



PRACTICAL GUIDE

SCHOLARSHIP

INSTITUTO DA SEGURANÇA SOCIAL, I.P.

TECHNICAL FILE

TITLE

Practical Guide – Scholarship

(4010 – v1.36)

OWNERSHIP

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Site: www.seg-social.pt

PUBLICATION DATE

06 January 2026

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The information contained in this practical guide does not waive the consultation of the law.

A – What is it?

It is a monthly **cash support** intended to help combat early school leaving, improve young people's qualifications, and compensate the costs associated with compulsory secondary education (10th, 11th, or 12th grade) or equivalent (e.g. vocational training courses).

This support aims to help families of students who are receiving the Family Benefit amount corresponding to the 1st or 2nd income level.

B – Who is entitled?

Young students receiving the Family Benefit for Children and Young People, who meet the necessary conditions to be entitled to the Scholarship.

For more information, please consult Section C- What are the entitlement conditions?

C – What are the entitlement conditions?

The young person is entitled to the Scholarship if he/she fulfils **all of the following conditions**.

He/she

- is enrolled and attending secondary education (10th, 11th, or 12th grade) or equivalent;
- belongs to a household that is receiving the Family Benefit amount corresponding to the 1st or 2nd income level;

For more information, please consult the *Guia Prático – Abono de Família para Crianças e Jovens* (Practical Guide – Family Benefit for Children and Young People).

- is aged under 18 (if he/she turns 18 during the school year, he/she will maintain the entitlement to the Scholarship until the end of that year);
- does not work;
- has successfully finished the previous school year, i.e., he/she cannot fail any year during secondary education (10th, 11th, or 12th grade) or equivalent.

Note: Although young people **aged 14 or older** are not required to submit the School Proof to receive the Family Benefit, they must submit it to receive the Scholarship, if they are enrolled in secondary education and receiving the Family Benefit amount corresponding to the 1st or 2nd income level.

For more information, please consult the *Guia Prático – Prova Escolar* (Practical Guide – School Proof)

A young person enrolled for the first time in secondary education (10th grade) or equivalent who, in the current school year, is not entitled to the **Scholarship** because he/she is in the 3rd income level or higher, may become entitled in the following school year, if:

- The Family Benefit amount changes to the 1st or 2nd income level and the young person progresses to the 11th grade;
- the household's circumstances change and the reference income returns to one of the income levels (1st or 2nd) that entitles him/her to receive the Scholarship.

D1. How much will I receive?

The Scholarship amount is equal to the Family Benefit for Children and Young People amount that you receive (1st and 2nd income level).

Example: João receives a Family Benefit amount of **€75,13** under the 1st income level; so, the amount of the Scholarship he will receive is also **€75,13**. In this case, João will receive a total amount of **€150,26** (€75,13 from the Family Benefit + €75,13 from the Scholarship).

Table 1 – Family Benefit and Scholarship amounts for each child or young person who is in the 1st and 2nd income levels

Income levels	Family Benefit Amount	Scholarship Amount	Total amount to be received
1 st income level	€75,13	€75,13	€150,26
2 nd income level	€75,13	€75,13	€150,26

Table 2 – Family Benefit and Scholarship amounts for each child or young person who is in the 1st and 2nd income levels, in the case of single-parent families (with only one adult)

Income levels	Family Benefit Amount	Scholarship Amount	Total amount to be received
1 st income level	€112,70	€112,70	€225,40
2 nd income level	€112,70	€112,70	€225,40

D2. How can I receive it?

There are **2 modalities** of payment of this benefit. The payment can be made

- by bank transfer, or
- by postal order issued by the Portuguese postal services (*CTT*) to your address.

D3. How to register or change the IBAN (International Bank Account Number)**1. Online**

You can register or change the IBAN through the Social Security Online Service, in the menu *Iniciar Sessão* (Log In) > *Perfil* (Profile) > *Conta bancária* (Bank Account) > *Consultar e decidir pedidos de alteração de conta bancária* (Consult and decide on bank account change requests).

2. At the Social Security Customer Information Services

To register or change the IBAN, you must complete the form MG 14 - *Requerimento de Registo ou Alteração de IBAN* (Application for IBAN Registration or Change) available on the Social Security Online Service in the *Formulários* (Forms) menu, and attach a bank document confirming the IBAN, which must include the name of the person submitting the application or the person entitled to the **Scholarship** as the account holder.

Note: The IBAN will be pending validation by Social Security. Once confirmed, a notification will be sent to your inbox in the *Mensagens* (Messages) menu.

Minimum Banking Services (SMB)

If you still do not have a current account, you may open a Minimum Banking Services account at any bank.

The annual cost is less than 1% of the national minimum wage, which in 2026 amounts to €920,00.

For more information on Minimum Banking Services, please consult the *Portal do Cliente Bancário* (Bank Customer Portal).

