



**ROMANIA**  
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# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ROMANIA

**Full country name:** Republic of Romania



**Area:** 238.391 km<sup>2</sup>

**Time zone:** GMT + 2hr

**Capital city:** Bucharest



**Population:** 21.623.849 inhabitants at 1st of July 2005

**People according ethnic criteria:** 89,5 % Romanians; 6,6% Hungarians; 2,5% Rroma people; 0,3 Ukrainians; 0,3% Germans; 0,2%Turkish; 0,6% other nationalities

**Counties:** 41 and the municipality of Bucharest

**Language:** Romanian

**Religion:** 86,8% orthodoxism; 4,7% roman-catholicism; 3,2% protestants; 5,3% other religions

**Government:** parliamentary democracy

**Currency:** Romanian Leu (RON)

**Major industries:** machines; metallurgy; textile; food; chemicals and petrochemicals

## FREE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS

From 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2007, Romania had become a member of European Union/Economic European Area.

Thus, EEA citizens can freely move, live and work in Romania, being entitled to the same rights as the Romanian nationals. If you are an EU national, you can access any professional activity in Romania, whether as an employee or self-employed, in terms of salaries, working conditions, access to housing, professional training, social security and unions. This freedom of movement also extends to their family members.

## MOBILITY IN ROMANIA

### The Romanian EURES network

#### What is EURES?

Set up in 1993, EURES is a co-operation network between the European Commission and the Public Employment Services of the EEA Member States (The EU countries plus Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein) and other partner organisations. Switzerland also takes part in EURES co-operation. At European level, the network includes over 700 trained specialists, known as **EURES advisers**.

In Romania, the EURES network is constituted by 43 EURES advisers and an EURES manager. The Romanian EURES network functions within the National Agency for Employment, through its county and local agencies for employment.

#### What can an EURES adviser offer you?

EURES advisers offer three main services: information, guidance and providing advices for the jobseekers and the employers from Europe. They are trained for practical, juridical

and administrative aspects concerning the vocational and geographical mobility. They have access to various training tools, for example a data base on the living and working conditions from each Member State, mainly including on the labour market, accommodation, education, prices, health, social legislation, fiscal code, training possibilities and recognitions of the diplomas and qualifications etc.

### Services for the jobseekers

- Information on the vacancies available in EEA. Details of these vacancies can be found by every jobseeker at the county and local agencies for employment
- Advice and counselling for finding a job in another country
- Advice on the living and working conditions from all EU States and EEA, including Switzerland.

### Services for the employers

- advice and guidance to the employer during the recruitment process of European citizens,
- promote the vacancies for all PES from the EEA and Switzerland;
- contact directly the other EURES advisers and partners from EEA and Switzerland;
- organize and facilitate the recruitment projects for the employers;
- additionally, EURES can verify the accuracy of the filling-up of the CVs and to set up interviews with the jobseekers.

### Useful links:

- [www.eures.europa.eu](http://www.eures.europa.eu)
- [www.eures-jobs.com](http://www.eures-jobs.com)
- [www.anofm.ro/eures/](http://www.anofm.ro/eures/)

## REGISTERING PROCEDURES, WORK PERMIT

### How can you get an work permit in Romania?

*The work permit* is released upon request, to the foreign citizens that meet the requirements, specified by the Romanian legislation on employment, and to those who have long term visa for employment on the documents necessary for crossing the border.

The work permit can be released, according to the regulations in force, without the need to have the long term visa for employment, for the foreigners in the following situations:

- come from states that Romania signed with agreements, conventions or settlements for eliminating the visa for crossing the border or for which Romania has unilaterally renounced on visa obligations;
- rightfully benefit of temporary residence for reuniting the family, granted under the conditions set up by the law on foreigners status in Romania;
- rightfully benefit of temporary residence for study and require part time employment of maximum 4 hours/day based on individual labour contracts;
- are family members – spouse, children – of Romanian citizens with residence in Romania.
- are posted on Romanian territory based on the long term visa for other purposes.

Types of work permit for **foreigners** which can be released:

- **work permit for permanent workers (type A)**- gives foreigners the right to be employed based on individual labour contracts for a 12 months period at only one Romanian natural or legal person, or a Romanian branch / subsidiary / agency of a legal person located abroad;

- **work permit for posted workers (type B)**- gives foreigners the right to perform work in Romania based on a posting decision of a foreign employer to a Romanian undertaking for duration of 12 months;
- **work permit for seasonal workers (type C)** - gives foreigners the right to be employed based on individual labour contracts for maximum 6 months in a 12 months period; this type of work permit can't be extended in order to perform other professional activities in Romania;
- **work permit for trainees (type D)** - gives foreigners the right to be employed in Romania based on individual labour contracts for a 12 months period. The duration for the work permit can be extended until the end of the training period;
- **work permit for sportsmen and sportswomen (type E)** - gives foreigners the right to be employed based on individual labour contracts for a 12 months period at a Romanian legal person, having sport as main object of activity. This type of work permit can be extended for other periods of 12 months;
- **individual work permit (type F)** -gives foreigners the right to perform seasonal activities at the same employer for whom they worked previously based on a work permit type C. To be awarded with this type of work permit, the foreigners involved must have complied with the legislation requirements regarding their return in the originated countries after the termination of their first seasonal labour contract;
- **work permit for frontier workers (type G)** - gives foreigners the right to be employed based on individual labour contracts for a 12 months period at only one Romanian natural or legal person, or a Romanian branch / subsidiary / agency of a legal person located abroad. This type of work permit is addressed to foreigners pursuing an activity as employees in the Romanian boarder area and who reside in another state to which they return as a rule daily or at least once a week.

The work permit is released by the Labour Force Migration Office (LFMO), a public institution subordinated to the National Agency for Employment.

Long term visa for employment is granted to the foreign citizen based on the favorable notice of the LFMO and of the Authority for Aliens.

The citizens from EU countries, whom government decided not to impose transitory measures to the access of Romanian workers on their labour market, beginning with 1<sup>st</sup> January 2007, can work in Romania without an work permit. The countries who are not imposed restrictions to the free access of the Romanian workers are: *Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Sweden.*

If the EEA worker is posted in Romania, there is no need for an work permit in order to work here. The worker can be posted if there is a contract between the EEA firm and the Romanian firm. The EEA firm that posted the worker must notify the the Romanian firm about the intention of posting the worker for a maximum period of 12 months.

#### Useful links:

- [www.omfm.ro](http://www.omfm.ro) (Labour Force Migration Office - LFMO)
- <http://aps.mai.gov.ro/> (Authority for Aliens)

## **INFORMATION ON EU CITIZEN'S STATUS IN ROMANIA**

### How can you get the Romanian residence?

EU citizens, who enter in Romania, shall benefit of the residence right for a period up to 3 months from the date of entry in our country. The family members of European Union citizens, regardless their citizenship, who accompany or join them subsequently, shall be beneficiaries of the same right of residence.

