



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA DELO,
DRUŽINO IN SOCIALNE ZADEVE

Rights from public funds

Means-tested social transfers



Contest

1. General about social assistance system
2. Procedure for the recognition of social transfers
3. Cash social transfers
 - ❖ child benefit
 - ❖ financial social assistance
 - ❖ income support and
 - ❖ state scholarship
4. Statistics

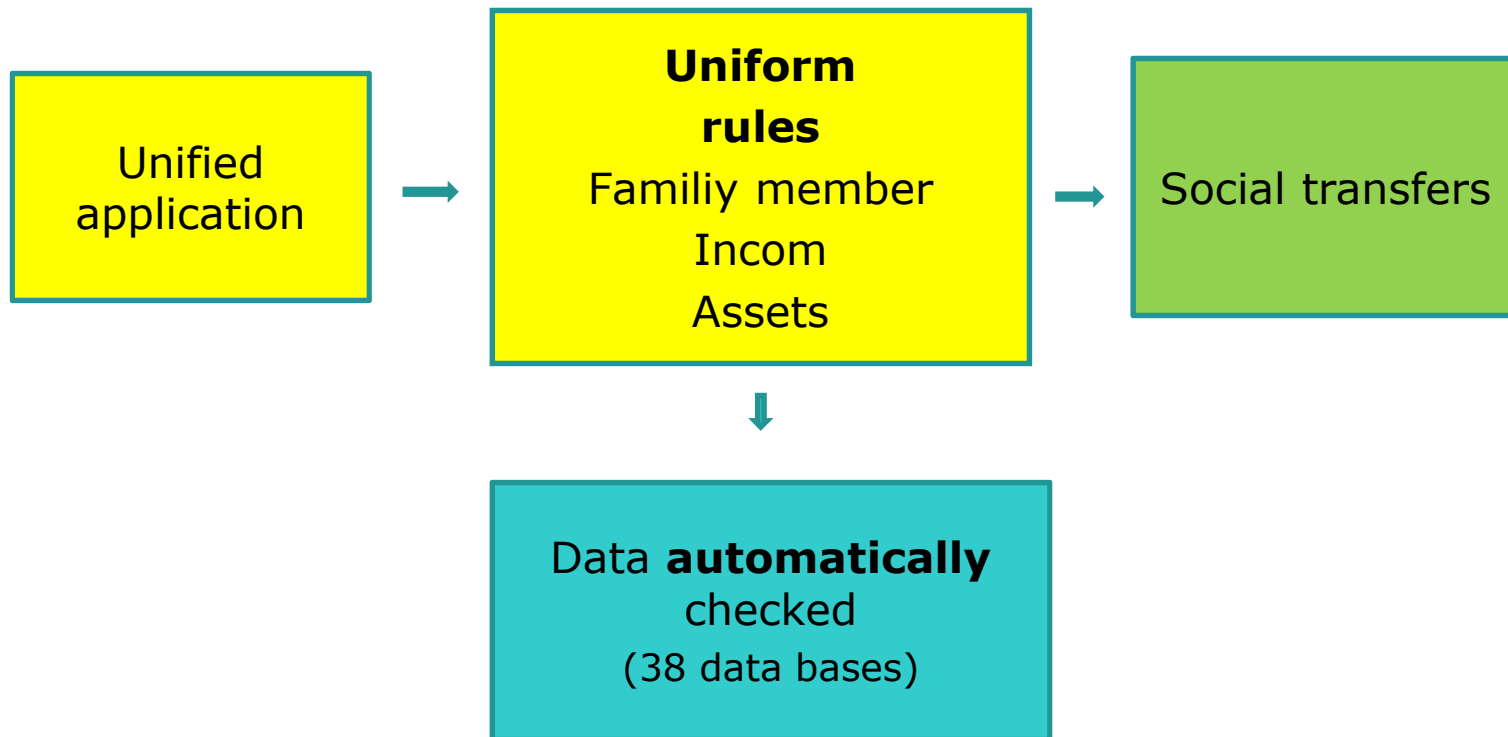


General

- ❖ Social assistance (SA) is one of the fields of social security.
- ❖ It is based on the provision of the Constitution
 - ❖ Slovenia is a social state (Article 2)
 - ❖ The state is guaranteeing the right to social security (Article 50)
 - ❖ Equality and non-discrimination (Article 14)
 - ❖ The right to personal dignity and security (Article 34)
- ❖ The basic starting point of SA is guaranteeing dignity and equal opportunities and preventing social exclusion.

Reform in 2012

- ❖ Social transfers are paid conditionally on passing a **means test**.
- ❖ **Uniform procedure** for all social transfers.