E – Granting period

E1. When will I start to receive the Scholarship?

This benefit is paid as from the **month in which the school year begins or as from the month following that in which** the reason for the benefit granting occurred;

Example: At the beginning of the school year, António is not entitled to the Scholarship. However, in **September**, his circumstances change (e.g., his household's income decreases, placing him in the **2nd income level** of the Family Benefit for Children and Young People). In this case, António becomes entitled to the Scholarship and will start receiving this benefit as from the **following month**, i.e., in **October**.

E2. How long will I receive it? (granting period)

The Scholarship can be received until the **end of the school year** in which the student **turns 18**, provided that he/she continues to meet all the other entitlement conditions (1st and 2nd income levels of the Family Benefit for Children and Young People, successful conclusion of the previous school year, enrolment and attendance of the 10th, 11th or 12th grade or equivalent).

E3. When will the Scholarship payment be temporarily suspended?

When:

- the student stops attending the school year corresponding to the scholarship granting period, or
Example: Maria was an 11th grade student receiving the Scholarship. However, in February, she decided to **stop studying**. In this case, the scholarship payment is interrupted, and Maria **stops receiving** the Scholarship **temporarily**.
- the student starts working, except if the work is carried out under an employment contract during school holidays.

E4. When will the Scholarship payment be resumed?

When the student stops working and returns to school.

Note: The payment will be resumed in the month following the date of submission of the Scholarship request to Social Security, provided that the student meets the entitlement conditions again, for both the Family Benefit and the Scholarship.

A new application is not required. The student only needs to complete the form GF 54 - *Declaração/Alteração – Composição e Rendimentos do Agregado Familiar* (Statement/Change – Household Composition and Income).

E5. When does the Scholarship entitlement end? (cessation)

The Scholarship entitlement ends when the young person:

- stops attending and being enrolled in secondary education (10th, 11th, or 12th grade) or equivalent;
- no longer belongs to a household with an income corresponding to the 1st or 2nd income level of the Family Benefit for Children and Young People;

For more information, please consult the *Guia Prático – Abono de Família para Crianças e Jovens* (Practical Guide - Family Benefit for Children and Young People).

- turns 18 (if he/she turns 18 during the school year, he/she will maintain the entitlement to the Scholarship until the end of that year);
- fails to finish successfully a school year during secondary education, i.e., he/she does not meet the required school performance during secondary education (10th, 11th, or 12th grade) or equivalent;
- starts working, except if the work is carried out under an employment contract during school holidays.

Note: If a young person starts working outside the scope of an employment contract during school holidays, he/she must complete the form GF 54 - *Declaração/Alteração – Composição e Rendimentos do Agregado Familiar* (Statement/Change – Household Composition and Income). This form can be submitted at any Social Security Customer Information Service or sent by post to the Social Security services of the young person's residence area or to the District Centre responsible for the Family Benefit payment. Consequently, he/she will no longer be entitled to both the Family Benefit and the Scholarship.

- dies.

F – How to apply

It is not necessary to apply for the Scholarship:

- if the young person is entitled to the Scholarship, this support will be automatically paid with the Family Benefit for Children and Young People;

For more information, please consult section C – What are the entitlement conditions?

- the entitlement conditions are verified through the School Proof, which is submitted annually for the Family Allowance. This proof is usually mandatory as from the year the student turns 16;

- young people aged under 16 or young people with a disability, even if they are not required to submit the School Proof for the Family Benefit, must submit it if they are enrolled in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade and are in the 1st or 2nd income level of the Family Benefit.

If the School Proof is already automatically registered in the Social Security Online Service, it will be shown under the *Provas registadas* (Registered proofs) tab, and no further action is required. If it is not automatically registered, the student must register it through the Social Security Online Service, under the *Provas por registar* (Proofs to be registered) tab.

As for students enrolled in private establishments without an association contract with the State, in vocational training courses equivalent to the basic or secondary education levels, or in higher education establishments, they must submit their School Proofs through the Social Security Online Service.

For more information, please consult the *Guia Prático – Prova Escolar* (Practical Guide - School Proof).

Persons receiving both Survivor's Pension and Family Benefit only need to submit one School Proof to be entitled to both benefits.

G – Can the Scholarship be cumulated with other benefits?

G1. It can be cumulated with:

- Family Benefit for Children and Young People
- Prenatal Family Benefit
- Disability Bonus
- Increase in the Family Benefit amount for the second, third, or following children (for children aged 12 to 36 months, if there is more than one child)
- Increase in the Family Benefit for single parent families (if the child or young person lives with only one adult);
- Orphan's Pension;
- Survivor's Pension;
- Social Inclusion Benefit;
- Social Integration Income.
- Allowance for the Care provided by a Third Party;
- Allowance for the attendance of special education establishments.

