



Statement by a specialist

Student grant in case of ‘leave parental income out of consideration’ Regulation

Students can apply to the Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs (Education Executive Agency, ‘DUO’) for a supplementary grant, as part of their student grant. The supplementary grant depends on their parental income. DUO will request details of the parental income from the Dutch Tax and Customs Administration (Belastingdienst). DUO can also request details directly from the parents, where, for instance, a parent does not earn an income in the Netherlands.

Parents may sometimes be unwilling or unable to cooperate. In certain situations, students can invoke the ‘leave parental income out of consideration’ regulation, under which they ask DUO to leave the income of one or both parents out of consideration for the purpose of calculating the supplementary grant.

Why is a statement required?

A request submitted by a student to leave their parents’ income out of consideration for the purpose of calculating the supplementary grant must be supported by statements. That is a legal requirement. DUO will ask the student to submit a statement by a specialist, such as a student counsellor, study advisor, social worker, psychologist or youth care worker. That is why the student has come to you with this information sheet. The sheet specifies the information required in your statement, and for which three situations you may be asked to provide a statement.

Requirements of your statement

The statement you write should:

- relate to the personal situation of the student
- be based on your own knowledge or examination of the student's personal situation
- be signed by you
- be written on letter headed paper of the institution you work for.

Situations in which a statement is required

Situation 1: no contact since age 12

The student has not had any significant contact with one or both parents since the age of 12 or earlier.

Your statement should include at least the following information:

- the age from which the student has had no contact with one or both parents
- that the student is estranged from one or both parents, giving also (briefly) the reasons for the estrangement.

Situation 2: serious ongoing dispute

The student has a serious ongoing dispute with one or both parents. The dispute is not solely about financial matters.

Your statement should clearly indicate:

- the gravity of the conflict
- since what age the student has been estranged from one or both parents as a result of the ongoing dispute
- how the dispute developed
- the background and causes of the broken parent-child relationship.

Situation 3: the student does not know where their parent or parents live

Your statement should include at least the following information:

- what the relationship between parent or parents and the student was like
- how that relationship developed over time and why the student does not know where their parent or parents currently live.

Situation 4: refugee

Your statement must include at least the following information:

- that the student as a single refugee has fled to the Netherlands or has applied for asylum.
- and that the parent(s) are/is still abroad.

Please note: if the parent(s) is in the Netherlands, please mention the full personal details in the statement.

Privacy

DUO will only use your statement to establish whether the parental income can be left out of consideration. Your statement will not be used for any other purpose. DUO will handle the information with due care, based on the requirements set out in relevant privacy legislation.

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