

RENT BENEFIT INFORMATION

For residents of Milestone Chapter Lucia

Academic year Aug 2023 - July 2024

CAN I GET RENT BENEFIT?

You are only eligible for receiving rent benefit when you meet the following requirements:

- ✓ you are between 18 -22 years old;
- ✓ your annual income is not too high (depends on your age, rent, household composition)
- ✓ you have less than €33.748 of savings/stocks on your name
- ✓ you have the Dutch nationality or a valid residence permit
- ✓ you have registered your Lucia address at the Rotterdam Municipality
- ✓ you have received your Citizen Service Number / BSN (<https://bit.ly/citizenservicenumber>)
- ✓ you have a DigiD (https://bit.ly/digid_nl)

If you tick all of these boxes, you may qualify for rent benefit up to € 226,- a month (the exact amount of compensation depends on your income).

I WILL BE A RESIDENT AT LUCIA. WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR IT?

You can apply as soon as you checked all of the boxes above. If you start all of these registrations at the EUC Information Market at the start of the academic year, then you should be able to apply for rent benefit by the 1st August and you will receive your first benefit payment on the 20th of September. You can also apply later and you will receive the monthly benefit payouts in retrospect, but keep in mind that registration date of your address at the Municipality is leading for the start date of the rent benefit.

HOW DO I APPLY?

1. Go to the www.toeslagen.nl (this is a website of the Dutch Tax Office that concerns benefits)
2. Log in with your DigiD:
 - a. click "Inloggen"-button top right.
 - b. select "Mijn Toeslagen".
 - c. select top option "Mijn Toeslagen – inloggen met DigiD".
 - d. Go through the DigiD steps.
3. Click on "Aanvragen" behind "Huurtoeslag"
4. Answer the questions in the online application form.
5. Make sure to apply for rent benefit as per 1-9-2023 (they only calculate per the 1st of a month, so if you have registered your address in August, this is the earliest starting point. If your address registration was confirmed per Sept 1st or later, you can apply per 1-10-2023).
6. When you get to the question about your rent and service charges, this is what you fill out:
 - a. Basic rent ("rekenhuur" excl. service charges): €452
 - b. SC#1 – Utility costs for common areas €0
 - c. SC#2 – Cleaning costs for common areas €0
 - d. SC#3 – Caretaker costs €0
 - e. SC#4 – Costs for service- and recreational areas €0

The application form is in Dutch. If you need/like help filling it out, just make a service appointment with your Resident Manager.

I HAVE APPLIED FOR RENT BENEFIT. WHEN DO I HEAR ANYTHING?

Usually within 5 weeks of the application, you receive a letter that your application has been confirmed or denied. It makes sense to download the app “Berichtenbox”, as this allows the Belastingdienst and (local) Government to contact you directly. In case of any decisions/updates/changes, you will get a notification in this app. You can also login to www.toeslagen.nl regularly to check for any updates.

WHEN IS RENT BENEFIT PAID OUT?

Rent benefit payment is paid out once a month, usually around the 20th of each month. It is meant to be an advance payment for next month’s rent, so rent benefit for the month of December is paid out on the 20th of November. If, for some reason, you apply for rent benefit not in August, but later in the year, previous months will be paid out retroactively. For example, if you apply for rent benefit in January 2024 as of 1-9-2023, you will receive 6 months of rent benefit on the 20th of February (Sept + Oct + Dec + Jan + Feb + March).

I TRIED TO APPLY, BUT THE FORM SAYS SOMEONE ELSE REGISTERED TO MY ADDRESS

This is probably a former student that has not de-registered from their Lucia address yet. The quickest solution is to call the tax service and tell them there is an unknown tenant registered to your address. In most cases they remove this tenant from their system, so you can continue with your application. Your MILESTONE Resident Manager is happy to assist, if needed.

Please note that if the previous tenant is still registered to your address, this will have consequences on your local taxes too (these are charged to you by the Municipality, not the Belastingdienst). The Waste Tax is based on how many people are registered on an address. If 2 people are registered, the Municipality concludes you must be living together and charges you for a 2 person household, which is a much higher rate than a 1 person household (as 2 people generate more trash than 1). So in this case, it is smart to start an [“address investigation” on the website of the Municipality](#). This sounds rather complicated but it’s done in 2 minutes, and basically you are telling the Municipality to look into your address, because someone is registered who does not live there. The Municipality will then look into it and will de-register the other person from your address. This is important,

I STILL HAVE QUESTIONS

Make sure to contact your Resident Manager if you still have questions about rent benefit. Your RM is available in person at Lucia during reception hours. Outside of reception hours your RM is available via email and phone.

Reception Hours

Monday 9:00 – 14:00

Tuesday 9:00 – 14:00

Wednesday - off

Thursday 9:00 -14:00

Friday 9:00 -14:00

Email: explore.lucia@milestone.net

Phone: +316 1888 6993