For a stay longer than 3 months, the EU citizens have to register their residence to the territorial structures of the Authority for Aliens, if they are in one of the following situations:

- They are employees or authorised self employed, according to the law;
- They have means of support for themselves and for their family members, regularly at least the guaranteed minimum income level in Romania and they have health insurance recognised by the national system of health social insurances;
- They are registered at a private or public institution in Romania, accredited according to the law, having as main purpose educational or vocational training activities, they have health insurance recognised by the national system of health social insurances and they declare under own liability or confirm by other means of proof that they have means of support for themselves and for their family members at least at the guaranteed minimum income level in Romania;
- They are family members of an EU citizen which fulfil one of the above-mentioned conditions.

Documents attesting the **residence longer than 3 months**:

- registration certificate for EU citizens (which is issued in the day of submission the application),
- residence card for family members who are not EU citizens.

The EU citizens who have a continuous legal residence on Romanian territory of more than 5 years shall benefit of the right of permanent residence. The same right shall be granted to residents who are not EU citizens with a continuous legal stay of more than 5 years, as family members of a resident or permanent resident who is an EU citizen.

Documents attesting the **permanent residence**:

- permanent residence card for European Union citizens
- permanent residence card for family members who are not European Union citizens

All documents issued to EU citizens and their family members are handed over to holders after they cover the costs of issuing the documents, or, if the case may be, the other fees and taxes established under the provisions of law, which are also applicable to Romanian citizens.

### The beneficiaries of residence in Romania:

The legal framework is applicable for the following persons:

- **EU/EEA citizens** - the persons who hold the citizenship of an EU Member State or the citizenship of Norway, Island and Liechtenstein;
- **Family members** - the spouse; the direct descendents of the EU citizen or of the spouse, irrespective of their nationality, who are under the age of 21 or those who are in their care; the direct ascendants of the EU citizen or of the spouse, irrespective of their nationality, who are in their care;
- **The partner** - the person who lives together with the EU citizen if the partnership is registered in accordance with the conditions laid down in the relevant legislation of the origin or provenience member state or, in case the partnership is not registered, the durable relationship can be duly attested;
- **The dependants** - any other family member, irrespective of their nationality, who is not covered by the definition of family member and who, in the origin or provenience country: is in the EU citizen care, or is a member of the household of EU citizen, or due to serious health grounds, require personal care of the EU citizen.

European Union citizens can enter into the Romanian territory under the condition of presenting the national identity document, the passport or other valid document issued by the Romanian authorities for the European Union citizens, without placing the entry stamp by the Border Police.

The family members who **are not** European Union citizens are allowed to enter into the Romanian territory presenting a valid

passport and an entry visa (granted on accelerate procedure), exempt the cases where the requirement of obtaining the visa is repealed under laws provisions. If the family member is holder of a document attesting his/hers residence on territory of another Member State as family of an EU citizen, he/she is exempt by the requirement of obtaining entry visa.

### **If you require the asylum in Romania:**

The central authority responsible for implementing the policies in Romania in the asylum field is the **National Office for Refugees (NOR)** under the subordination of **Ministry of Interior and Administration Reform**.

The authorities ensure the access to the asylum procedure for all aliens or stateless persons, found in Romania or at the border, starting with the date of their oral or written request, which expresses the person's need to be protected by the Romanian authorities. The refugee status and the protection are granted without time limit. Temporary humanitarian protection is granted for a period up to 2 years.

After the application's registration within the evidence of the National Office for Refugees or in its local offices, the applicant will fill in a form for declaring his/her personal data and his/her family members, the itinerary from the origin country to Romania, data related to other applications for the refugee status in third countries or in a EU Member State as well as the identification documents or travel documents he/she possesses.

The asylum application is solved based on the documents registered in the file of the applicant and on the reasons stated which are analyzed considering the certain status in the country of origin and the applicant's credibility.

The civil servants of NOR perform the interview, analyze the reasons and decide upon the asylum application of the applicant within 30 days since the takeover of the case.

### **Useful links:**

- <http://aps.mai.gov.ro> (Authority for Aliens)
- <http://www.igp.ro> (General Inspectorate for Romanian Police )
- <http://www.mae.ro> (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
- <http://www.mira.gov.ro> (Ministry of Interior and Administration Reform )
- <http://www.omfm.ro> (Labour Force Migration Office)
- <http://www.arisinvest.ro> (Romanian Agency for Foreign Investments)
- <http://www.evidentapersoanelor.ro> (National Inspectorate for Personal Data Record )
- <http://www.pasapoarte.mai.gov.ro> (General Directorate for Passports )
- <http://www.mai.gov.ro> (National Refugee Office)
- <http://www.mai.gov.ro> (Directorate for Driving License Regime and Registration of Vehicles)



**Peles Castle**

## WORKING CONDITIONS

### THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE IN ROMANIA

To find work in Romania, you need to use all the resources available as well the EURES network. If you know Romanian language you will find easier to get work here. Don't hesitate to contact the territorial structures of the National Agency for Employment if you need more informations and help for finding a job.

The **National Agency for Employment (NAE)**, the Romanian public employment service organizes and coordinates at national level, the activity of employment as well as social protection of the unemployed by applying employment policies and strategies developed by the **Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities**.

Employment activity in Romania is conducted by NAE and private employment agencies on the basis of conditions specified in legal regulations.

Information related to the service is available on the NAE site, where current job vacancies may be viewed. The EURES system is also directly available from the NAE site.

NAE's services are addressed both to jobseekers and to the employers in Romania:

#### **Services for the jobseekers:**

- information, counselling and vocational guidance
- job-matching
- vocational training

- counselling to start-up a business.

Besides this services, there are other active measure offered to the unemployed persons:

- completing the wage income of the employees
- stimulating the labour force mobility .

#### **Stimulation measures for employers to hire unemployed:**

- job subsidies for:

- persons aged over 45, single providers of family income, persons with disabilities
  - graduates
  - community service works
  - persons who are up to three years away from the retiring age.
- Incentives granted to employers
  - Pre-lay off services.

#### **Useful link:**

- [www.anofm.ro](http://www.anofm.ro) (The National Agency for Employment)

## RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMAS AND QUALIFICATIONS

### **How can you get the recognition of your diplomas?**

The recognition of diplomas and vocational qualifications for regulated occupations from Romania are applied to any citizen of a Member State from EU or European Economic Area, who wants to work in Romania, as self-employed or as employee. The institution in charge with the recognition of diplomas is The National Centre of Recognition and Equivalency of Diplomas within the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth. According to the Law nr.203/1999 concerning work

permits, this centre recognize the diplomas and the study documents for the foreign citizens who solicit work permits.

A diploma means any document or set of documents able to certify the training level, which:

- was issued by a competent authority from a Member State of the U.E. or E.E.A.;
- certifies the fact that the titular finished a cycle of superior studies within a period of minimum 3 years or, with an equivalent duration into the long distance education or into an university, an institution of superior education or into another institution with similar level, going through a professional training, additional to the cycle of superior studies, if the state of origin demands such requirements;
- certifies the fact that the titular has the necessary vocational qualification for a regulated occupation or for carrying-out an occupation in the state of origin, only if the training attested through the documents provided in the present paragraph was obtained mainly in the UE or EEA, or in the case when the titular of these documents has a professional experience of at least 3 years, certified into a Member State that recognized the title issued by a third state.

Also, any document released by a competent authority from a Member State is considered diploma if it refers to training achieved in the UE or EEA. The diplomas should also be recognized by the competent authority from the Member State with an equivalent level of those mentioned above, only if it offers the same rights of access to a regulated profession in the Member State of origin.

