

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>Country</b>  | GREECE – IASIS NGO |
| <b>Type of disability</b>   |                    |
| <p>According to the National Confederation of People with Disabilities, there are different types of disabilities, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobility Disability</li> <li>• Sensory Disability (such as deafness, blindness etc.)</li> <li>• Mental Disability</li> <li>• Other types of disability (such as multiple disability)</li> </ul>  |                    |
| <b>LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK ON DISABILITY</b>  |                    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>National Legislation on Disability</b><br/>The Disability Certification Center was established by Law 3863/2010 in order to ensure a unified health judgement in the determination of the degree of disability of insured of all insurance institutions, including the State, as well as the uninsured for whom disability certification is required. <a href="#">Find out more about the National Legislation on Disability</a></li> <li>• <b>Importance of Recognition of Disability</b><br/>Recognition of disability is important, due to the social, financial and other support and benefits provided, and for which there is a requirement for certification of the disability rate.<br/><a href="#">Find out more about the importance of recognition of disability</a></li> <li>• <b>The steps to take to have a disability recognized officially</b><br/>In order for someone to have a disability recognized officially to benefit from the rights granted to people with disability, they have to address to their local Disability Certification Center (DCC) and the documents listed above. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Police identification card or passport</li> <li>- If insured, the institution's sickness book</li> <li>- Social Security Number (SSN) or European Insured Citizen Card (EIC)</li> <li>- Referral of the insurance firm to the DCC committee for review, or receipt from the insurance agency's financial services if the citizen is uninsured In addition to the supporting documents, the applicant must provide the following medical supporting documents to DCC:</li> <li>- The referring doctor's detailed medical report, which will describe all of the data and relate to laboratory test findings such as computed tomography, radiography, electrocardiogram (ECG), electromyogram (EMG), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and triplex. These tests must be completed within the last few months.</li> </ul> <p>If the file with the needed supporting papers is considered to be complete, the interested party's application is registered, and a certificate is delivered to him, together with documents of the certifications he has supplied to DCC. If the file is incomplete, it is returned to the interested party, who is also advised of the certificates needed to complete his application's registration.</p> <p>The date, time, and location of the Health Committee meeting for the review of the person's case and the issuance of the opinion on the certification of the disease, the determination of the degree of disability, and the duration of the opinion are then communicated to the person concerned. <a href="#">Find out more about the procedure for the certification of disability</a></p> </li> <li>• <b>Disability Card</b><br/>The Disability Card is a cutting-edge idea for health and social solidarity that is based on the Functionality Based Classification and Evaluation System (ICF).</li> </ul> |                    |

Although there has been a comprehensive study of its implementation since 2006, as well as an Information System to support it since 2008, institutionalization is still waiting, and the state is now attempting to put the plan in place, making the necessary interventions in all necessary areas.

[Find out more about the disability card](#)

- **Which number to call/contact**

For any further question, people can contact for free the calling center of Organization of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity, which operates every day and every hour of the day, at the following telephone number: 1555

- **Resources of Interest**

More information about the legislation for recognition of disability and the importance of that recognition can be found on the following document

[HEALTH WELFARE AND DISABILITY.PDF \(1.49 MB\)](#)

## INCLUSIVE TECHNOLOGY

- **The situation of Greece about Inclusive Technology**

Much progress has been made in the field of assistive technology in recent years in Greece. By searching the internet for "assistive technology devices" you will find branded stores selling various items and gadgets to assist disabled people in their daily lives. For instance, someone can find:

- Communication aids & Computer accessibility aids
- Aids for entertainment and relaxation
- Portability gadgets, for example carriages, bikes, uprights, any gadget that serves the individual in portability in his current circumstance.

Most websites now have integrated accessibility functions that allow anyone with impairments to engage with the online material, covering a range of needs of disabilities.

- **Inclusive Application**

One innovative online Greek application someone can find on the Google Store is the "Human Access app". Human Access gives people the ability to assess the accessibility of public places of interest (eg restaurants, hotels, tourist attractions, etc.). This way users will know the quality of a place's accessibility before visiting to prepare properly. You can find more about the Human Access App on <http://ha.cnt.gr/index.php>

- **Technology Inclusive Training**

ENTELIS+, is a project intended at teaching people with disabilities how to use inclusive ICTs in order to make them more competitive on the job market, increase their self-esteem, and live as independently as possible.

The ENTELIS+ training resources enable social care and support providers, accessibility and assistive technology experts, teaching staff, and others in providing high-quality, easily accessible training to all students, leading them through the process from preparation to training.

