

Free lunch for low-income families in the kindergartens and schools in Brandenburg

Some families have little money. Their children may not be able to afford sports or school trips. The money may often not even be enough for the group lunch in the kindergarten or school. For that, there is help from the state - The Education and Participation Benefit.

A healthy lunch in schools and kindergartens is important! This is why it is free for families with little money. Children need enough vitamins in order to be attentive and concentrated.

Who is eligible to receive the free lunch?

Children, youth and young adults who:

- are less than 25 years-old
- go to school or kindergarten
- earn no money for their vocational training (Ausbildung) **and**
- whose families already receive benefits from the state:
 - unemployment benefits from the Jobcenter (“Hartz IV” / Bürgergeld)
 - welfare (Sozialgeld)
 - social benefits (Sozialhilfe)
 - basic security (Grundsicherung)
 - housing benefits (Wohngeld)
 - child support (Kinderzuschlag)
 - welfare for asylum seekers **or**
 - those who receive no state welfare but still have little money.

How does it work?

You have to file an application. You can get the application form from the government office or find it on the internet. There are also other documents to be submitted.

Do you receive money from the Jobcenter? Then you can ask there about the necessary steps. If you receive welfare from another government department, you can ask there. Or you can call the Sozialamt.

There are different people responsible for this in each district (Landkreis). There is a list of their addresses on the internet:

<https://www.bmas.de/DE/Arbeit/Grundsicherung-Arbeitslosengeld-II/Bildungspaket/Anlaufstellen/Brandenburg/brandenburg.html>

**All information is without guarantee. This means that something may have changed.
You always have to ask if you are eligible to receive this benefit.**