#### **Useful links:**

- [www.cnred.edu.ro](http://www.cnred.edu.ro) (The National Centre of Recognition and Equivalency of Diplomas)

## **LABOUR CODE**

### **Generalities of labour code:**

The Labour Code is settling all the individual and collective types of work relations, as well as controlling the application of the regulations from work relations and labour jurisdiction fields.

According to the Labour Code, the employer is the physical or juridical person who can hire labour force on the basis of individual labour contract. The Labour Code is applied to the foreigners or stateless citizens, to the persons who have obtained the refugee status and are hired with individual labour contract on Romanian territory, according to the law.

### **What you have to know about the individual labour contract**

The individual labour contract is a contract on the basis on which the employee will work for and under the authority of an employer, physical or juridical person, in the exchange of an income. The individual labour contract is concluded on open ended period or, in certain conditions, on fixed period. Any person can begin the activity starting with the age of 16 years.

**The employer** is the physical or juridical person which employs labour force on the basis of the individual labour contract. The individual labour contract is concluded with the agreement of the parts involved, in written form, in the Romanian language. The obligation of concluding an individual labour contract in written form is the duty of the employer. The activity made on the basis of an individual labour contract offers to the employee the length time service.

**Individual labour contract** should include the following elements: the names of the involved parts, the headquarter of the employer, the job tasks, the specific risks of the job, the hiring data and the type of labour contract, the period of the annual vacation, the basic income and other incentives, the

number of working hours (daily and weekly) as well the other conditions specific for the work place.

The individual labour contract is concluded after a prior verification of the professional and personal skills of the person that requires employment.

### **Duration and trial period**

**You should take into account that a work contract may set an indefinite (permanent) or set (temporary) trial period.**

The trial period is 30 calendar days for operational position and no more than 90 calendar days for the management position. For the unskilled workers, the trial period is 5 working days. The graduates are employed at their beginning, on the ground of a probation period between 3 and 6 months. The trial period is considered length in service.

The employees of the public institutions, public authorities and other budgetary institutions can be hired only after a competition or an exam, as the case may be.

### **Working time**

The full time schedule is of 8 hours per day and 40 per week. The maximum duration of working time cannot be longer than 48 hours per week, including the supplementary hours. When the activity is executed in shifts, the working period can be prolonged more than 8 hours per day and 48 hours per week, if the average of working hours, calculated on a maximum period of 3 weeks, will not be longer than 8 hours per day and 48 hours per week.

### **Salary**

On the establishment and granting the wage is forbidden any discrimination on criteria concerning the gender, sexual

orientation, age, nationality, race, color, ethnic origins, religion, political options, social origin, handicap, family situation or responsibility, trade union involvement or participation to strike.

The wage includes the basic wage and different types of supplements (ie. night time working, shift-work, overtime). The wages are paid above any other financial obligation of the employers.

The salary of the personnel from the authorities and public institutions is financed either entirely or mostly from the state budget, the state insurance budget, the local budgets and special funds budgets, established by the law, after consulting the trade unions representatives.

The minimum gross wage guaranteed at national level is established through Government decision, after consulting the trade unions and employers' organizations.

The employer should inform the employees about minimum gross wage at national level. The employer has the obligation of assuring a wage at least on the level of the minimum gross wage at national level.

The minimum gross wage guaranteed at national level from 1st of January 2007 is 390,00 LEI (around 110 EURO).

For the employees from private sector the Colective Agreement establishes the level of the minimum gross wage at 440,00 LEI (around 124 EURO) and for the graduates of university education is 880,00 LEI (around 248 EURO).

### **The annual vacation and legal holidays:**

The paid annual vacation is guaranteed to every employee, the minimum duration of the annual holiday is of 20 working days.

The legal holidays, established through the law and the collective labour contract, are not included in the duration of annual vacation. The annual vacation should be taken every year.

### Useful links:

- [www.mmssf.ro](http://www.mmssf.ro) (Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities)

## THE TRADE UNIONS AND THE EMPLOYERS' ORGANIZATIONS

**The trade unions** are independent juridical persons, with no heritage aim, created in the purpose of protecting and promoting the collectives and individual rights, as well as the professional, economical, social, cultural and sportive interests of their members.

The trade unions are participating with their own representatives at the negotiations and conclusions of collective labour contract, treaties or agreements with the public authorities or employers' organizations but also in the specific structures of the social dialog. The trade unions can associate themselves, in a free way according to the law, in federations, confederations or territorial unions.

The trade union right of the employees is recognized at the level of every employer, respecting the rights and the freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution.

**The employers' organizations** are organizations of the employers, without political character, established as juridical persons with no heritage aim.

The employers' organizations represent, sustain and protect the interests of their members in relations with the public authorities, trade unions and other juridical and natural persons in rapport with their objectives and aim of activity, according their owns status and with the provisions of the law.

### Useful links:

- [www.cnslr-fratia.ro](http://www.cnslr-fratia.ro) (C.N.S.L.R. – National Free Trade Unions from Romania)

- [www.bns.ro](http://www.bns.ro) (B.N.S.– National Trade Union Block)
- [www.cartel-alfa.ro](http://www.cartel-alfa.ro)(C.N.S.C.A.–Confederatia Nationala Sindicala Cartel Alfa )
- [www.csnmeridian.ro](http://www.csnmeridian.ro) (C.S.N.Meridian– Meridiian National Trade Unions)
- [www.cnpr.org.ro](http://www.cnpr.org.ro) (National Confederation of the Romanian Employers)
- [www.araco.org](http://www.araco.org) (Romanian Asociation of the Construction Contractors)

### Useful links:

- [www.mmssf.ro](http://www.mmssf.ro) (Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities)
- [www.cnpas.org](http://www.cnpas.org) (National House of Pensions and Other Social Insurance Rights)

## LIVING CONDITIONS IN ROMANIA

### POLITICAL, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM

Romanian Constitution was adopted in the year 1991 and was improved in the year 2003. According the Constitution, **Romania is a parliamentary republic.**

Romania passed from the communist system managed by a single party to the pluripartite system and many parties were created. In the recent years, a number of parties have been in the forefront:

The elections are divided in three categories: local elections, with the purpose of choosing the mayor and the members of the county council; the general elections in the purpose of choosing the political representatives in the Parliament and the elections for choosing the president. The Parliament is constituted from the Deputies Chamber and the Senate.

The laws and the decisions are adopted with the majority vote of the present members from every Chamber. After a law or a decision was adopted by the Parliament, is transmitted for promulgation to the Romanian President.

From administrative point of view, Romania is divided into 41 counties and the Municipality of Bucharest, which is also the capital. From economical considerations and statistical reasons Romania is divided in 8 specific regions: North East Region, the South East Region, the South Muntenia Region, the South West Oltenia Region, the West Region, the North-West Region, the Center Region and the Bucharest and Ilfov Region.

