

Who is eligible for parental leave in Sweden?

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Parental leave is granted to parents, usually after maternity and paternity leave, allowing mothers and fathers to take care of their young children without losing their jobs. Such a policy exists in all EU Member States and in Sweden it is called Förlädraförsäkring. The policy design and eligibility rules vary across the EU, including in Sweden, and not all women and men in the EU are eligible for parental leave.

Parental leave in Sweden is:

- 42 weeks (36 months)
- Full compensation (80% of previous earnings with an upper ceiling of SEK 447 783 per year (2024))
- Gender equality: men's right and parity opportunities to other parents

Almost all women and men in employment are eligible for parental leave.

This factsheet is based on an eligibility study of how many women and men (aged 20-49) would be eligible for parental leave if they had a child in 2017 and the reasons behind their non-eligibility (%). For Sweden, it is not possible to simulate all the conditions that apply due to data restrictions.

All parents living in Sweden, with the exception of those without a residence or work permit, are eligible for leave - which is paid at a flat rate.

For parents eligible for wage-related benefits, 195 days of leave are paid at the level of 77% of earnings, up to an earnings ceiling of SEK 447 783 (SEK 850) per year, the remaining 40 days are paid at a flat rate payment of SEK 180 (SEK) a day. Parents who are not eligible for the wage-related leave receive a flat rate of SEK 250 (SEK 250) a day for 195 days and for the last 40 days, they also receive SEK 180 (SEK) a day.

Who is eligible for parental leave in Sweden?

- ✓ Employees
- ✓ Self-employed
- ✓ Same-sex parents
- ✓ Non-citizens (*) (including asylum seekers)

In the EU-28 (%)

- 15 countries restrict access to employees with short working duration before birth (not Sweden)
- The self-employed are not eligible in 10 countries (not Sweden)
- 11 countries do not allow access for same-sex parents (not Sweden)
- 18 limit access to refugees or asylum seekers (including no access for asylum seekers in Sweden)

(*) Residence for labour law (refugees and asylum seekers) when they apply for a child in the application, is considered as eligible.
 (**) Women share categories multidimensional and cover all EU-28 countries, the country variable, refugees and asylum seekers.
 (***) The data is collected before the child's birth or adoption.

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Read more

[Factsheet: Who is eligible for parental leave in the EU-28?](#) →

[Factsheets: Eligibility for parental leave in EU Member States](#) →

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