de solidarité invalidité/ Fsi) benefits, you may also receive either the income supplement or the independent living top-up, which cannot be paid at the same time. Apply through your local Departmental disabled persons’ office.

The Disabled Adults’ Allowance reform

You must notify your Caf if you begin or resume working.

As from January 1, 2011, if you are employed in a standard workplace, working as an employer, or self-employed, your Aah entitlements will be calculated each quarter based on your income for the past three months. You must declare your income every three months in order to receive your entitlements. You can fill out an online declaration at www.caf.fr («Mon compte»/ My account) in the «Mes démarches» (Actions) section. Otherwise, fill out and return the quarterly income declaration form (“déclaration trimestrielle des ressources”) which your Caf will send you every 3 months.

If you begin or resume employment (in a standard workplace or as an employer or self-employed worker), you may receive your entire Aah payment in addition to your new earned income for a period of six months under certain circumstances. If you do not meet these requirements, only a part of your earned income will be used to calculate your Aah entitlement.

If your earned income from standard or sheltered employment decreases by at least 10% over at least 2 consecutive months, your Aah entitlement will be recalculated to take account of your decrease in income.
The active solidarity allowance (Revenu de solidarité active/ Rsa)

If you have zero or no income, you may receive the Rsa in addition to this income to guarantee you a minimum revenue.

Eligibility requirements

- You must be over 25 years old. There is no age requirement if you are pregnant and if you already have at least one dependent child.
- If you are between 18 and 25 years old, without children, you must have worked full-time (or the equivalent) for at least two years over the past three years.
- You must reside in France on a stable and ongoing basis.
- You must be a French citizen or a citizen of the European Economic Area with legal residency in France, or you have been legally residing in France for at least five years (except in special cases).
- Your household’s average monthly income over the three months prior to your application must not exceed a certain amount. Some of your income may not be taken into account: contact your Caf for more information.
- You must apply for all of the other benefits (unemployment benefits, pension, etc.) for which you are eligible.
- You are not eligible for the Rsa (except if you are a single parent) if you are:
  --on parental or sabbatical leave, unpaid leave or leave of absence;
  --a secondary-school student;
  --a university student without at least 500 € earned income per month (according to your quarterly income declaration).

To receive the Rsa, you must go through the following process:

1. Take the Rsa test on www.caf.fr or directly at your local Caf office. The test will tell you whether you are eligible for the Rsa.
2. Fill out and submit your application:
   Your test results will tell you whether you are eligible for the Rsa.

If you are working, you will be asked to fill out and sign one or more downloadable forms. Send them to your local Caf office, which will process your application.

If you are not working, you will be asked to meet with the organization which will process your application: your Caf or Agricultural social mutual fund (Msa), your departmental council (conseil général), your community welfare center (centre communal d’action sociale) or another accredited organization.

3. Prepare for your meeting: If you are asked to meet with the organization processing your application (your Caf or Agricultural social mutual fund (Msa), your departmental council (conseil général), your community welfare center (centre communal d’action sociale) or another accredited organization), prepare for your meeting using the list of required documents you will have received when you make your appointment. This meeting may cover all of your entitlements, particularly your health care coverage (see page 25).

Personalized support

- If you are unemployed or earning a low income, your departmental council (conseil général) will assign a mentor (an employment specialist or social sector professional) to assist you.
- You will work with the mentor to determine what steps to take to search for a job, create your own job and/or assist with your social reintegration and return to employment.
- You and your mentor will sign a personalized «return to employment» plan or «social reintegration» contract with which you will be required to comply.
- You will be given regular appointments to receive advice and to review your circumstances and the actions you have taken.
**Minimum Income**

**AAH**

**RSA**

**RSA rates as from January 1st, 2013**

Rsa rates depend on your individual circumstances and are calculated as follows:

\[
Rsa = (\text{default value} + 62\% \text{ of your household’s earned income}) - (\text{other household income} + \text{default reduction for housing})
\]

**Default value**: This is determined based on your household makeup. This amount may be increased for a limited period if you are single with at least one dependent child or pregnant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of children or other dependents</th>
<th>If living alone</th>
<th>If living as a couple (whether married or not)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>483,24 €</td>
<td>724,86 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>724,86 €</td>
<td>869,83 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>869,83 €</td>
<td>1 014,80 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per additional child or other dependent</td>
<td>193,30 €</td>
<td>193,30 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These amounts may be increased, under certain circumstances, for single adults who are pregnant or have a dependent child.