The modules have been created in such a way that the training organization executing the program can be as flexible as possible. Due to the commencement of the COVID-19 epidemic and the uncertainty surrounding the ability to conduct face-to-face courses in the near future, training materials must now be adaptable to a variety of contexts, both online and offline. You can find more about the ENTELIS+ project on <https://entelisplus.entelis.net/training-materials/>

## TRANSPORTATION

- **The Rights of people with disabilities**

### **Public Transportation**

People with disabilities who live permanently and legally in Greece and have a disability rate of 67 percent or more, or who are eligible for Disability Benefits , can receive a pass for free transportation:

- a) within the Attica Region with OASA urban means of transport,
- b) in the Regional Unit of Thessaloniki with OASTH urban means of transport,
- c) and in the other Regional Units of the country with the Urban KTEL

The income tax return for the year 2021 proves the amount of money earned.

The issuance of personalized electronic transfer cards, which are issued according to the norms of the automated Toll Collection System, is offered free of charge to permanent inhabitants of the Attica Region (excluding the PE Islands). [Find out more about benefits from transportation services](#)

OASA, which is an organisation for urban means of transportation, provides facilities for the transportation of people with disabilities. [Find out more about the benefits OASA provides to people with Disability.](#)

### **Intercity Bus Transportation**

Disabled persons who have been granted a permit by Organization of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity are entitled to ride on all KTEL intercity bus lines at a 50% discount.

### **Transportation with train**

There is a 50% discount on the full fare train ticket both for people with disabilities and accompanying person. Those special passes should be certified by regional authorities of Greece or by the responsible Citizens Service Centers.

There are some trains, which include specially structured carriages and can be used for the transportation of people with impaired mobility using a wheelchair. [Find out more about the facilities provided to people with disabilities for transportation with train](#)

### **Parking Card for PWDs**

There is a parking card provided to people with disabilities. More specifically, this parking card is provided to Greek immigrants and foreign workers who have trouble walking owing to their disability Greek and European residents with disabilities who have:

- Amputation of both lower and upper limbs or complete paralysis.
- Serious motor dysfunction in one or both lower limbs, with a total disability rate of at least 67%.
- Severe motor disability of one or both limbs, including motor disability of one or both upper limbs, with a total disability rate of not less than 67 percent, including at least 40 percent from one lower leg.
- Total blindness in both eyes, with a disability rate of 100%.

Greeks with disabilities and European citizens:

- Patients with congenital hemorrhagic mood or Mediterranean anemia (hemophilia)
- Patients with end-stage renal disease or those who have had a kidney transplant.
- Sickle cell or tiny sickle cell disease patients.
- Car owners who have acquired automobiles that have been included in sponsorship or adoption programs for People with Disabilities without following the requirements set out in the relevant legislation for exemption of registration fees for private car.
- Citizens who became PWDs as a result of the purchase of a vehicle wheelchair.
- Legal assistants to underage adults au

[Find out more about the parking card for people with disabilities.pdf \(118 KB\)](#)

### **Electronic Card for free toll pass**

There is also an electronic transit card for the disabled, which is just for those who have received a Parking Card for the Disabled or are War Invalids.

Beneficiaries complete their crossings free of charge, from all toll stations to companies such as Nea Odos and Main Odos, using the special electronic card issued free of charge. [Find out more about the Electronic Card for free toll pass](#)

- **The steps to follow to benefit from transportation services**

### **Public Transportation**

- Those who are interested should offer the opinion of the current Health Committees, which must write the degree of disability, which must be 67 percent or above.
  - Those who receive a pension indefinitely by decision Administrative Director of an Insurance Institution (decision issued on the basis of an opinion Of the Health Committee and in which it is stated disability rate 67% or more) are entitled to a Card Move without the need for an additional version opinion of the Health Committee.
- Those who receive financial support (allowance disability) by the Welfare Allowance Organization and Social Solidarity are entitled Travel Certificate without a Health opinion Committees.

The fully blind are exempt from the above-mentioned income conditions and are issued a travel document regardless of their income limit.

[Find out more about benefits from transportation services](#)

#### **Parking Card for PWDs**

Documents supporting the issuance of a disabled parking permit

- A photocopy of the beneficiary police ID or passport (invisible)
- Vehicle registration photocopy (invisible)
- A photocopy of the driver's license of the beneficiary (uncertified)
- A clear statement that use of the Parking Card will be made on the specified vehicle and solely to serve the needs of the licensee and when the licensee rides the vehicle (in this scenario, the beneficiary does not have a driver's license).
- Two (2) full-color photographs (type of identity)
- The special parking signal for wheelchairs (if this has been granted)
- Disability Certification Document, as well as a certificate from the DCC Secretariat confirming that the condition falls under the terms of the law and that it is fully owned by I.X. automobile (in case the vehicle is not disabled).
- Any administrative or judicial action or decision relating to the adoption or adoption of disabled people (in case of parents or legal assistants of minors or disabled adults)

