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Factsheet on sharing the costs of education and care in accordance with Article 32 ff. KFSV

Obligation to contribute to costs

If a child is placed in residential care or receives non-residential care that is pre-financed by the Canton of Bern, the parents must contribute to the costs.

The amount of their cost contribution depends on their financial circumstances. If the parents receive social assistance or supplementary benefits, they are not required to pay towards the costs.

Children and young adults are only required to contribute to the costs of their residential accommodation if they pay tax on their income and assets independently and have an annual income of over CHF 55,000.

Calculation of the contribution to costs

The calculation is based on the information in the most recent tax assessment decision. In the case of self-employed persons, the calculation is based on the last three tax assessment decisions.

If the parents do not live together, the contribution to costs is calculated individually. A cost contribution is also calculated for a parent who already makes maintenance payments. These payments are taken into account when calculating that parent's contribution.

Social Services are responsible for calculating the contribution to costs. They agree with the parents on the amount of the contribution. The parents then receive a bill each month from the Cantonal Youth Welfare Office (where payment is made by mutual agreement) or from Social Services (where measures have been ordered).

No agreement

If no agreement can be reached between Social Services and the parents, all the case documents are forwarded by Social Services to the Cantonal Youth Welfare Office. The Cantonal Youth Welfare Office will then claim the cost contribution by bringing civil proceedings against the parent or parents concerned.

Relevant legislation

- Cantonal Act on Services for Children with Special Support and Protection Needs (KFSG)

- Cantonal Ordinance on Services for Children with Special Support and Protection Needs (KFSV)

Do you have any questions?

We hope that this factsheet has provided you with the most important information. However, if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact:

- the social services office responsible for your case

Further information is available on the website of the Cantonal Youth Welfare Office: [Sharing costs: the normal procedure](#)