**Household earned income**: the monthly average of all earned income (or income considered as earned) for all members of the household during the previous quarter (salary, internship payments or self-employed income). Note: self-employment income (except for applicants with “auto-entrepreneur” status) will be evaluated by the departmental council.

**Other household income**: the monthly average of the household’s income during the previous quarter (earned income, child support payment, pensions, unemployment benefits, etc) and family benefits received during the month the entitlement is calculated (exceptions are possible).

**Default reduction for housing**: housing assistance payments are factored in as a default reduction. If you are receiving housing assistance or do not have housing expenses, your Rsa will be reduced by:

- 57.99 € for a person living alone;
- 115.98 € for 2 people;
- 143.52 € for 3 or more people.

For example, if you are living alone, unemployed and receiving housing assistance, you will receive a 425,25 € monthly Rsa award calculated as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
483,24 \text{ € (default value)} & + 0 \text{ € (earned income)} \\
- 0 \text{ € (other income)} & - 57,99 \text{ € (default reduction for housing)} \\
= 425,25 \text{ €}
\end{align*}
\]

Rsa will not be paid if it comes to less than 6€.

**Length of award**

You will continue receiving Rsa payments for as long as your income is below the maximum Rsa award.

To continue receiving your Rsa payments, you must declare your income every quarter. Your Rsa reward will be recalculated based on the income you have declared. You can fill out an online declaration at www.caf.fr («Mon compte»/ My account) in the «Mes démarches» (Actions) section with your benefits recipient number and pass code. Otherwise, fill out and return the quarterly income declaration form (“déclaration trimestrielle des ressources”) to your Caf office.

Notify us immediately of any changes in your employment or family circumstances without waiting to receive your quarterly income declaration form.

**Practical Information**

- You cannot receive Rsa payments if you fail to declare your income.
- Take the online Rsa test at www.caf.fr to determine whether you are eligible for the Rsa and estimate your amount of award. This is for guidance purposes only; you will only be notified of your entitlement and the amount of your Rsa award once your entire application has been processed by your Caf or Msa fund.
- In addition to Rsa payments, you may also be eligible for personalized «return to employment» assistance (aide personnalisée de retour à l’emploi) to help cover the expenses involved in your return to employment.
Old-age insurance and health care coverage

The Caf may provide you with old-age insurance or health-care insurance.

Old-age insurance

The Caf can provide you with free “At-home parent old-age insurance” (Assurance vieillesse du parent au foyer/Avpf). Avpf allows people who stop working or cut back on their working hours to care for one or more children, or to care for a disabled person, to continue to accrue pension entitlements. To be eligible, your household income must be below a certain ceiling that will be determined according to your circumstances. In addition, one of the following situations must apply:

- your household must be receiving the Paje basic maintenance allowance, the “Free choice of working time” supplement, the family supplement or the daily parental presence allowance (Ajpp). If you are living as a couple, you must either not be working or your earned income must be below a certain amount;
- you must be supporting a disabled person with a permanent disability of at least 80%: this dependent must be either a non-institutionalized child under age 20 or an adult in your family for whom the Cdaph has issued a reasoned opinion stating the need for your assistance or presence in the home. You must either not be working or your earned income must be below a certain amount;
- if you are on family support leave, you must have completely stopped working in order to care for a relative with a particularly severe disability or loss of independence.

People raising a child who entitles them to the Aeeh plus the Aeeh supplement (or those who have chosen the compensatory benefit) will be credited an increase in their length of insurance amounting to one quarter per thirty-month period up to a maximum credited increase of eight quarters.