[Find out more about the parking card for people with disabilities.pdf \(118 KB\)](#)

#### **Electronic Card for free toll pass**

The following are the required supporting documentation for the issuance of an e-card for the disabled:

- A certified photocopy of the Disabled Parking Card's two sides, with the following printed and clear:
- Parking Card registration number
- Vehicle registration number (passenger vehicle I.X.) to which the Parking Card corresponds
- Data of the issuing service -Stamp on the photo of the Parking Ticket -Police ID card of the beneficiary
- Circulation License of the vehicle to which the Parking Card belongs
- In addition to the aforementioned, the following are required for beneficiaries with a Guardian, Supporter,
- or Contractor who is responsible for the filing of supporting documents:
- Per case, certified photocopy:
- Assistant's Certificate of Marital Status
- Guard
- Contractor
- Copy of Judicial Assistance Decision
- A copy of the contract order
- The guardian's, supporter's and contractor's police identification cards

A photocopy of the car registration certificate can be provided by war invalids who do not have a Disabled Parking Card.

If a third-party authorized person is submitting the supporting documents, the following are also required:

- The applicant's Certified Responsible Statement (Responsible Statement)
- A photocopy of the third authorized person's police identification card

[Find out more about the steps for acquiring the Electronic Card for free toll pass](#)

- **Which number to call**

About transportation with public urban means, according to OASA, can call at the up helpline 210 82 00 887 operating from 06:30 – 22:30 on weekdays and from 07:30 – 22:30 on weekends, for direct and exclusive service of people with disabilities , has set

There is also a door-to-door service at Athens Urban Transport Organization (OASA), from 07.30 a.m. to 14.00 p.m., Monday to Friday, with three specifically constructed vans that can accommodate up to seven people and three wheel chairs. This service is only available to paraplegics and quadriplegics who want it . People can call the following number: 210 42 70 748

For any information about train transportation, people with disabilities can contact TRAINOSE S.A. Customer Service Department, at the telephone number 14511 (working hours 08.30 – 13.30, Monday to Friday). Alternatively, people can telephone +30 2130 121 121 or fill a communication form.

- **Resources of Interest**

More information about transportation for people with disabilities you can find in the following websites and documents.

[LAW FOR PARKING CARD FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES](#) (pdf, 978 KB)

[Bulletin about the parking card for people with disabilities.pdf \(118 KB\)](#)

[Information for people with disabilities- Athens Urban Transport Organization](#)

[TRAINOSE Transport of persons with special needs / reduced mobility](#)

## HEALTH SERVICES

- **The Rights of people with disabilities to benefit from health services**

According to Papachristopoulos (2013) ,a succession of laws and decrees secure the highest good of health, which is regarded as one of the most important rights, with both negative and positive expressions.

This right is protected by taking precautionary measures to protect the individual's good physical, mental, and social health, by ratifying equal treatment regardless of the citizen's economic, social, or professional status, and by requiring a high level of full, adequate, and free benefits in prevention, care, and pharmaceutical coverage, state guarantee with regulation and supervision, human capital improvement, and evolving on the basis of social neoliberalism. A succession of laws and decrees secure the highest good of health, which is regarded as one of the most important rights, with both negative and positive expressions.

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More information about the rights of people with disabilities can be found on the following document.

[HEALTH-WELFARE-DISABILITY.pdf \(1.49 MB\)](#)

- **Health services**

### **Services provided at public hospitals**

#### **Dental Treatment**

People with disabilities can receive services , such as dental treatment, in various departments of public hospitals. For Example, General Hospital “NIKEA - PIRAEUS "AGIOS PANTELEIMON" has a dental therapy unit for people with disabilities. There is also a Special Unit for People with Disabilities at the Dental Department of “General Hospital ASKLIPIO VOULAS”.

### **Physical Therapy Sessions**

Generally, there is a number of physical therapy and rehabilitation treatment sessions that the government benefits for people with disabilities. This number differentiates according to the diagnoses of the disability.

- **Steps to get benefit from health services**

### **Dental Services**

Dental services are provided for free to people with disabilities, after contacting the specific dental treatment unit in each hospital and arranging an appointment.

### **Physical Therapy Sessions**

According to After approval by the Agency's competent medical examiner, People with disabilities can obtain physical therapy sessions in physiotherapy laboratories, physiotherapy psychotherapies, and natural medicine and rehabilitation laboratories, respectively laboratories of clinics and treatment centers contracted with the individual insurer, as well as public hospitals and rehabilitation bodies operating as Legal Entities under Public Law and Legal Entities under Private Law, after approval by the Agency's competent medical examiner. If the provided physiotherapy is not indicated on a booklet order, no money will be given for the related expense.

