

# GET YOUR CHILD GRANT NOW!

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## **The Child Support Grant (R200 a month as at 2007)**

• This grant is given to any adult who takes care of a child under the age of 14 years.  
To apply for a Child Support Grant an adult must:

- Not get any other money for looking after the child.
- Have an income of less than R800 if you live in a town or city.
- Have an income of less than R1 100 if you live in a rural area or informal settlement.
- Be the child's parent or person looking after the child.

## **The Foster Care Grant (R620 a month as at 2007)**

- The Foster Care Grant is given to a person who has the permission of the Court to look after children who are not their own. This person is known as a foster parent.
- The foster parent needs a court order to apply for the grant.
- Children who are younger than 18 years old can get this grant.

## **The Care Dependency Grant (R870 as at 2007)**

- The Care Dependency Grant is given to people who care for children who have disabilities, are seriously ill and need special care all the time.
- To apply for the grant you need a medical report from a health worker that says what kind of disability the child has and what special care the child needs.

## **What does an adult need to apply for a child grant?**

- Proof of how much the adult earns.
- A 13-digit bar coded birth certificate for the child.
- A 13-digit bar coded South African identity document.
- Your marriage certificate or proof of customary marriage. If you are not married anymore, then a copy of the divorce order, annulment or death certificate.
- A death certificate, if the parents of the child are dead.
- If the child's parents are alive, an affidavit to say that the adult has permission to look after the child.

## **How to get an identity document:**

- If you are 15 years or older, you can apply for an ID with the Department of Home Affairs.
- You must fill in Form BI-9.
- Your finger prints will be taken.
- There is no charge.

## **What you need to bring with you in order to apply for an id document:**

- Two identity photographs. You can have these photos taken at some Home Affairs or mobile photo units. There is a charge for taking photographs.
- If you are married, your marriage certificate.
- A certified copy of your birth certificate. If you do not have a birth certificate, you must take any documents which will help to prove the identity of the child or adult whose birth was never registered - like for example:
  - Certificate by the hospital, maternity home or clinic where the child was born. This must be signed by the person in charge, with the official stamp of the hospital or clinic.
  - Affidavits from the parents stating when and where the child was born. Give reasons why the birth was not registered. If the parents are not available, than a relative who is at least 10 years older than the applicant must make an affidavit.
  - A letter or certificate from the school register of the first school the child went to. This must include the name of the child, date of birth, and date he or she started at the school. The letter or certificate must be on the school's letterhead. It must be signed by the principal and have the school's stamp. If you have school reports, these will also help.

- Baptism certificate issued within 5 years of the applicant's date of birth.
- Statement from a person of good standing in the community. This person will have to go with the applicant to Home Affairs, and both people will be interviewed separately.
- If the child is abandoned, a social worker's report.
- Clinic card.
- Any other documents which may help to prove the child's or adult's identity.

## **How to get a birth certificate**

### Newborn baby

The parents must register the baby with Home Affairs within 30 days after the birth.

- You must fill in Form BI-24.
- When you register your baby, you will receive a birth certificate. Often when you register you can get the birth certificate on the same day.
- If you register your baby after one month, but before 1 year, you must give reasons why you did not register your baby earlier.
- There is no charge.

What documents do you need to register a baby's birth?

- You must take the maternity certificate or clinic card to Home Affairs.
- You also need your identity document.

### A child between the ages of 1 and 15 years

- You must fill in Form BI-24/1.
- The parents or guardian of the child must give reasons why they did not register the baby within 30 days.
- There is no charge.
- You must take documents to prove the identity of the child (as above).

### A child over 15 years or adult who birth has never been registered

- You must complete a Form BI-24/15 to register a birth. There is no charge.
- You must also fill in a Form BI-9 for an identity document. There is no charge.
- You must give written reasons why the birth was not registered within 30 day after the birth.
- You must take documents to prove the identity of the child (as above).

Information kindly lent to Childline SA by ACCESS – [www.aces.org.za](http://www.aces.org.za)