## CONTRIBUTIONS AND TAXES ON THE LABOUR MARKET

In Romania, every employee and employer contribute to the social insurance budget, to the health fund, to the unemployment insurance budget as well as to the state budget, through salary taxes, as it follows:

- **Contribution to the social insurance (for pension), meaning :**
  - 9,5% on the gross monthly income realized by the employee;
  - 19,75% on the total fund of gross monthly salaries earned by the employees and paid by the employers.
- **Contribution to the unemployment budget, meaning:**
  - 1% on the gross monthly salary for the person insured on a contract basis;
  - 2,25% on the total fund of monthly gross salaries earned by the employees and paid by the employers;
- **Contribution to the health insurance fund, meaning:**
  - 6,5% on the gross monthly income realized by the employee;

- 7% on the total fund of the monthly gross salaries realized by the employees and paid by the employers.

- The **tax on salaries** and for any kind of gross income is 16%;

There are also other small contributions paid by the employers (contributions for keeping the employees work booklets, contributions for risk and accident fund, etc.).

### Useful links:

- [www.mmssf.ro](http://www.mmssf.ro) (Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities)
- [www.anofm.ro](http://www.anofm.ro) (National Agency for Employment)
- [www.cnpas.org](http://www.cnpas.org) (National House of Pensions and Other Social Insurance Rights )
- [www.mfinante.ro](http://www.mfinante.ro) (Ministry of Public Finance)
- [www.casan.ro](http://www.casan.ro) (National House of Health Insurance)

## INCOMES AND COST OF LIVING

At first January 2006, according the figures provided by the National Institute of Statistics, the work resources were 13.816,9 thousand persons, the civil active population represented 8.913,4 thousand persons and the civil employed population represented 8.390,4 thousand persons.

The average net salary, in April 2007, was 1.027 LEI (around 315 euro). A difference appeared between eastern and western counties in these respect incomes are higher in the economically more developed regions (Bucharest, North West) with Bucharest having the highest incomes.

At 30th of April 2007 the unemployment registered rate at national level was 4,5 %, with 400 thousands unemployed persons. The highest rate of unemployment was registered, in April, in the South West (5,9%) and South Region (5,4%). In these regions the economic development is rather low, being

influenced by prevalent rural activities (in some counties) or by the reorganisation of economic sectors, in counties which in the past were strong industrialised (such as mining, machines construction).

The lowest rate of unemployment, is registered in April, in the Bucharest (2,2%) and North West Region (3,3%). These regions are favoured by their near position to west markets and by their low dependancy to primary sector, and also they benefited of more foreign investments than the other regions. Region Bucharest represents the most important labour market in Romania.

The Government defines the amount of the minimum compulsory wage each year (for 2007 is 390 LEI- around 110 Euro).

**Useful link:** [www.insse.ro](http://www.insse.ro) (The National Institute of Statistics)

## SHOPPING

The habits and shopping possibilities in Romania are various in respect of regions and larger cities. The small stores are opened during the day, even during the night, in the small cities and in the villages. People can find small non-stop stores where can buy food products.

In the large cities, supermarkets and hypermarkets are offering a wide range of goods, where shoppers can find anything they might need 24 hours a day. The supermarkets are attractive because their advantages (position -outside the cities, on sections of road leading into the city, huge car parks, cheaper prices, etc.)

Smaller shops usually sell the same products as large retail chains at a slightly higher price. The schedule is usually between 9<sup>00</sup> a.m. until 5<sup>00</sup> p.m., while the rest of the stores and the supermarkets are opened until 9<sup>00</sup> pm. or 10<sup>00</sup> p.m.

The option of payment by bank card is not always available in small stores, but this payment method is spreading.

Many clients prefer to buy electronic and home appliances, as well as personal computers through credits. The credit contracts can be done even in the stores and this way of shopping is encouraged in many manners: the client receives all kind of goods and the interests for this type of credits are eliminated. Larger retail stores have also launched their own shopping cards, encouraging people to buy on credit or using bonus points.

The banks are working with the public usually between 9<sup>00</sup>a.m. and 6<sup>00</sup>p.m., from Monday to Friday, some branches are opened even in Saturday morning, being closed on Sunday.

The post offices are open to the public from Monday to Friday from 8<sup>00</sup>a.m. until 8<sup>00</sup>p.m., having some client services even Saturday until 1<sup>00</sup>p.m.

## HOUSING

It is advisable to know where are going to stay in Romania before you leave your own country, thus avoiding possible complications. There are many possibilities; it is a question of your preferences and budget.

### Rental

If you want to rent a flat during your stay in Romania, it is best to check out the sections dedicated to the housing market in the newspapers. You can also get an estate agent (check in the Yellow Page). The price varies according to the size of the rented house as well of the location, while the center is an expensive area. You need to sign a lease with the owner. The lease, which is advisable to have on paper, should be an official contract form.

### Accommodation for students

Students, whether, are at university or not, who have to travel to study have the following options: university halls, residences, flats, apartments).

### **Finding a flat on the internet**

Along with the traditional ways of looking for a flat or advertising them (the press, estate agents) the internet offers a new tool for finding a flat or to buy or rent.

### **Buying a property**

In Bucharest, in the big cities, as well in the resorts, the houses are more expensive than in the rest of the country. At the acquisition of the house, the documents should be legalized by a notary office.

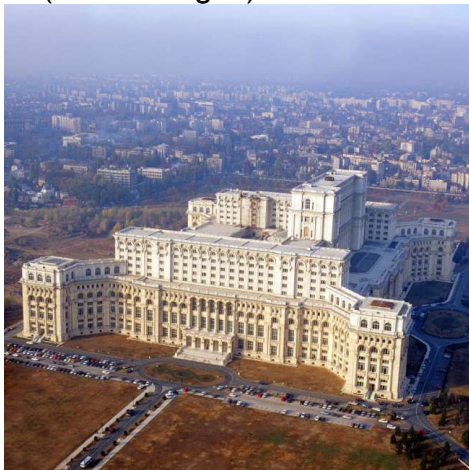
In the acquisition procedure, the owner shall make contracts for the following utilities: electricity, gas, water and heating as well for the sanitary services. In the case of apartments, the costs for these services are made through the owners associations.

### **Services**

Invoices for all the services (gas, electricity, phone, cable TV, telephone) have to be paid on time, generally every month, if not, you can be cut off.

### **Useful link:**

[www.pa.ro](http://www.pa.ro) (Yellow Pages)



The House of Parliament-Bucharest

## **THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL LIFE**

There are many opportunities for entertainment and relaxation in Romania.

There are large scale events such as George Enescu Festival, in Bucharest, Fete de la musique (in cities like Bucharest, Arad, Bacău, Brasov, Iasi, Sibiu), The Medieval Art Festival in Sighisoara, Mamaia Pop Music Festival, The Golden Stag from Brasov (pop music festival).

There are opportunities to visit theaters in all cities, though most are based in the capital, which also offers the widest selection in terms of the number of plays.

Bucharest offers many possibilities for sparing the time: beginning with cinema halls found all over the city, Botanical Garden, Theaters, Museums, the Opera (both for music as well for the ballet shows). As a result, the art lovers can enjoy wonderful and relaxing moments.

All cities offer sporting opportunities, a variety of sports can be pursued at various sports facilities and fields.

An increasing number of persons use the Internet and the cable TV companies started campaigns in the purpose of raising the number of their customers.