Health care coverage

Universal health care coverage (Couverture maladie universelle/ Cmu):
People not covered by French social security for health and maternity care may be eligible for the basic Cmu program.

Supplementary health insurance (Couverture complémentaire santé/ Cmu-C) : people on a low income and some Rsa recipients may be eligible for both the basic Cmu program plus supplementary health insurance. Ask your local health insurance fund (Cpam) or your Caf for more information when you apply for Rsa.

Financial assistance for private supplementary health insurance

If your income is between the Cmu-C eligibility ceiling and 35% above that amount (i.e. between 661,17 € and 892,58 € per month for a person living alone), you may be eligible for financial assistance to cover private supplementary health insurance. This will entitle you to reduced rates for your private supplementary coverage plus an 18-month exemption from up-front payments of the portion of your health care costs covered by French social security. You must also follow the "parcours de soins" (coordinated medical consultation procedure).

Pick up an application from your Local Sickness Benefits Fund (Cpam) or your Social Security office.
Social programs for families

In addition to statutory benefits, the Caf system offers social programs to help all families that receive benefits, particularly those who are encountering social or financial problems. Ask your Caf office for more information about these programs.

The Caf system supports families through individual assistance (each local Caf determines what assistance is provided and sets its own eligibility requirements) and through grants which are awarded to partners (communities, organizations and most recently businesses) to provide facilities for children, youths and families.

Day-to-day life
The Caf system helps families to balance their work and family lives (e.g. by providing financial assistance for facilities and services in order to reduce parents’ expenses for their children’s child care and activities).

Family life
The Caf system works with parents by providing parenthood support, support for childhood and youth school enrollment, home help by qualified professionals, and more.

Living conditions
The Caf supports home improvement projects as well as community programs.

Child care for young children
The Caf system directly subsidizes facilities that provide care for children under age 6 (multi-option centers, full-time child care centers, drop-off centers, and more) in order to make child care less expensive for parents. There are three types of subsidies: investment subsidies, operating subsidies (see below) and support for the development of additional child-care options through the “childhood and youth” ("enfance et jeunesse") contract. The Caf system also finances Childminder meeting points (Relais assistantes maternelles/ Ram) which are places for registered childminders, parents and early childhood professionals to come together and exchange information and experiences. Parents can also come to a Ram to receive free information on all of their childcare options.

The “getting started” bonus (Prime d’installation)
Under certain conditions, the Caf may award a “getting started” bonus to registered childminders who have just received their accreditation.

Do you know about the Psu?
The Single service provision (prestation de service unique/ Psu) is an operating subsidy paid by the Caf to the managers of childcare facilities for children up to age 4. In exchange for this financing, the Caf asks managers to charge families according to a nationwide sliding scale proportional to families’ income and number of dependent children. This means that the lower a family’s income, the less the parents will be charged and the higher the subsidy awarded by the Caf. The remaining amount is most often covered by the local or regional government.
The website
www.mon-enfant.fr
To fully inform you on the different childcare options available throughout France and to make your search easier, www.mon-enfant.fr lists the existing childcare options near your home or workplace along with a description.

✓ You will find:
-- almost all child care centers for children up to age 4, childminder meeting points (Ram), and Caf-financed parent-child and leisure activity venues;
-- contact information for registered childminders* who have requested to appear on the site.

Recent upgrades to the site have made it even more attractive:
-- you can now view any registered childminder’s or child care center’s address on a map with information on availability and openings;
-- a dedicated section provides information on all of the innovative early childhood or youth-related projects going on in each department;
-- a Paje entitlement simulator has been added to complete the information provided by the group and family child care cost simulator.

The information available on www.mon-enfant.fr is easy to access and helps you to best plan ahead for the childcare services you need.