### **Psychological Support/ Consultancy services**

As far as concerned services such as Psychological Support or Consultancy services, a person with disabilities can address different types of centers.

### **Community Centers**

For example, there are Community Centers, which are entities developed in municipalities by the Ministry of Labor, Social Security, and Social Solidarity. It is the citizen's first point of contact with the municipality's social services. From there, the citizen is told about all of the benefits to which he is entitled, as well as all of the institutions, services, and programs that provide him with any type of social care at the municipal, regional, or territorial levels. All people of the area who are facing a social difficulty (unemployment, financial weakness, homelessness, living problems due to disability or old age) and require State support can apply to the Community Center of each Municipality. At the same time, the Community Centers offer counseling on topics such as preparing for the local job market, providing opportunity for young people to begin their careers, domestic abuse or family disputes, legal concerns. Local events with educational, instructive, and social elements are organized. [Find out more about the community centers](#)

### **Accommodation and Daily Care Centers**

Accommodation and Daily Care Centers provide services such as transportation, accommodation and nutrition, an individualized therapeutic program (for speech therapy, occupational therapy and various other rehabilitation programs) for the beneficiaries. They also include creative activities, entertaining activities or educational programs, in areas such as a self-service.

- **Steps to get benefit from health services**

### **Accommodation and Daily Care Centers**

The insurance agency covers the services given in Accommodation and Daily Care Centers. the height of the fees for individuals with disabilities, which is decided by the length of stay of the beneficiaries in these centers and the benefits. For eight (8) hours of stay-day care, the cost is forty (40) euros, while for more than eight (8) hours, the cost is fifty (50) euros.

- A detailed medical opinion is required every three years from a state or university hospital Mental Health Centers publicly or supervised by a public body, by a doctor with a specialty related to the condition, such as psychiatrist, psychologist, neurologist, pedologist, or mixed disabilities for the disabled up to eighteen (18) years with severe motor or mental, diffuse sensory disabilities, or mixed disabilities. The Director of the particular Clinic or Mental Health Center, or his or her legal representative, also signs the opinion.
- After a medical opinion, every three years, by a doctor related to the specialty disease (as defined above), state or university or military Hospital or Health Center, after reassessment and scientific evaluation of the disease's development and the need to continue stay - day care in the Day Care

Center, the provision of the above benefits may be extended for the disabled over eighteen (18) years with severe motor, mental, or sensory disabilities or mixed cases, the provision of the above benefits may be extended. The Director of the particular Clinic or the scientifically responsible doctor of the Primary Health Care system signs the opinion. The Director of the particular Clinic or Mental Health Center or his/her legal deputy signs the opinion as well. Opinions are issued electronically.

- Disabled people with congenital disorders or diseases caused by chromosomal abnormalities, syndromes, metabolic or neuromuscular diseases that cause motor, developmental, and sensory disabilities are included and participate in the Day Care Centers' programming.
- Persons with disabilities who engage in and attend NSRF-funded Day Care Day Care programs are not eligible for hospital boarding by the insurance agency.

[Find out more about the steps to get benefit from the Day Care Center](#)

### **Services provided at home**

#### **Physical Therapy Sessions**

In case the condition of the person does not allow him to access the services, the sessions can be held at the patient's house, after a reasoned opinion of the treating physician about the patient's condition and inability to move and the approval of the competent medical examiner of the Agency.

- **Which number to call**

For any question or concern, people can call at the calling center of the Ministry of Health, at the telephone number +30 213 216 1000

## **EDUCATION**

- **The right of persons with disabilities to benefit from services in education**

In terms of higher education, students with disabilities are provided with appropriate benefits.

An example of benefits at the section of higher education is National Kapodistrian University of Athens, which has an Accessibility Unit for Students with Disabilities, whose aim is to ensure that students with varying abilities and requirements have equitable access to academic pursuits. Students with learning difficulties or significant illnesses are also supported by the Accessibility Unit. This unit includes measures such as environmental adjustments, supporting information technologies, and access services, which are the primary tools used to achieve its goals.

There is also a transportation service responsible for getting FMEs from their homes to the study sites and back. It features vehicles that are specifically built to transport students who use wheelchairs. The service is available Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 22:00 p.m.