Claims and administration

- ❖ The eligibility of all social benefits are determined by **Centres of Social Work** (16).
- ❖ If application is refused – an applicant has the right to an appeal to the **Ministry** of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities
- ❖ Judicial protection can be asserted within the **Labour and Social Court**.



Social transfers

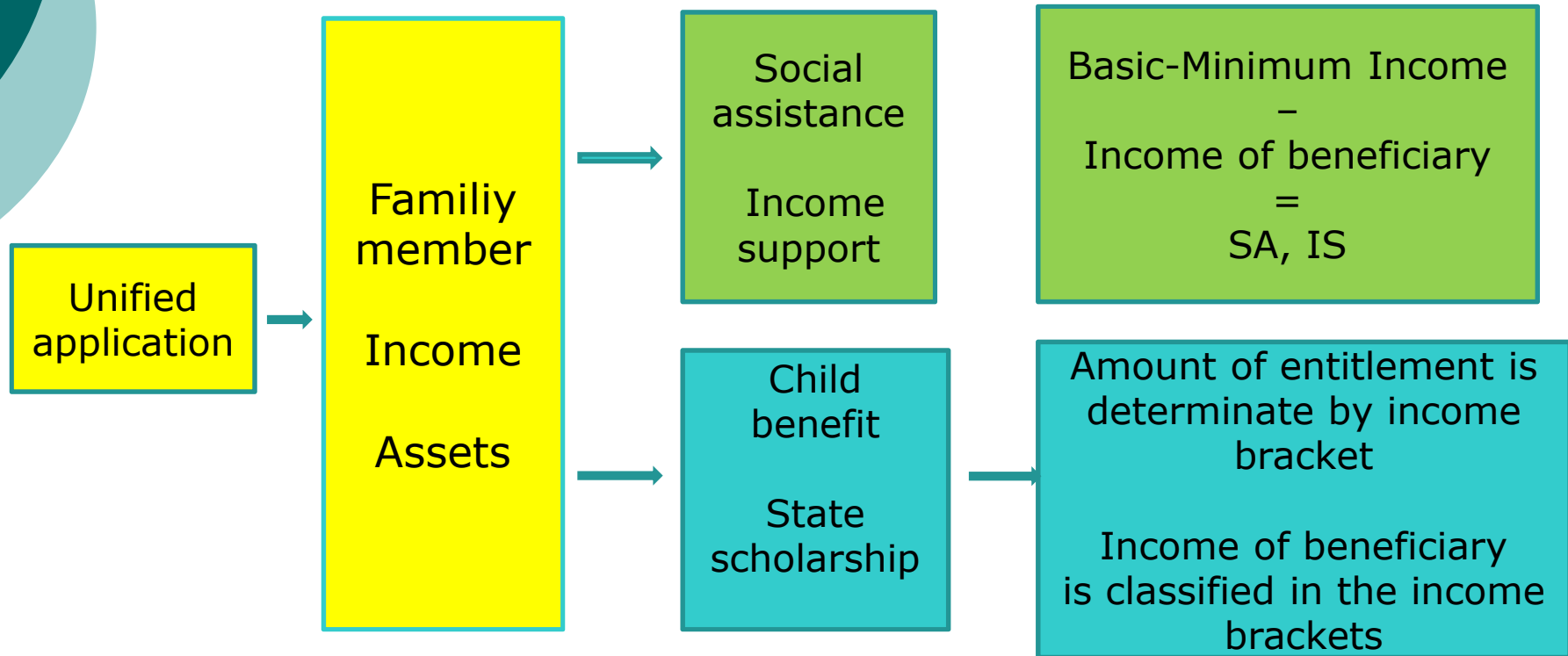
Cash social transfers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ child benefit❖ financial social assistance❖ income support and❖ state scholarship
Different subsidies and others payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ subsidies for pre-school child care in kindergardens❖ subsidies for meals in primary and secondary schools❖ partial or exemption from payment for different social care services (institutional care), etc.



Cash social transfers - priority order

1. child benefit
2. financial social assistance
3. income support
4. state scholarship

Important - the amount of previously granted benefit is calculated in the family income when means-testing for the next benefit. The aim was to prevent the accumulation of benefits.





1. Child benefit

- ❖ It is a complementary income guaranteed by the state for the child's **subsistence, upbringing** and **education**.
- ❖ The parent has the right to a child benefit if the child has temporary or permanent residence and actually live in Slovenia until the child reaches the age of **18 years**.
- ❖ Amount depends on the **income bracket** a family fits into
 - ❖ 8 income brackets
 - ❖ average monthly income must not exceed 99% neto average wage per family member
- ❖ If the family has two or more children, the amount for each subsequent child is higher

Example of family in a 1. income bracket (no or low income):

- ❖ 1. child 114,31 eur
- ❖ 2. child 125,73 eur
- ❖ 3. and next child 137,18 eur



2. Financial social assistance

- ❖ is of subsidiary nature and is intended to **cover expenses** for meeting **minimum living requirements**.
- ❖ **Beneficiaries:**
 - ❖ Persons who have permanent residence in Slovenia AND
 - ❖ are unable to assure means for the minimal income for themselves and their family for reasons which they are unable to change.
 - ❖ Beneficiary is an individual (not have a family) or a family.
- ❖ **Conditional:** it is paid with a requirement to work or to demonstrate willingness-to-work.