Recreational activities and free time for children, youths and families.
The Caf system subsidizes non-residential recreational facilities (outside of school hours) and helps to boost the development of additional options through the “childhood and youth” (“enfance et jeunesse”) contract. Most Caf offices also award financial assistance to families or to accredited facilities in order to promote access to recreational activities and give children and teens the opportunity to travel. Under certain circumstances, Caf offices can work with families or partners with their vacation or recreational plans.

The “childhood and youth” contract is a performance-based joint financing contract drawn up between a local Caf office and a regional or local authority, an inter-community council or a Government administration. Its aim is to continue and optimize the childcare and recreational activity development policy for children and youths aged up to 17.

*The site lists nearly 65% of all currently active registered childminders.
Supporting the parental role
In order to support you as a parent, the Caf system can inform you about parent-child venues, local education support contracts, family mediation services, and parent focus and support group programs (réseaux d’écoute, d’appui et d’accompagnement des parents/Reaap). The Reaap networks offer support groups, presentations and discussions on education-related topics, and special venues for parents (“maison de la famille,” “espace-famille,” “boutique de la famille,” etc.).

Are you familiar with family mediation?
This is a time set aside for listening, discussion and negotiation that can help you to overcome any conflict situation that weakens family bonds. These include divorces, separations, blended families, family conflicts regarding maintaining ties between grandparents and grandchildren, family conflicts between young adults and their parents, other situations such as disputed wills, mediations pertaining to a dependent, elderly or disabled person, etc.

The family mediator’s role is to reestablish communication, to carefully consider each party’s actual needs, particularly those of the children, to create a trust-based environment conducive to reaching agreements, and to set out each person’s rights and responsibilities.

Family mediation is also a way to settle the breakdown of financial responsibilities (administrative setup, each parent’s financial contribution to the children’s maintenance, or how property is divided up.) Moreover, if the children’s physical custody is shared, the mediator will help to determine whether family benefits should be shared as well as which parent should receive other benefits.

The family mediator is a qualified professional who follows ethical principles: s/he observes strict confidentiality, does not take sides and does not judge. His/her role is to help the family to reach concrete solutions.

The Caf system pays benefits to accredited family mediation services. In return for this financing, families are charged for these services according to a nationwide sliding scale proportional to their income.

A free, non-binding initial meeting is offered during which the family mediator presents the goals, the content and the topics that may be covered.

To learn which accredited family mediation services are offered near your home, contact your local Caf office.
Family housing and living conditions
The Caf system can award one-time assistance to help families who are unable to pay housing-related expenses (such as rent, loans, energy, or water bills). Families can also receive assistance from the housing solidarity fund (Fonds de solidarité pour le logement/ Fsl. This program awards financial assistance to very low-income families to help cover rent, loan payments or unpaid energy and water bills. Under certain conditions, the Caf system also extends loans to low-income families to help them purchase basic household furnishings and appliances as well as for home improvement.

Supporting families
Caf offices generally have social workers who can provide support to families experiencing events that impact their family structure such as the birth of a child, the death of a child or relative, single parenthood, and more. These professionals also set up local programs to promote social ties and boost the feeling of community among area residents.

Promoting community activities
The Caf system provides financial support to community facilities and local activity centers. These facilities offer families a variety of childcare-related services as well as a range of extracurricular and recreational activities, tutoring, opportunities to meet with other parents, plus get-togethers and activities to build an intergenerational spirit of community in the neighborhood.

Other programs
The Caf system’s social and family programs also include additional measures for youths, such as financing residences for first-time young workers. In addition, some Cafs also award assistance to help young people to achieve their social integration and workforce-entry goals. A wide range of assistance is available, some of it local in order to best meet local needs. Information is available on the Caf website: www.caf.fr.
Reporting changes

Tell the Caf of any change in circumstances to ensure that you will receive all of the benefits to which you are entitled.

Changes in circumstances

Report the following changes in circumstances to your Caf office:

- **Your relationship status**: marriage, beginning or resuming life as a couple, divorce, separation or widowhood. If you separate, divorce or are widowed, the Caf will no longer take account of your former spouse’s income.