[Find out more about the Accessibility Unit of National Kapodistrian University of Athens](#)

- **Which number to call**

For any need that Students with Disability have, they can contact the service through their website, <https://access.uoa.gr>, call at the following telephone numbers: 2107275687, 2107275183 or email them at the following e-mail: [access@uoa.gr](mailto:access@uoa.gr)

- **Resources of Interest**

For further information, you can read the following documents: The links should be used in the main body of section for related info.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

- **The right of persons with disabilities to benefit from services in employment**

There is a legal obligation to ensure equitable treatment and to combat discrimination in employment and occupation for a range of reasons, including disability, under the legal framework. [Find out more about the legal framework for occupation of people with disabilities.pdf \(3,33 MB\)](#)

Discrimination, whether direct or indirect, is illegal for any of the grounds listed in the law, including disability. The provisions apply to all people, both public and private, in terms of:

- (a) conditions of access to work and employment in general, including selection criteria and employment conditions, hierarchy, as well as service and professional development conditions and
- (b) conditions of service and professional development.
- (c) access to all types and levels of vocational guidance, training, retraining, and retraining, including the acquisition of practical professional experience
- (d) the terms and conditions of employment and employment, including those relating to dismissal and remuneration to them,
- (e) social protection, including social security and healthcare,
- (f) social benefits,
- (g) education, and
- (h) access to the disposal and supply of goods and services available

To comply with the principle of equal treatment for people with disabilities, employers must take all reasonable steps, on a case-by-case basis, to enable these people to access, exercise, and develop a job, as well as participate in professional training, provided that such steps do not impose an undue burden on the employer. When the burden is mitigated by protection measures adopted in policy-making for people with disabilities, it is not considered disproportionate.

According to Civil's with Disability Guide (2007), if the insured person is judged by the Health Committees DCC (Disability Certification Center) as a person with a disability (incapacity for work) with a pensionable degree of disability due to a common disease, and if the required time conditions are met, the insured person is entitled to a disability pension due to a common disease. [Civil with Disability Guide.pdf \(3,33 MB\)](#)

If the insured is disabled as a result of a work-related accident or an accident at work, the insured is entitled to a disability pension regardless of the insurance period (even if it is only one day of insurance). The beneficiaries of a pension due to death are members of the deceased's family if the insured died as a result of an accident at work or an accident at work.

Occupational accidents are now referred to as work-related accidents or work-related disorders, and the same conditions apply to receiving a disability pension.

If the insured person is disabled as a result of an accident outside of work, he or she is entitled to a disability pension if he or she has completed half of the requisite insurance time in line with the criteria for retirement due to a common illness. The beneficiaries of the pension due to death are the members of the deceased's family if the insured's death is caused by an accident outside of employment.

- **The employment and entrepreneurship opportunities**

According to the Guide for Citizens with Disabilities (2007), people with disabilities can be hired in public posts as well as in legal entities under public law, private law, and local government organizations, and in a variety of professional fields. [Civil with Disability Guide.pdf \(3,33 MB\)](#)

People with a disability rate of at least 50% who have a disability opportunity for professional employment due to a physical, mental, or mental illness or injury in any year (people with disabilities), if they are registered in the Organization Employment of Workforce's registers of unemployed disabled persons.

Those who have a disabled kid, brother, or spouse are also protected to the tune of 67 percent or more due to major mental and physical disorders as determined by the law's competent health committees.

Individuals must follow the steps below to be considered for recruitment:

In terms of the private sector, Businesses or holdings, Greek or foreign, operating in Greece in any form, as

well as their subsidiaries, are required to hire protected persons, including persons with disabilities, at a rate of 2% if they employ more than fifty (50) people.

Appointees or recruits under this article must:

- a) Have the formal qualifications necessary for appointment or recruitment in the specified roles and
- b) Have the formal qualifications required for appointment or recruitment in the specific positions.
- c) To be found capable of providing services to certain jobs by the Civil Service Code's competent health committees. Those who have already been evaluated by health committees are not allowed to participate.
- d) To be listed in the OAED's unemployment records.

This law's provisions do not apply to the rest of the for the jobs of State bodies' special scientific staff. As of paragraph 9 of this article, the maximum age of placement or work for protected persons has been removed.

Determine the type of special application form-responsible statement, completed and submitted by the interested parties, the data completed by the interested party, and any other necessary procedures and details by joint decision of the Ministers of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization, and Labor and Social Security, published in the Government Gazette.

- **Which number to call**

If there is a need or questions about occupational issues, people can call every day at the service “We claim together!” of National Confederation of people with disabilities from 8.00 am to 16.00 pm at the following telephone number: 210-9949837 or send an e-mail at: [secretary@esaea.gr](mailto:secretary@esaea.gr) and [pmarkostamos@esaea.gr](mailto:pmarkostamos@esaea.gr).

They can also call at the Calling Center of the Ministry of Labor, Social Security and Social Solidarity at the telephone number +30 213 151 6651

- **Resources of Interest**

For more information , you can navigate in the following sites and read the following documents.