### **Useful links:**

- <http://tnb.kappa.ro/> (National Theatre from Bucharest)
- <http://teatrulnational.iasinet.ro> (National Theatre from Iasi)
- <http://my.operanb.ro/> (The National Opera in Bucharest)
- [www.opera-brasov.ro/](http://www.opera-brasov.ro/) (The Opera from Brasov)



The National Theatre-Bucharest

## TRANSPORT

Romania has a vast network, of railway, internationals, nationals and counties roads. After the accession to the EU, Romania's northern and eastern borders shall also become the EU's borders, which is likely to place increasing burdens on traffic and transport.

An intense traffic is on Pitesti – Bucharest highway, as well on the Bucharest – Constanta highway (which realise the connection of Bucharest with the Black Sea Coast). Other highways are on construction.

The **New Driving Code** establishes the speed limits: on the highways – 120 Km./hour; national roads (outside the localities) – 90 km. /hours while in the localities is – 50 km. /hour.

There are some facilities for the persons traveling with the train, local buses or with the buses connecting the counties:

- free season tickets for children, wherever is necessary;
- the undergraduates benefit of cost reduction for the railway tickets and for the season tickets in the universities centers;
- the retired persons benefit of 12 free railway tickets and 50% cost reduction for the transport ticket;
- persons with disabilities (children and adults) benefit the free urban and inter-urban transportation.

In Romania, the fluvial traffic on the Danube is very intense and the maritime traffic on the Black Sea is also very important. Fluvial and sea harbors like: Constanta, Braila, Galati and Sulina are well known all over the world.

There is local urban transport in all the cities of the country. There are buses all over the cities connecting different districts, especially the sub-urban areas and the industrial platforms from outside the cities. In the big cities there are also trams and trolley bus networks.

In Bucharest there is a subway network, with 4 main lines, that links 6 districts (ticket price 2 LEI).

The ticket price for local buses is affordable and an important part of the population uses the public transportation.

### Useful links:

- [www.tarom.ro](http://www.tarom.ro) (The Romanian Transport Airlines)
- [www.mt.ro](http://www.mt.ro) (Ministry of Transports, Constructions and Tourism)
- [www.voiajcf.ro](http://www.voiajcf.ro) (Romanian Railways)
- [www.ratb.ro](http://www.ratb.ro) (Public transport in Bucharest)



"George Enescu" Museum-Bucharest

# THE ROMANIAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

## Generalities:

In Romania, the educational system is considered a national priority. The educational system is based on the humanist traditions, democratic values and on the Romanian society aspirations and it contributes to the promotion of the national identity.

The Romanian educational system is based on modern educational strategies and techniques, sustained by the school practice, according the objectives of every educational level.

The state educational system is free of charge. The taxes can be applied for some activities, in the conditions stipulated by the law.

Romanian language is the official language used at all the levels of education. According to the present law, the educational process can be done in the minority's languages as well in international languages.

National educational system cumulates the various type of educational unities and institutions, either there are state or private institutions.

## Levels of educational system:

The educational system is organized on different levels, insuring the coherence and the continuity of educational process according with the age and individual particularities.

The following types of educational levels are typical for the national system:

- pre-school education: junior group, medium group, senior group and pre-school preparation group;
- primary education: I-IV class;
- secondary education, that includes:

- Inferior secondary education, organized in two succeeding cycles: gymnasium, the V-VIII classes and the inferior cycle of high-school or school of arts and handcrafts, the IX-X classes;
- Superior secondary education: the superior cycle of high-school, the XI-XII/XIII, succeeded in some cases of the addition year;

- upper-secondary education;

- Superior education: university education and post-graduated education.

The pre-school, primary, secondary and upper-secondary education constitutes the pre-university educational system.

The inferior and superior cycle of high school constitute the high school education. The highest level of qualification achievable at secondary school is the school-leaving exam, which consists of compulsory and optional subjects. The school-leaving exam is a compulsory condition for further study in a higher education institution.

There are two types of higher education institution in Romania:

- college (no more than four years)

- university (usually five, sometimes six years).

The school of arts and handcrafts and the addition year constitute the vocational education.

The primary and inferior secondary education constitutes the compulsory education. The pre-university education is subordinated to the Ministry of Education and Research through the school inspectorates, while the superior education is coordinated by the Ministry that respects the autonomy of the universities.

The educational system has the following forms of organization: day time education, night time education, and low attendance education, long distance learning education and for the children with special needs, home education. The compulsory education is the day-time education.

After Romania joined the European Union, the citizens from the states of the European Economic Area and of the Swiss Confederation have access to every educational form and levels, in the same conditions as the law provide for the Romanians citizens including also the tuition fee.

#### **Useful links:**

- <http://www.edu.ro> (Education and Research Ministry)
- [www.ase.ro](http://www.ase.ro) (The Academy of Economic Sciences-Bucharest)
- [www.unibuc.ro](http://www.unibuc.ro) (The University of Bucharest)
- [www.ubbcluj.ro](http://www.ubbcluj.ro) (The “Babes-Bolyai” University, Cluj)
- [www.uaic.ro](http://www.uaic.ro) (The “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University, from Iasi)
- [www.tuiasi.ro](http://www.tuiasi.ro) (The Technique University “G.Asachi”, of Iasi)
- [www.utt.ro](http://www.utt.ro) (The University of Timisoara)
- [www.europa.eu.int/ploteus](http://www.europa.eu.int/ploteus) (Portal on Learning Opportunities Throughout Europe)

### **PRIVATE LIFE (births, marriages, death)**

The civil status documents are authentic registrations which attest the birth, the marriage and the death of a person. The birth, marriage and death documents are elaborated in civil status registers, in two copies, both original and they are being hand-written, with special black ink.

The foreign citizens who have the residence (or they temporarily stay) in Romania may require the registration of the civil status documents and facts in the same conditions as the Romanian citizens.

The releasing of the *birth certificate* is made in the administrative-territorial area of the local community public service for person records, where the event happened, based on

the identity document of the mother and the legal father, of the medical certificate of the birth from the medical institution where the birth took place, or of the marriage certificate of the parents.

In Romania, the marriage is pronounced by the civil officer, at the local community public service of the persons' evidence where one of the spouses has the residence. The civil officer issues, immediately, the *marriage certificate*.

The marriage statement is made personally by future spouses, written, at the local community public service of persons' evidence where the marriage will be pronounced.

At the conclusion of the marriage between foreign citizens, or between them and Romanian citizens, if they are not familiar with the Romanian language, or when one or both future spouses are deaf and dumb, the presence of an authorized interpreter is required, a report being made.

The issuing of the decease *certificate* is made at the administrative-territorial area of the local community service for population records where the decease took place. It is based on the oral statement given by the members of the deceased family, neighbors of the deceased, the doctor or other staff member from the sanitary unit where the death took place and of the medical decease certificate.

The Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities grants, through the county pension houses, funeral benefits. The amount of the funeral benefits is established yearly, thus for the year 2007 is:

- 1.270 LEI (around 390 Euro) for the decease of an insured person in the Romanian social security system or for the retired person;
- 635 LEI (around 195 Euro) for the decease of a family member of an insured person in the Romanian social security system or of a retired person.

### **Useful links:**

- [www.mmssf.ro](http://www.mmssf.ro) (Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities)
- [www.dsclex.ro](http://www.dsclex.ro) (news on legislation issues)

## **THE HEALTH SYSTEM**

The purpose of the public health insurance is given by the health promoting, sickness preventing and the life quality improvement. The health social insurances represent the main financed system of protecting the population health which insures the access to a set of basic services for the insured persons. The health social insurances are compulsory.