Note: The Scholarship can be cumulated with work, provided that such work is carried out under an employment contract during school holidays, in accordance with Article 83-A of Law no. 110/2009 of 16 September - Code of the Contributory Schemes of the Social Security Welfare System -, and provided that it does not exceed the school holidays period established for the respective level of education.

Important: The work carried out cannot exceed the school holidays period established for the respective level of education.

G2. It cannot be cumulated with:

- Long-term Care Supplement;

- Occupational Disease;
- Unemployment Benefit;
- Sickness Benefit;
- Parental Allowance
- Unemployment Social Benefit.

H – What are my duties and penalties?

H1. Duties

- **Submit the documents requested by Social Security**, keep the proofs of enrolment for five years and submit them only when they are requested;
- Inform Social Security **within 10 business days** of any changes that determine the end of the Scholarship entitlement.

H2. Penalties:

If the duties are not fulfilled or illegal means are used to obtain the Scholarship, the person concerned will be subject to fines.

I – Supporting documentation

I1. Applicable legislation

Ministerial Order no. 60/2026/1 of 5 February

Updates the amounts of the Family Benefit for Children and Young People, Prenatal Family Benefit and Funeral Allowance for the year 2026.

Ministerial Order no. 480-A/2025/1 of 30 December

Updates the Social Support Index (IAS) value for the year 2026 (€537,13).

Decree-Law no. 139/2025 of 29 December

Updates the value of the guaranteed minimum monthly wage (i.e., the national minimum salary) for 2026, to €920,00.

Decree-Law no. 56/2022 of 19 August

Extends the Family Benefit coverage and changes the respective access levels.

Ministerial Order no. 191/2019 of 24 June

Regulates the terms and rules for the submission of the annual proof of school situation, foreseen in Article 43 of Decree-Law no. 176/2003 of 2 August, which defines the compensation for family expenses within the scope of the family protection subsystem.

It also regulates the terms and rules for the submission of the proof of school situation within the scope of the legal protection scheme in the event of death of beneficiaries from the general social security scheme, foreseen in Article 12 of Decree-Law no. 322/90 of 18 October, in its current wording.

Law no. 114/2017 of 29 December

Approves the State Budget for 2018. It amends Article 11 (b) and Article 22 (2), (3) and (4) of Decree-Law no. 176/2003 of 2 August, amended and republished by Decree-Law no. 133/2012 of 27 June. Amends Article 6 (2) of Decree-Law no. 70/2010 of 16 June, in its current wording.

Decree-Law no. 133/2012 of 27 June

Amends the legal schemes of social protection in the events of sickness, maternity, paternity, adoption and death, within the scope of the welfare system, the legal schemes of compensation of family expenses under the family protection subsystem and of the social integration income, the legal scheme regulating the recovery of unduly paid benefits and the means-testing law within the scope of the Social Security system, the rules on survivors' pensions and the legal scheme of social protection in the event of maternity, paternity and adoption within the scope of the converging social protection scheme for public servants.

Decree-Law no. 116/2010 of 22 October

Ends the Family Allowance granting for the 4th and 5th income levels and eliminates the 25% increase for the 1st and 2nd income levels.

Decree-Law no. 70/2010 of 16 June

Establishes the Means-Testing rules for the granting of and continued entitlement to benefits from the family protection subsystem and the solidarity subsystem.

Decree-Law no. 201/2009 of 28 August

Creates a new benefit called scholarship and amends Decree-Law no. 176/2003 of 2 August, in the wording given by Decree-Laws no. 41/2006 of 21 February, no. 87/2008 of 28 May and no. 245/2008 of 18 December.

Order no. 1277/2007 of 27 September

Approves the application form model for the Prenatal Family Benefit and the Family Benefit for Children and Young People.

Law no. 4/2007 of 16 January

Social Security Framework Law.

Ministerial Order no. 458/2006 of 18 May

Establishes the conditions under which foreign citizens residing in Portugal are treated as residents for the purpose of family benefits granting, in accordance with Decree-Law no. 41/2006, of 21 February.

Decree-Law no. 176/2003 of 2 August

Establishes the Family Benefit for Children and Young People and defines protection in the event of family expenses within the scope of the family protection subsystem.

Regulation (EEC) no. 1408/71 of the Council of 14 June

Application of Social Security Schemes to employed persons and members of their families moving within the community.

J – Glossary

School year

The period from 1 September to 31 August of the following year.

Schooling Year

Corresponds to the education level (e.g., 9th grade, 10th grade, etc.).

Equivalent to Secondary Education

Please consult Section K – Frequently Asked Questions.

K – Frequently Asked Questions

How is the educational level of a vocational training course determined?

It depends on the school grade required to enrol in the course:

- if it is not necessary to have completed the 9th grade, the course is equivalent to basic education;
- if it is necessary to have completed the 9th grade, the course is equivalent to secondary education;
- if it is necessary to have completed the 12th grade, the course is equivalent to higher education.