

Long-term care allowance in Austria: Information sheet for clients

In Austria, the long-term care allowance (the so-called Pflegegeld) helps individuals in need of care to have access to and afford the necessary support and care, partially covering the associated costs. Its aim is to enable people with health impairments to continue living as independently as possible in their own homes. The amount of this allowance depends on the respective extent of care required. This extent is determined through a formal evaluation and categorized into seven care levels.

Eligibility requirements for receiving a long-term care allowance

- The person must have a permanent need for care amounting to more than 65 hours per month.
- The need for care must be anticipated to persist for more than six months.
- Persons in need of care must maintain their habitual residence in Austria.
- The long-term care allowance must be actively applied for.

The seven care levels		
Care level	Required care per month	Monthly amount
1	more than 65 hours	€ 206,20
2	more than 95 hours	€ 380,30
3	more than 120 hours	€ 592,60
4	more than 160 hours	€ 888,50
5	more than 180 hours	€ 1.206,90
6	more than 180 hours	€ 1.688,90
7	more than 180 hours	€ 2.214,80

Important information

The evaluation is conducted by medical experts or certified registered nurses who determine the actual extent of care needed.

If the individual's health condition deteriorates, an application for a higher care level can be submitted at any time. Conversely, if the health condition improves, this may result in a downgrade to a lower care level.

The long-term care allowance is paid out regardless of a person's income or assets and is generally tax-exempt. It is intended to help cover care and assistance costs: for example, for family caregivers, home care services, or 24-hour round-the-clock assistance.