Anyone who is classified as insured shall be entitled to the benefits of the system of health care provision in Romania. Use of such services takes place on the basis of an insurance relationship, based on the payment of a specified amount of contributions. The participation in the social insurance system for citizens of EU Member States may be proved by the appropriate E form.

The unique national fund of health social insurances is managed by the Health Insurances National House (HINH) and by its territorial units. Certain categories of persons are insured, without paying the insurance contribution:

- the children younger than 18 years or persons younger than 26 years, if they study in university;
- the persons who are persecuted from political reasons; veterans, invalids and war-widows;
- the persons with disabilities who do not earn incomes;
- the pregnant and lying-in women if they do not have incomes or their incomes are under the economy-wide basic gross wage.

All the persons insured to the health fund benefit, according to the law presented above, from health services such as: medical visits, free prescriptions and hospitalisation.

The primary medical assistance may be provided by the individual practice of the family doctors or by different forms of associations into groups of practice, in common locations or through the functional integration of some offices, with distinct locations.

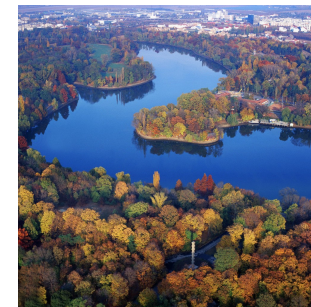
The family medical office provides medical services for patients (registered and insured persons; uninsured persons). The family medical office may provide essential extended and additional medical services.

The services provided are the following:

- ◆ first aid interventions in the surgical-medical emergencies;
- ◆ assistance of the emergency situations;
- ◆ the monitoring of the chronic affections, which contains: active medical supervision for the most frequent chronic affections, prescriptions for medication and/or diet and hygienic treatment, coordination of regular check-ups made by specialized doctors;
- ◆ preventive medical services as: immunizations, monitoring the evolution of the pregnancy and on childbed, risk prevention of sickness for selected affections according to the scientific proofs, active medical monitoring to adults and asymptomatic children with an usual or raised risk, on age and gender groups.

### **Useful links:**

- [www.ms.ro](http://www.ms.ro) (The Health Ministry)
- [www.casan.ro](http://www.casan.ro) (The Health Insurances National House)



Herastrau Park-Bucharest

# SOCIAL SECURITY

## Generalities

In exercising the rules of the social security systems, the following institutions are involved:

- The Ministry of Labour, Family and Equality of Chances,
- The Ministry of Health,
- The National House of Pensions and Other Rights of Social Insurance (NHP),
- The National Agency for Employment (NAE),
- The Health Insurance National House,
- The Ministry of Education and Research (MER).

The Ministry of Labour, Family and Equality of Chances has an important place in the management of the institutions involved in the coordination of the social security systems for the employed persons, self-employed and their family members who travel inside the European Community. The Ministry of Labour has also the leading role in the political defining, legislation enforcement and the administration of an important part of the social security system. The NHP and NAE are functioning under the authority of Ministry of Labour.

The National Agency for Employment (NAE), as a public institution of national interest, organises and co-ordinates at national level the employment activity, as well as the social protection of the unemployed, while implementing the employment policies and strategies worked-out by the Ministry of Labour, Family and Equality of Chances.

Its main attributions are:

- Organizes, provides and finances unemployment prevention and employment stimulation services;
- Organizes and provides free-of-charge or charged vocational training services for the unemployed and for other categories of beneficiaries;

- Provides counseling to jobseekers and mediates between them and employers;
- Works-out proposals for drafting the budget of the Unemployment Insurance Fund;
- Administers the Unemployment Insurance Fund;

The National House of Pensions and Other Rights of Social Insurance is responsible for granting the following benefits: the pension for the age limit; disability pension; survivor pension; benefits for temporary working disability, caused by regular affections or by accidents caused after the working program, professional diseases and work accidents; benefits for the preventing of affections and recovering the work abilities; benefit for maternity, benefit for child education or for the nursing of the sick child; death benefit.

MER insures the payment of the social security benefits, namely the children benefit, under the same conditions as for the Romanian citizens, also the access to the compulsory school from Romania for the children of the migrant workers from the Member States of the European Union.

The Ministry of Health and the Health Insurance National House are the institutions responsible for the healthcare in case of disease and maternity.

## UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT

### Beneficiaries of the unemployment benefits

The beneficiaries of the provisions of the unemployment law are the jobseekers, in one of the following situations:

- have become unemployed (they do not have a job, they do not earn incomes or they earn incomes lower than the unemployed benefit which is reserved to them according to the present law)
- were not able to take-up employment after graduating from institution or after completing the compulsory military service;
- have a job but, due to various reasons, would like to change it;

- have obtained a refugee status or other form of international protection, according to the law;
- foreigners who have been employed or have earned an income in Romania, according to the law;
- have not been able to take-up employment following repatriation or release from prison.

The insured persons can be:

- Romanian citizens who are employed or earn incomes in Romania, according to the law, excepting the persons who have the quality of retired persons;
- Romanian citizens working abroad, according to the law;
- Foreigners or stateless who, during the period of time when they have their domicile or residence in Romania, are employed or earn incomes, according to the law.

The insured persons have the obligation to pay the contributions of unemployed insurances and have the right to take the unemployed benefit, according to the present law.

The following persons are compulsory covered by the unemployment insurance system as a consequence of this law:

- persons who perform activities based upon an individual labour contract or persons who perform activities based upon a temporarily labour contract, according to the law, excepting the persons who are pensioners;
- civil servants and other persons who perform activities based upon an appointment document;
- persons who perform activities in elective positions or are appointed within the executive, legislative or judicial authority, during their mandate;
- military staff employed with a contract;
- persons who have working relations as co-operative members;
- other persons who earn an income from activities performed according to the law and who do not find themselves under any of the situations mentioned before.

The following persons may be insured against the unemployment, according to the law:

- a) single associate, associates;

- b) administrators who have concluded contracts according to the law;
- c) persons authorized to perform independent activities as self-employed;
- d) members of family associations;
- e) Romanian citizens working abroad, according to the law;
- f) other persons who earn an income from activities performed according to the law and who do not find themselves into any of the situations mentioned under a)-e).

### **The calculation of the unemployment benefit**

The unemployment benefit is granted to the unemployed for periods of time established differently, according to their contribution period, as follows:

- 6 months for the persons with a contribution period up to 5 years but not lower than a year;
- 9 months for the persons with a contribution period from 5 to 10 years;
- 12 months for the persons with a contribution period higher than 10 years.

The unemployment benefit is a monthly amount granted differently, according to the contribution period, as follows:

- 75% of the basic minimum gross wage at national level, in force at the date of its determination, for persons with a contribution period of at least one year;
- 75% of the basic minimum gross wage at national level, plus a bonus calculated on the basis of the average monthly basic gross wages from the past 12 months, to which is applied a different percentage quota, according to the contribution period, as follows:
  1. 3% for persons with a contribution period of at least 3 years;
  2. 5% for persons with a contribution period of at least 5 years;
  3. 7% for persons with a contribution period of at least 10 years;

4. 10% for persons with a contribution period of at least 20 years

The graduates of educational institutions and the persons having completed the compulsory military service and do not have a job are also entitled to unemployment benefit which consists of a monthly tax-free amount representing 50% of the basic minimum gross wage at national level, in force at the date of its determination.