[LAW ABOUT DISABILITY AND EMPLOYMENT.pdf \(369 KB\)](#)

## **FINANCIAL AID and AID in KIND**

- **The financial rights of people with disability**

According to the legislation for the financial rights of people with disabilities, these people have the right to receive financial aid and aid in kind. [Find out more about the legislation for financial rights of people with disabilities](#)

- **The financial aids**

### **Financial aid for people with mobility impairments**

Based by the information provided by Organization of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity, some of the financial allowance can receive are:

The mobility allowance is granted to the uninsured and the insured if they are judged by the competent health committee to have:

- a) amputation of both lower limbs with a disability rate of 80% or more, as determined by a competent health committee;
- b) amputation of both lower limbs with a disability rate of 80% or more, as determined by a competent health committee;
- c) paralysis of the two lower limbs, resulting in an 80 percent or higher disability rate, regardless of whether they are owners, prefectures, owners, or users of private passenger vehicles. Uninsured persons, directly or indirectly insured individuals, and insurance company retirees are among the beneficiaries. link can be used

### **Financial aid for deaf and hard-of-hearing people.**

Beneficiaries are people who, according to the competent health committee, have:

a. deafness - hearing loss with a disability rate of 67 percent or more, are between the ages of 18 and 65, and have deafness - hearing loss with a disability rate of 67 percent or more.

b. They have deafness-hearing loss with a disability rate of 67 percent or more, are over 18 years old and up to 65 years old, and suffer from deafness-hearing loss and other chronic physical, mental, or mental illness or injury at the same time.

c. Have deafness - hearing loss with a disability rate of at least 67 percent, aged 18 to 25, attending schools, lower, medium, or higher technical or vocational schools or OAED schools, higher or higher educational institutions, or vocational training units, etc.

Uninsured people, people who are directly or indirectly insured, and insurance company retirees are all beneficiaries.

- **The steps to follow to get benefit from financial aid**

**Granting conditions:**

a. Do not accept financial assistance from any other source for the same condition that is equivalent to or larger than the one granted.

b. Pensions from insurance companies are not included in the definition of financial aid.

c. Do not stay overseas for more than six (6) months at a time.

The monthly amount of money distributed to the recipients is € 362 each month.

**Documents:**

1. Students in higher educational institutions in Greece, as well as Vocational Training Institutes above the age of 18 must provide a certificate from the university or institute in which they are enrolled.

2. Persons getting an amount of financial help for the same cause from any other source, as well as the certificate from which it is obtained and the amount of financial assistance they receive for the same condition.

3. Police Identification Card or relevant documentation that proves that the person stays legally in the country.

- **Tax exemption for people with disabilities**

Individuals with a disability rate of at least 80% are also excused from paying taxes on income from salaries, pensions, and fixed remuneration within the institutional framework.

- **The steps to get benefit from tax exemption**

It is stipulated that it is sufficient to present a certificate of the pension institution or a retirement decision or a decision to extend the pension, especially in the case where the taxpayer receives a pension from a main insurance institution because he has a disability of at least eighty percent (80%), it is stipulated that it is sufficient to present a certificate of the pension institution or a retirement decision or a decision to extend the pension, from which to benefit. He appears to have retired with a disability rate of at least 80%, as well as the period for which this handicap is predicted to endure, following a medical crisis by the competent health committee.

It is also provided that when the invalidity pension becomes automatically final (extended for an indefinite duration), no re-medical examination by a competent Health Committee is required for the insured of all Social Security Institutions, Branches, and Sectors, and for its exemption. Income tax requires, on the one hand, a decision by the competent pension institution to make the disability pension permanent (or for an indefinite extension) and, on the other hand, the opinion of the Disability Health Committee of any of the Institutions, Sectors, and Sectors disability pensions, which certifies a disability rate of 80% or more, or an opinion prior to that of the Disability Certification Center.

Furthermore, it is stated that an opinion containing a medical disability crisis is allowed for any work with an 80 percent or higher disability rate, however an opinion providing a definitive judgment regarding the disability rate or being valid for life is not accepted. and is accepted regardless of when it was issued or when the health committee that awarded it was abolished, even when it comes to a health committee's opinion

before the Disability Certification Center's opinion.

[Find out about the required documents for tax exemption](#)

- **The rights of people with disability in aid in kind**

There is a possibility for providing material aid to people with disabilities, if they are:

1. People who are completely disabled as a result of bilateral knee amputations, full paraplegia, or other serious disabilities.
2. People with lack of financial resources.

