



EMN Ad-Hoc Query on allowances for international protection applicants

Requested by LU EMN NCP on 5th July 2016

Summary prepared by NO EMN NCP from responses from

Austria, Belgium, Finland, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and Norway

Disclaimer: The responses were provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs did provide, to the best of their knowledge, information that was up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided did not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.

Background information:

In 2015, there was an important inflow of international protection applicants to Luxembourg. The increase of international protection applications was of 124,3% in comparison to 2014. On 25 August 2015, the DE EMN NCP launched an ad-hoc query on allowances for international protection applicants. In light of the legislative amendments that some countries have introduced the Luxembourgish authorities would like to update the information compiled in that ad-hoc query.

Questions

1. Has the situation in your Member State changed following your answer to the DE EMN NCP AHQ on allowances for international protection applicants?

2. Have there been legislative amendments to the allowances received by international protection applicants in your Member State since September 2015? If yes, can you please detail them.
3. What are the current amounts of allowances for asylum seekers in cash and in kind? What do in-kind allowances comprise? Please specify according to whether
 - a) the applicant's lodging is in a reception centres or in an outside accommodation (e.g. a shared accommodation, rented flat, etc.)
 - b) is a single adult, a family (two adults and two minor children) a minor (if minors are treated different). Please use the table provided.If the situation has not changed in your MS since you answered the DE EMN NCP, please only make reference to your previous answer.
4. Allowances in cash are calculated per day, per week or per month according to the respective national regulations. What is the frequency they are paid to the asylum seekers normally? Are there differences?
5. Is there any time limit for the allowances (during the asylum procedure, after a positive decision, after a negative decision)?

Responses

- On some questions the replies just referred to the reply to the August 2015 AHQ launched by DE EMN NCP. These were not consulted for this summary.
- From 7 countries it was reported that after August 2015 significant changes had been made with consequences for the allowances paid to asylum seekers, and from one country (NO) it was reported that such changes were being considered.
- It is not possible to provide a summary presentation of the current amounts of allowances and the types of in-kind allowances provided, because of the different formats used by the national reports, despite the request to use an attached table.
- In the majority of countries (10) monthly payments were used for allowances to cover daily needs, whereas allowances for other costs (medical, education, travel) might be on an ad hoc basis. Weekly payments were reported by four countries and bi-weekly by two.
- All countries reported that the allowance would be paid to an asylum seeker as long as the application for protection was being considered. Following a positive decision other forms of financial allowances would be relevant, depending on the procedure for ensuring that settlement. Following a final negative decision would depend on the exact circumstances, including whether an offer of assisted return would be accepted or not.