The persons insured by the unemployment insurance contract have the obligation to pay, monthly, a contribution to the unemployed insurance budget, representing a quota of 3.25% applied to the monthly income declared in the unemployment insurance contract.

**Useful link:**

**[www.anofm.ro](http://www.anofm.ro)** (The National Agency for Employment)

## PENSIONS

The public pension system and other rights of social insurance are regulated by the Law nr.19/2000. Into the public system are mandatory insured:

- the persons that develops an activity on the ground of the individual labour contract and the public servants;
- the persons that develop their activity in elective positions or the persons named as executive, legislative or juridical authority, as well as the cooperative members of the trade cooperation;
- unemployed persons receiving benefits from the unemployment insurance budget;
- persons who earn, cumulated, gross incomes during the calendar year, equivalent with at least 3 medium gross wages and who are found in two or more from the situations above mentioned;

In the public system are granted the following pension categories:

- old age pension;
- early retirement pension;
- partial early retirement pension;
- disability pension;
- survivors pension.

The Law nr.19/2000 concerning the public pension system entered into force at 1st of Aprilie 2001 and stipulated the progressive increase of the retirement age, of the minimum and complete length of service, thus:

- the retirement age for men, from 62 years to 65 years and for women, from 57 years to 60 years;
- the complete length of service, for men from 30 years to 35 years and for women, from 25 years to 30 years;
- the minimum length of service, from 10 years to 15 years.

In the year 2007, the standard age for retirement is 58 years and 1-4 months for women and 63 years and 1-4 months for men.

*Old age pension* is granted for the insured persons that cumulate, at the date of retirement, the conditions concerning the standard age for retirement and the minimum stage of contribution realized in the public system.

*Anticipated pension* is granted for the insured person overcoming the contribution period with at least 10 years, who can require it with no more than 5 years before the standard age for retirement.

The quantum of anticipated pension is established in the same conditions as those established for old age retirement.

*The anticipated partial pension* is granted for the insured person completing full stages of contributions, as well for the persons overcoming the complete period of contribution with no

more than 10 years and can require the reducing of standard age for retirement with the most 5 years.

The quantum of the partial anticipated pension is established from the quantum of the old age pension, through diminution in rapport with the contribution level completed, with the number of months reducing the standard age for retirement.

*Disability pension* is granted to the insured persons losing totally or partially the working capacity as a result of: labour accidents, professional disease and tuberculosis, regular disease and accidents related with the activity.

According to the job tasks and with the degree of reducing working capacity, the disability is:

- I-st degree- total loss of the working capacity, the disability person needs permanent nursing or permanent surveillance of another person;
- II-nd degree- total loss of the working capacity, in the conditions when the disability person can manage by him self, without the support of another person;
- III-rd degree- the loss of at least half of the working capacity, the disability person succeeding to complete a professional activity.

The inclusion into a disability degree is made through the decision of a specialized doctor in medical expertise, together with the necessary documentation.

*Survivor's pension* is granted to the children or to the survivor spouse, if the person deceased was retired or if he/she meets the conditions for qualifying for the pension.

The children have the right of survivor pension: until the age of 16 years old if they are continuing the studies into an organized educational system until finishing the studies, with the condition of not overcome the age of 26 years old.

The survivor spouse has the right of survivor pension for the rest of its life, after reaching the standard retirement age, if the marriage lasted at least 15 years, in the conditions stipulated by the law.

### *Benefits for temporary incapacity of work*

In order to beneficiate of seackness leave and of the social insurance benefits for health the person have to pay contributions to the Romanian social security system for minimum one month, in the last 12 months previous to the month for which is granted the seackness leave.

The benefits for the temporary incapacity of work (due to medical reasons) are paid by:

- A. The employer (depending by the number of employees which exists at the date when the temporary incapacity of work appears) thus:
  - until 20 employees, from the first day until the 7<sup>th</sup> day of temporary incapacity of work;
  - between 21-100 employees, from the first day until the 12<sup>th</sup> day of temporary incapacity of work;
  - over 100 employees, from the first day until the 17<sup>th</sup> day of temporary incapacity of work.
- B. The social insurance budget for health, beginning with:
  - The next day following the days paid by the employer until the incapacity of work of the insured person is finished (or is retiring);
  - The first day of the temporary incapacity of work for the unemployed person or for other categories (associates or shareholders; members of family associations; persons who develop independent activities; administrators or managers who have concluded administration contract or management contract).

The benefits for temporary incapacity of work caused by the professional diseases and work accidents are paid from the first day of temporary disability until its ceasing or retirement.

### **Useful links:**

- [www.mmssf.ro](http://www.mmssf.ro) (Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities)

- [www.cnpas.org](http://www.cnpas.org) (National House of Pensions and Other Social Insurance Rights)
- [www.casan.ro](http://www.casan.ro) (Ministry of Health)

## **OTHER BENEFITS GRANTED IN ROMANIA**

### **Benefits for the persons with disabilities:**

The persons with disabilities are those persons who have some physical disease (mental or sensory disease), without the abilities for carrying on daily activities, and they need protection measures in the support of recovery, integration and social inclusion.

The persons with disabilities have the following rights:

- a) health assistance – prevent, treatment and recovery;
- b) education and vocational training;
- c) employment, orientation and professional reconversion;
- d) social assistance, respective social services and catering;
- e) house, transport, access to physical, information and communication medium;
- f) free time, access to culture, sport and tourism;
- g) judicial assistance;
- h) fiscal facilities;
- i) evaluation and reevaluation through residence examination of undisplaceable persons of the evaluation commission in two years time.

Concerning the assurance of recovery/exoneration assistance, the persons with disabilities have the rights to: protect device in ORL, visual, prosthesis, hearts fields; free accomodation for the disabilities child guide; free watering place tickets.

The disabilities child guide has the following rights: paid holidays for the disability child until the child reach the age of 7 years; the disability child allowance until the child reach the age of 18 years old; the disability child allowance beeing in familial

placung or persons, families in quantum scheduled by yhe law; increased with 50%.

Also, the persons with disabilities have right to the education access and fiscal facilities.

The children with disabilities inclusive HIV/AIDS handicap have the right on a allowance concerning the law in quantum increased with 100%. Also these chilfren have the right of daily food allowance.

The adults with disabilities have the following rights:

- a) montly allowance, indifferently his/her earnings:
  - 1. 179 LEI , for serious handicap;
  - 2. 147 LEI , for emphasised handicap;
- b) personal complementary montly budget, indifferently his/her earnings:
  1. 80 LEI , for serious handicap;
  2. 60 LEI , for emphasised handicap;
  3. 30 LEI , for medium handicap.

All these quantums are actualised with the value of consuming increased price, by the Government Decision,.

### **Useful link:**

- [www.anph.ro](http://www.anph.ro) (The National Authority for People with Disabilities)

### **Children care:**

The leave and the benefit for children care up to the age of 2 or, in the situation of a child with disability, up to the age of 3, is granted to the justified persons if these earned professional incomes, subjects to taxation for 12 month in the last year before the date of child birth or, if the case might be, from the date when the adoption or the placement or the tutoring took place.