- **The steps to follow to get benefit from these aids in kind**

Documents:

- a) The interested party's application.
- b) Certificate of financial incapacity, which is provided by the Department of Social Welfare following a social worker's socioeconomic investigation.
- c) A medical opinion from a public hospital doctor stating that the applicant's lower limbs are completely unusable as a result of bilateral amputation of the whole knee, complete paraplegia, or other serious disability.
- d) The applicant's responsible statement, attesting to the authenticity of his signature and stating that he did not obtain scientific aid from another source.
- e) A photocopy of your police identification.

Submission of supporting papers, control of them, and forwarding them to the service through which they will be processed.

- **Which number to call**

For any further question, people can contact for free the calling center of Organization of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity, which operates every day and every hour of the day, at the telephone number 1555.

- **Resources of Interest**

For more information, you can navigate at the site [People with Disabilities- Organization of Welfare Benefits and Social Solidarity](#)

## **SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES**

### **Social activities**

There are plenty social activities that are provided by various organizations for people with disabilities.

There are also Summer Camps, organized by organizations, like the Hellenic Therapeutic Equestrian Association, with various activities for people with disabilities. [Find out more about the social activities of Hellenic Therapeutic Equestrian Association](#)

### **Cultural activities**

- **Rights of people with disabilities in cultural activities**

According to the Disability Observatory (2019), the Greek institutional framework for the New Building Regulations states that it is critical to ensure that people with disabilities and those who serve them have autonomous and safe horizontal and vertical access in all outdoor and indoor public gatherings (including museums and exhibitions). It is also the responsibility of the government to make existing public buildings accessible. [Find out more about the rights of people with disabilities in cultural activities](#)

According to Article 30 of the Convention, the right to participate in cultural life comprises unrestricted access to: 1) material (movable and immovable) and intangible cultural resources (archeological sites, museums, national cultural significance regions, and so on), and 2) contemporary culture (theaters, cinemas, television shows, cultural activities, etc.). Infrastructure built on the ideals of non-discrimination and equality. Link can be given for example

The right of people with disabilities to enjoy cultural goods and services on an equal basis with others, the right of people with disabilities to participate actively and co-shape culture as creators / producers of cultural goods, and the right of people with disabilities to enjoy society's acceptance and respect as bearers of particular cultural identities can all be defined as equal participation in culture.

In order to fulfill the right to cultural participation, which is based on the principles of equality and non-discrimination, cultural goods, events, and services must meet the criteria, such as Availability.

Availability refers to the presence of tangible cultural assets like libraries, museums, theaters, and cinemas that anybody may enjoy and benefit from, as well as intangible cultural goods like languages, customs, and traditions. Among all cultural assets, the intercultural exchange/kinship that happens when varied groups, minorities, and communities may freely share the same land is of unique importance.

Individuals and communities, whether in urban and rural settings, must have effective and specialized chances to fully enjoy culture in a physically and economically accessible manner. It is vital to give and permit access for the aged, disabled, and poor. Everyone's freedom to seek, receive, and impart cultural information in any language of their choice, as well as access to methods of expression and dissemination, is included in accessibility.

The most fundamental prerequisite for individuals with disabilities to enjoy their right to equal participation in cultural life without impediment is accessibility, which is also a horizontal need for the Convention's implementation. Accessibility refers to:

- physical accessibility of cultural sites (libraries, museums, music halls, cultural heritage sites, and so on), which includes both the built environment and equipment (e.g., wheelchairs, clear markings, audio explanations, and so on).
- the accessibility of cultural content to individuals with disabilities, as well as cultural programs, events, and activities.

Today, accessibility encompasses not only physical access, which is defined as the ability for anyone to arrive, move, and stay in space independently, as well as the use of available infrastructure, services, goods, and information, but also perception, which is defined as how man perceives, understands, and is taught by the environment.

- **Benefits for people with disabilities regarding cultural activities**

- Persons with certified disabilities have the right to free admission to monuments, organized archeological sites, historical sites, and state-owned museums under the current institutional framework (67 percent and above). A companion of a person with a disability is likewise free from paying a fee. People with disabilities can get discounted tickets in practically all theaters around the country, and discounts are also available for musical acts and movies. These price rules assist the disabled community greatly and should be expanded to other sectors of cultural creation.
- There is an elevator available for people with disabilities at about 350 m. far from the main entrance of the archaeological site. [Find out more about the facilities for people with disabilities](#)
- There has also been adjustments in educational programmes for people with disabilities, such as informative leaflets in Braille system. [Find out more about the facilities of Modern Greek Culture for people with disabilities](#)

- **Difficulties in implementation of the facilities in participation in cultural activities**

There are efforts that have been made to improve the natural accessibility of places of culture, leisure, and entertainment, but there has been no central planning or coordination that could lead to the systematic removal of existing barriers and the creation of a cultural environment that is accessible to all. These difficulties can be found both in physical accessibility to cultural activities, accessibility of the cultural content and protection of the rights of people with disabilities .