- **Your child’s circumstances**: if your child begins an internship, apprenticeship or job, re-enrolls in school, is hospitalized or institutionalized, etc.

- **Household circumstances**: pregnancy, birth, departure or return of a child, arrival or departure of a relative.

- **Employment circumstances**: (yours or that of your spouse or partner): long-term illness, disability, industrial-accident pension, unemployment or retirement. Under these circumstances, the Caf will grant the affected person(s) an additional 30% allowance on his/her (their) earned income.

- **Other changes**: change of address, telephone number, email address, banking information, etc.

**New**: You can now report all changes in circumstances on our website caf.fr (see opposite) in the My account (“mon compte”) area.

You can also report your change of address by creating an account on: www.mon.service-public.fr

To report any other changes, send a letter to your local Caf office specifying:

- Your last name, first name, and address (including your email address), plus your telephone number (optional);

- Your beneficiary account number (if the Caf file is not under your name, specify the beneficiary’s first and last names);

- The type of change in circumstances and the exact date on which it occurred;

- Make sure to sign your letter.

**Practical Information**

- When any one of the eligibility requirements for a given benefit ceases to be met, your payments may decrease or stop from the month in which your circumstances changed. This may occur if you resume working or move abroad.

- If you wait too long to notify the Caf of a change that results in a decrease or end to your entitlement, you will be required to reimburse any undue payments.

**“IT and freedom” law**

Pursuant to French law N° 78-17 of January 6, 1978 (amended), regulatory acts have been adopted to ensure that the public is informed of the automatic processing of personal data upon approval from the National Information and Freedoms Commission (Commission nationale de l’information et des libertés). These acts are available for consultation in your Caf office’s public area. Any individual may access his/her personal information and, where applicable, have this information corrected or deleted by contacting his/her local Caf office.
The Caf at your service

Visit us online on www.caf.fr or call our hotline for quick access to information on your entitlements, your payments or a change in circumstances. Interactive computer stations are also available at most Caf offices and in certain public places.

The Caf website www.caf.fr

The “Aides et services” (assistance and services) area.
Not a benefits recipient and looking for information on the Caf system? Interested in learning more about the different types of benefits? Need to print out a form? Want to estimate the amount of your housing assistance, early-child benefit or Active Solidarity income award? Based on your circumstances or by category of benefits, this area will provide you with all of the practical information you need to decide on your next course of action.
You can also fill out your first housing aid application online before submitting it to your Caf office. Any information you enter online will help your application to be processed faster.

The “Mon compte” (my account) area.
This is where you can check your account, get proof of payment, or check the status of a (mail or email) application. You can also use our website to report any changes in circumstances, declare your income (annual or quarterly if you are receiving Rsa or Aah benefits), or apply for the free choice of childcare supplement (Cmg Paje) if eligible.

Our student hotline
0 810 29 29 29
A single number that serves a double purpose:
-providing general information about Caf services 24/7;
-providing direct answers to students’ questions.

Look up your local Caf office’s telephone number on the “Ma Caf” (my Caf”) area of the caf.fr website or on an interactive computer station.

The Caf’s interactive computer stations
You will find these interactive stations in Caf offices and in other public areas (town halls, Social Security fund offices, etc.) Some are even available 24/7 outside opening hours. They offer the same basic setup as our website.

Practical Information

To look up your Caf file, you will need your beneficiary number as well as your 4-figure pass code. If you do not have your code, request one: www.caf.fr.
The early child benefit program
The birth and adoption bonus
The basic maintenance benefit
The “free choice of childcare” supplement
The “free choice of working time” supplement
Family benefits
The family supplement
The back-to-school benefit
The daily parental presence allowance
The family support allowance
Housing benefits
Personalized housing aid
The moving bonus
The home improvement loan
The home improvement loan for registered childminders
The disabled child’s education allowance
The disabled adult allowance
The “return to employment” bonus
The active solidarity allowance

> ACTIONS

> RATES

> ONLINE PROCESSES

> "MY ACCOUNT"

Take advantage of our online services at www.caf.fr