

## The right to social integration

The Right to Social Integration (in Dutch: recht op maatschappelijke integratie, RMI) is the final element of our social security. It is intended for anyone who has insufficient means of subsistence and has no or only limited entitlement to an income from employment, unemployment, illness or disability.

The law on RMI (2002) replaces the law on 'subsistence minimum' (1974) and shifts the focus from poverty reduction through an allowance to social integration via employment and/or an allowance.

*"Every person has the right to social integration. Under the conditions stipulated in this law, this right can consist of an **employment** and/or a **social assistance benefit** which may or may not be accompanied by an **individualised social integration project (ISIP)**. It is the task of the Public Centre for Social Welfare to ensure this right." (art. 2 Law of 26 May 2002)*

## Employment

The mission of the Public Centre for Social Welfare (in Dutch: OCMW) to lead clients to employment can be fulfilled by offering a full-fledged job or by developing an Individualised Social Integration Project (ISIP, in Dutch: GPMI) that leads to employment in the long run.

## Social allowance

Awaiting employment or when unable to work for reasons of health or equity, those in need are entitled to a social allowance.

To be entitled to social assistance, they must meet certain legal requirements.

The social allowance is applied for at the OCMW where the applicant lives, and a receipt is issued to them. A social worker then carries out a **social investigation** (see also fact sheet 7) to check whether the legal conditions are met. The result is recorded in a social report (see also fact sheet 8) that is submitted to the Special Committee Social Welfare (in Dutch: Bijzonder Comité voor de Sociale Dienst, BCSD). This committee decides within thirty days.



The social allowance (as from 1/1/2021) is:  
**656,45 euros** per month for a cohabitant;  
**984,68 euros** per month for a single person;  
**1330,74 euros** per month for a person living with dependent children.

## ISIP

The ISIP/GPMI is a contract with reciprocal agreements between the person qualified for a social allowance and the OCMW. The contract concerns the integration of this person in the professional life and/or in society (see also fact sheet 10).



PPS Social Integration: Information on social assistance [www.mi-is.be](http://www.mi-is.be)