This misapplication of accessibility criteria is frequently the consequence of a lack of understanding or even indifference to the regulations as well as the unique characteristics and requirements that make a project accessible to almost all types of individuals with disabilities.

[Find out more about the difficulties in implementation of accessibility for people with disabilities in cultural activities. pdf \(645 KB\)](#)

- **Sports activities**

Regarding inclusive sports activities, someone can get in contact with the Association “ΑΠΓΩ” and get engaged to a plethora of activities. [Find out more about sports activities for people with disabilities](#)

- **Which number to call**

For any question or concern, people can call Ministry of Culture and Sports at the telephone numbers +30 2131322100 and +30 2131322421

## **FAMILY –CAREGIVER**

- **The rights of caregivers/family of people with disabilities**

- If the citizen has completed 7,500 days of genuine insurance by August 18, 2015, they can retire at any age, whereas if they are spouses of people with disabilities, they must be at least 55 years old by August 19, 2015. Some criteria for that:
  - a) There is a married life of at least 10 years before submitting the application for retirement &
  - b) The prospective pensioner does not receive and is not entitled to receive a pension from any insurance organization or the State
  - Disabled siblings with a disability rate of 67% or more, provided that the following conditions are met:

The disabled brother must be unmarried, not work and not be treated in an institution at the expense of insurance or other public body.

In order for the brother to exercise the right, he / she must, for at least five years before the date of submission of the pension application:

(a) a sibling has been appointed as a legal counsel by an irrevocable court decision due to a mental or intellectual disorder or physical disability; or

b) the disabled brother has a proven cohabitation with the applicant for the pension and is borne by him / her.

The settlement and the financial burden will be proved by the forms E1 of the income tax return, submitted by the brother who is borne during the last five years preceding the year of submitting the retirement application.

The applicant should not receive the pension and should not be entitled to receive a pension from another insurance organization or the State.

Also, when submitting the retirement application, both siblings are required to be orphaned by both parents or the living parent is disabled with a percentage of 67% or more or has reached the age of 75 or in case both parents of siblings are alive should both be disabled with a disability rate of 67% or more or have reached 75 years of age

You can find more about the retirement plan of family members with disabled people on <https://www.taxheaven.gr/law/4336/2015>

- **The services provided for caregivers of people with disabilities by the state and other organizations**

Families of people with disabilities can contact the Social Service, which operates daily and is staffed by a Social Worker who watches the person with a disability while keeping the family updated on his or her progress. The Social Service ensures the equal integration of people with disabilities in society through multifaceted support, raises societal awareness for the elimination of discrimination and social exclusion, and takes care of networking with the community and coordinating actions around issues affecting people with disabilities in collaboration with the interdisciplinary team.

- **Which number to call**

You can find more about the Social Service by calling the number +30 210 8664100 or by visiting <https://alma-amea.gr/koinoniki-ypiresia/>

• **Practical Advice For Caregivers**

- Stay in contact with health experts
- Stay connected with other families of people with disabilities
- Engage into Disability Associations and Communities
- Keep the person with the disability active in the decision-making of the family
- Keep standing for your rights and claim them

• **Resources of interests**

More information can be found about the rights of families with people with disabilities, here:

- <https://www.cnn.gr/focus/story/296253/syntaxeis-ti-provlepei-o-nomos-gia-goneis-paidion-adelfiakai-syzygoys-atomon-me-anapiria>

## SUCCESS STORIES

The success story is about Teo, a person with a medium percentage of mobility impairments.

He is 25 years old, and he has studied Literature at National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

Since he was a kid, he had a complete therapeutic program, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, swimming lessons, in order to boost the capability to walk and stand. He never wanted to be excluded by social activities, so he was always in plans and trips organized by school or individually by our group of friends. He was a student of General High School, and had high grades throughout all the years of his studies. He had an admiration for both Literature, Ancient Greek, and lessons from that field as much as Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry etc.

He wanted to be a doctor but didn't reach the grades needed for that section in the university. So, his first university stop was the Department of Chemistry of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. However, in the first year of university he realized that this field is not something that he would like working in. So, he made the big decision to take the Panhellenic Exams again, this time in all the Literature lessons instead of the Science Lessons he took exams in before.

He succeeded in reaching the grades needed for the Department of Literature that he managed to complete studying.

He is a person that I have always admired, not because he never gave up. But, because he had the courage to change the whole plan of studies or/and occupation, in order to study something he really loved.