

Flyer article - Childcare-service voucher (« chèque service »)



Our children: our present and future

A new measure to promote the wellbeing of children

On 1 March 2009, the childcare-service voucher system will come into force. It was set up by the Ministry for Family and Integration in cooperation with the communes. The main objective of this innovative system is to provide extra-curricular support and an environment in which children can flourish. It will help parents strike a balance between family life and professional and social responsibilities.

What, who, why and how

What is the service voucher?

The voucher scheme gives each child the right, whatever the parents' income, to at least three free hours per week. The scheme also offers 21 hours at a reduced rate (maximum EUR 3 per hour). The actual fee varies depending on the income of the household and the birth order of the child.

Who is eligible?

All children who fulfil the following conditions:

- Resident in a Luxembourg commune.
- Aged between 0 and 12 and/or still in primary education.

Why a voucher scheme?

This is the first step towards free extra-curricular care. Extra-curricular care is a school of life which aims to promote social cohesion and equality of opportunities while encouraging social inclusion for all children living in Luxembourg. It is a valuable investment for the future.

How does it work?

Parents who wish to benefit from the voucher scheme must register at their local commune (information required: social security number of child, financial status). They will receive a personalised registration card and their registration is valid for 12 months, free of charge. The registration procedure with the childcare service remains the same: parents must contact the facility of their choice and their children will be admitted if places are available.

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Who does what?

- **Communes:** they register the child and provide the registration card.
- **Educational childcare facilities:** day-care centres, crèches, childcare centres, nurseries, boarding schools and parental assistants.
- **Additional services available from September 2009:** institutions providing music classes and other extra-curricular training services.

Value of the service voucher

Free	Service voucher rate max. € 3 / h	Socio-family rate max. € 7.50 / h
0-3 hours per week	4-24 hours per week	25-60 hours per week

Additional benefits are granted to children at risk of exclusion.

For more information:

- Call 8002 1112 free of charge (Luxembourgish, French, German and Portuguese).
- Request your 'service voucher' brochure (available in French, German and Portuguese) by calling 8002 1112 (free of charge).
- Check out our internet site: www.cheque-service.lu

**The childcare-service voucher:
Children - at the heart of everything!**