Financial Assistance
– Here's what you need to know
What is financial assistance?
Financial assistance, (formerly known as welfare benefits) is for persons who have ended up in a situation that temporarily makes it difficult to support themselves. Financial assistance is a final safety net, and is only to be used when there is no other solution. Financial assistance is a need-based and temporary. The application is made once per month. The aim is always to become self-sufficient.

When you apply for financial assistance, you are put in contact with a labour market officer. Together, you make a plan that will allow you to manage financially and become self-sufficient.

Can I receive financial assistance?
Before you apply for financial assistance, you must have applied for other benefits and allowances to which you may be entitled, such as housing benefits, maintenance support, or unemployment benefits. If you have money in the bank or other financial assets, you must use these to support yourself before you can receive financial assistance. If you are married/cohabitating and your spouse or partner can support you, you cannot receive financial assistance.

What are my rights and obligations?
You have a personal responsibility to plan your finances and you must actively work to become self-sufficient. You are required to be in contact with the municipal labour market officer and to follow the plan the two of you make for you to become self-sufficient. You must also be registered with the Swedish Public Employment Service and be actively seeking work.

If you are a student, you must support yourself with student grants and loans or other student financial aid. As a rule, financial assistance
is not granted to students. During the summer holiday, you may be eligible for financial assistance if you actively sought work all spring but failed to find a job.

It is important that you provide accurate information and not omit anything. If you knowingly provide false information, you may be prosecuted or required to repay the funds you were granted.

What should financial assistance cover?
Financial assistance is based on the national standard, which the government determines on an annual basis and which is common to all municipalities.
Financial assistance should cover reasonable costs for food, hygiene, clothing, leisure, consumables, and well as TV/phone subscriptions. If necessary, a household can also apply for assistance in covering expenses for accommodation, electricity, unemployment insurance fees, dental care, medication, medical care, glasses, work travel, and home insurance.

How much assistance can I receive?
The amount of financial assistance is affected by the entire household’s income and assets. A calculation based on your past financial situation is also made, in order to investigate your financial situation over the past few months.

On the website of the National Board of Health and Welfare, you can read more about both the national standard and the calculation of financial assistance. You can also make a simplified calculation to find out if your finances are above or below the level required for income support.
How to apply for financial assistance

Applications for financial assistance are to be made digitally via: www.karlskrona.se/ekonomiskt bistand

You need a mobile banking ID or other e-identification. If you do not have an e-ID, please contact your bank.

You can get help with applying for financial assistance from the reception staff at Stora Möllebacksgäränd 10.

Before you apply

- You may only apply once per month. Before you apply, be sure to collect all the information about your income and expenditures that must be examined. Once you submit your application for a monthly period, the e-application closes for new applications. It will re-open fifteen days before the next monthly period begins.
- If you are applying with a second person, you must both sign the completed application.
- If you are awarded financial assistance, the funds will be disbursed via your social security number. Karlskrona Municipality cooperates with Swedbank and it is therefore important that you register the account into which you wish for the funds to be deposited on Swedbank’s website. This applies if you have a different bank than Swedbank or have multiple accounts in Swedbank.

If this is your first time applying for financial assistance

1. If this is your first time applying for financial assistance, you must meet with a labour market officer within 48 hours. Your application will not be processed until you have been to the meeting with the labour market officer.
To see your assigned appointment time, log in to your application once again the day after you first submitted it.

You should bring the following documents to your appointment with the labour market officer.
- Action plan from the Swedish Public Employment Service
- Any sick leave notices issued by a doctor

2. Within five business days, you must supplement your application with copies of the following documents:
  • Account statement and account overview from the bank
  • Rental contract
  • Decision regarding your residence permit(s)

Submit the documents to the reception desk at the Möllebacksgränd 10 or send them to:
Karlskrona kommun, Enheten för ekonomiskt bistånd, 371 83 Karlskrona.

Important things to keep in mind

– In order for your need to be investigated, your application must be complete and include all the required information.

– The application is made once per month.

– In order for your application to be considered, you must submit all the necessary documentation.
If you have previously applied for financial assistance

If you have already applied for financial assistance digitally through the service and have a current case, you do not need to attach any documentation to your application. But be sure to save documents; in the event of an audit, you must be able to prove the information you provided in your application.

The one exception is if you are applying for assistance in order to pay for dental care or glasses. In that case, you must be able to justify the expense with supporting documentation, which is to be submitted to the reception desk or alternatively sent via postal mail.

What happens after I apply?

Once you have applied, your entitlement to financial assistance will be investigated. If you are applying for the first time, you must meet with a labour market officer and make a plan for self-sufficiency before your application is examined.

Once the investigation and calculation are complete, a decision will be made. Both the decision and the calculation can be found by logging in to your application again.

If you are not satisfied with the decision, you have the right to appeal.

Appeals must be sent to:
- Karlskrona kommun
- Arbetsmarknadsförvaltningen
- Enheten för ekonomiskt bistånd
- 371 83 Karlskrona
You are welcome to contact us

Reception and appointments: Stora Möllebacksgränd 10

Opening hours: Weekdays from 10.00-16.00
Reception telephone number for new cases and information: 0455-30 43 46 weekdays from 09.00-10.00

To get in touch with your caseworker, call the Karlskrona Municipality switchboard – 0455-30 30 00 – and ask to be connected to your caseworker. Caseworkers are available by phone on weekdays from 09:00-10:00.

Postal Address:
Karlskrona kommun
Arbetsmarknadsförvaltningen
Enheten för ekonomiskt bistånd
371 83 Karlskrona

Email: ekonomisktbistand@karlskrona.se

Applications: www.karlskrona.se/ekonomisktbistand