How to set the amount of FSA

- ❖ First: set the **minimum income**

Income indispensable for satisfying essential consumer goods, ie food and non-alcoholic beverages, clothing and footwear, housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels, health, transport, communication and education.

- ❖ Basic MI for individual is set by the law: 392, 875 eur,
- ❖ MI for family it must be calculated

Example: family with one child

parent(1x 392,75)+parent(0,57x392,75)+child (0,59 x 392,75) = 848,31 eur

- ❖ Second: set **income** of individual or family


- ❖ Third: **MI – income = financial social assistance**

- ❖ *Individual: 392,75 – 0 = 392,75 eur*
- ❖ *Family: 848,31 - 0 = 848,31 eur*



Duration of the FSA

- ❖ **from 1 to 3 months:** when the application is filed for the first time,
- ❖ **from 1 to 6 months:** in the case of a re-application,
- ❖ **for a maximum of 1 year:** illness or disability or other circumstances, it is not possible to expect an improvement in the social situation of the beneficiary,
- ❖ **permanently:** for a person who is permanently unemployed or permanently incapable of work; over 63 years of age for women and over 65 years for men; in institutional care.

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- ❖ **Periodic:** it is paid at regular intervals, every month
 - ❖ **Cash payment:** exceptionally, it is realized in the form of payment bills, purchasing the supplies.



Extraordinary social assistance

- ❖ **granted in exceptional circumstances**
 - ❖ when a person finds himself in a situation of temporary material deprivation, caused by extraordinary living expenses which he cannot cover with his or her own income
- ❖ awarded on a discretionary basis
- ❖ maximum 5 times a year



Bereavement and funeral payment

- ❖ **Specific types** of extraordinary financial social assistance - the purpose is to provide financial assistance to relatives of the deceased and cover funeral costs
- ❖ **Beneficiaries:**
 - ❖ Family member of the deceased person (spouse, child, parents, brother, sister, nephew, niece, grandchildren)
 - ❖ who are entitled or could be entitled to social assistance or whose income is below the prescribed threshold
- ❖ **Social transfers**
 - ❖ **bereavement payment** - the amount is equal to BMI= 392,75 eur
 - ❖ **funeral payment** - the amount is 2x BMI = 785,50 eur, but must not exceed the actual cost of the funeral



3. Income support

- ❖ Income support is intended to **cover long-term living expenses** (accommodation expenses etc.).
- ❖ The general conditions are the same as for the financial social assistance.
- ❖ **Beneficiaries:**
 - ❖ who is permanently unemployed or permanently unable to work or
 - ❖ over 63 years of age for women and over 65 years for men

and

- ❖ whom income does not exceed the threshold for income support (EUR 577,34 EUR).



4. The state scholarship

- ❖ for pupils (high school) and students who are trained and derived from socially weaker families
- ❖ amount depends on the:
 - ❖ **income bracket** a family fits into
 - ❖ 6 income brackets
 - ❖ average monthly income must not exceed 64% average wage per family member
 - ❖ **the age of a child**
 - ❖ the amount of state scholarship is higher for children from 18 years old (parents not entitled for child benefit)
 - ❖ Example for 1. income bracket (no or low income): child under 18 years - 95 eur, child over 18 years - 190 eur.



Statistics

Number of residents in Slovenia	2.067.284
Financial social assistance	83.000 (4% of total Slovenian population)
Extraordinary financial social assistance	5.000 (0.2% of total Slovenian population)
Income support	18.000 (0.9% of total Slovenian population)
State scholarship	47.000 (2.3% of total Slovenian population)
Child benefit	280.000 (13.5% of total Slovenian population)



Statistics

- ❖ Neto minimum wage 638 eur
- ❖ Neto average wage 1.082,88 EUR
- ❖ Financial social assistance for individual 392,75 eur (61% of minimum wage)
- ❖ Average financial social assistance 352,61 eur (55% of minimum wage)

- ❖ The poverty threshold for 2016 is 7.396 EUR per year or 616 EUR per month/per person
In 2016 280.000 people lived under poverty treshold (13,9% population).



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Thank you for your attention.

Mag. Valentina Vehovar, Head of Division

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