The leave and the monthly benefit for child-care are also granted to the persons who, until 31 October 2006, completes in the pension public system contribution periods of at least 10 months in the latest 12 months before the day of the child's birth.

Starting January 2007, the following rights are granted:

- the benefit for the child-care is a fixed amount paid for children up to the age of 2 (namely for a 3 years old child with disability);
- incentive for the parents who return to work, a fixed amount paid for children up to the age of 2 (namely for a 3 years old child with disability);
- state allocation for the children, a fixed amount paid for children up to the age of 2 (namely for a 3 years old child with disability); no matter if the parents are earning or not incomes;

The conditions for granting the rights provided above:

- they are Romanian citizens or, as necessary, foreigners or stateless;
- they have the residence in Romania, according to the law;
- they live together with the child/children for whom they required the rights and take care and educate them.

The following documents are necessary for certifying the incomes:

- the proof issued by the employee, by the financial administration or other institutions entitled to from where results that the entitled person earned wages, from independent or agricultural activities;
- the proof issued by the qualified authorities from where it results that the person was in one or more circumstances defined as assimilated periods;
- the proof of the contribution period in the pensions public system.

The application and the corresponding documents have to be registered to Town Hall where he/she resides and the payment will be done through the local directions of labour, family and equal opportunities.

### **State allowance for children:**

The beneficiaries for state allocation are the children who study in one of the educational institutions envisaged by the law, until the age of 18, or until graduating the courses of secondary-

school or vocational, organized according to the law. The amount for children allowance is decided by the law.

The application and the necessary documents will be registered to the Town Hall where he/she resides, which sends the allowance file to the territorial direction of labour, family and equal opportunities and the payment is made by money order.

### **Complementary family allowance:**

The beneficiaries for complementary family allocation are all the families composed by spouses and children (under 18 years old, being supported by parents), if the monthly net incomes for family members are not higher than a certain fixed amount established by the law. The allocation is a fix amount depending on the number of children.

The application will be registered to the Town Hall where he/she resides, which sends the allocation file to the territorial direction of labour, family and equal opportunities.

### **Allowance for supporting the single parent families:**

The support allocation for the single parent family is granting by ordinance of government and it's different in terms of entrust children number (1, 2, 3, 4 or more children) and for the children who live with the single parent family.

The application will be registered to the Town Hall where he/she resides, which sends the allocation file to the territorial direction of labour, family and equal opportunities.

### **Allowance for the born children:**

It is granted for each of the 4 children born alive (in the first 6 month from the birthdate) just once for every child and in a fixed amount, established by government.

The application with the necessary documents will be registered to the Town Hall and the payment is made to the territorial Directions of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family through an account of the Treasury.

### **Placement allowance:**

For every entrust child or giving in placement is granting a support montly allocation, and also necessary amounts for food, equipments, toys, hygienic-medical materials, writing school and cultural-sportive materials costs, transport costs and some amounts for house costs.

The file with the decisions issued by the “Commission for the protection of the child in difficulties” will be sent to the Directions of Labour, Social Solidarity who make the payment through a money order.

### **Benefits for persons infected with HIV–AIDS:**

The persons infected with HIV-AIDS (adult or child) benefit of a daily amounts for food.

The file, with the respective documents, will be registered to the Directions of Labour, Social Solidarity which make the payment through a money order or a current account.

### **Social allowances for the persons with visual disability:**

The rights of persons with visual disability are: social allocation for blind adults with serious and emphasized handicap; allowance for blind adults companion; state allocation for children and monthly allowance for blind adults who get salary from their working place.

The file with the respective documents will be registered to the Directions of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family which make the payment through a money order or current account.

### **Guaranteed minimum income:**

The beneficiaries are the families and the single persons without incomes or with extremely low incomes, as a difference between the levels stipulated by the law and the monthly net income of the family or of the single person income.

The monthly level of the minimum guaranteed income is a fixed amount depending of the number of persons from a family. The beneficiaries have the obligation to develop activities for the

community service of 72 hours/month according to the requests of the Town Hall.

The requirement of the applicants, with the corresponding documents, will be submitted to the Town Hall where she/he resides.

### **Allowance for heating the residence:**

The beneficiaries of this allowance are the families and the single persons who have a monthly income per person lower than the minimum gross wage on economy.

The applicant’s request, with other adequate documents, will be submitted to the territorial Directions of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family and the benefit consists of tickets which may not be reported from one month to another.

### **Useful link:**

- [www.mmssf.ro](http://www.mmssf.ro) (Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities)



## LEGISLATION

- 1) Law no.76/2002 regarding the unemployment insurance system and the employment stimulation, with its further amendments and complements on the unemployment insurance system and the employment stimulation
- 2) Law no. 203/1999 on work permits, with modifications and amendments;
- 3) Government Emergency Ordinance no.102/2005 on free movements of citizens of Member States of European Union and European Economic Area with modifications and amendments
- 4) Law no. 122/2006 concerning the asylum in Romania
- 5) Law no. 200/2004 concerning to the recognition of diplomas and vocational qualifications for regulated occupations from Romania
- 6) Law no. 53/2003 - labour code, with modifications and amendments
- 7) Law 19/2000 concerning the public pension system and other rights of social insurance, with the further amendments and complements
- 8) Law no. 119/1996 regarding the civil status documents,
- 9) Law no. 95/2006 regarding the reform from the health area, the public health assistance
- 10) Law no. 448/2006 regarding the protection and the rights'promotion of the persons with disabilities
- 11) Government Ordinance no. 148 /2005 regarding the conditions for receiving this benefit for child-raising are established by the, with its further amendments and complements.
- 12) Law no. 61/1993, republished, regarding the children who study in one of the educational institutions
- 13) Government Emergency Ordinance no. 105/ 2003 regarding the allocation for supporting complementary family and the single parent families
- 14) Government Emergency Ordinance no. 26/1997 regarding the children protection being in difficult problems
- 15) Government Ordinance no. 2/2004 for amending and complementing the Government Ordinance no. 14/2003 on the organizing and functioning of the National Authority for the Persons with Disabilities
- 16) Law no.416/2001 concerning the minimum guaranteed wage, modified through the Law no. 115/2006
- 17) Government Ordinance no. 55/2004 regarding the benefits for the residence heating
- 18) The New Driving Regulation



## The Romanian EURES network

| County  | Address  | Phone number                         | EURES advisers                           | Email addresses             |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Bucuresti                                       | Bucuresti, str. Sf. Dumitru, nr.3 Sector 3                 | +40 021.303.98.49                    | Mihalcea Camelia<br><b>EURES Manager</b> | camelia.mihalcea@anofm.ro   |
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| Dolj  | Craiova, Eugen Carada Nr. 13A                              | +40 0251.306.100 /int125             |  |                             |
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| Ialomita  | Slobozia, Str. Lacului, Nr. 10                             | +40 0243.231.809                     |  |                             |
| Iasi  | Iasi, Str. Cucu Nr. 1                                      | +40 0232.254.575                     |  |                             |
| Ifov  | Bucuresti, Str. Ruginoa nr. 4, sector 4                    | +40 021.332.37.63; +40 021.332.37.08 |  |                             |
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