

## What?

The social investigation is an individual research that allows the Public Centre for Social Welfare (in Dutch: OCMW) to:

- ⊕ obtain all the necessary information for an **accurate diagnosis** what problems there are and what their scope is;
- ⊕ **check** specific **admission requirements**;
- ⊕ **provide** appropriate **services**.

The OCMW does this according to the appropriate methods of social work while respecting the ideological, philosophical or religious convictions of the people concerned.

## Where to?

The OCMW must evaluate each request for assistance or service taking its legal mission into account: to enable everyone to live a life that respects human dignity.

## By whom?

The social research regarding the Right to Social Integration (see also fact sheet 9) must be carried out by a qualified **social worker**.



## Steps

A social investigation consists of several steps:

- ⊕ **Application**: Any social work request on which the Special Committee on Social Welfare (In Dutch: Bijzonder Comité Sociale Dienst, BCSD) has to take a decision must be entered in the register of applications on the day of the application.
- ⊕ An **initial interview** is a first, explorative conversation concerning the problems the client has, and the help the OCMW can offer. The required information to take further steps gets noted onto the application form that gets signed by the parties involved with the declaration "Read and Approved, Signed".
- ⊕ Afterwards the social worker will collect all the **necessary information** about the possible rights of those in question and their living and income situation. If it involves a social research in the context of social allowance a home visit is required.
- ⊕ All essential information is written in a **social report** with a preposition for help and or support for the BCSD (see also fact sheet 8).
- ⊕ A **decision** about the attribution of help and support should be made, within 30 days of the request, starting the day of the request.



PPS Social integration: [Wegwijs in het sociaal onderzoek](https://www.mi-is.be)  
[www.mi-is.be](https://www.mi-is.be)