

H A N D O U T

Acceptance of appropriate costs for housing and heating in the city of Trier

1. Who is entitled to support for housing and heating

Costs for housing and heating are considered for persons eligible for benefits

- based on chapter Twelve of the Social Code (SGB XII) and
- Based on the German Social Welfare Law for Asylum Seekers (AsylbLG)

Who take up residence in the city zone of Trier, in addition to the standard benefits within the framework of the assessment of need.

2. What is included in the actual costs of accommodation and heating

The term actual costs of accommodation includes:

- The gross cold rent and
- The heating costs.

The gross cold rent is the sum of base rent (= cold rent excluding any service charges) and overhead costs excluding heating (excluding household electrical energy).

3. Which amount of gross cold rent is appropriate

The appropriate gross cold rent is based on the number of persons living in the household and on the conclusive concept regarding the upper limits of rent for appropriate costs of the accommodation in the city of Trier – according to update of 2017.

For evaluating the appropriate gross cold rent, please contact the Office for Social Welfare and Housing and submit your renting offer there.

4. Which heating costs are appropriate?

The appropriate heating costs is based on the conclusive concept regarding the upper limits of rent for appropriate costs of the accommodation in the city of Trier – according to the updating for 2017.

Exceeding costs may be paid provided they are appropriate. Adequacy in this case is based on the Federal Overview of Heating Costs and is calculated on an individual basis. Other circumstances such as location and insulation of the apartment (etc.) may exert an influence on the evaluation of adequacy and will be considered accordingly in the case-by-case-review.

For evaluating the adequacy of the heating costs in case of other fuels (e.g. night storage heating, coal, oil, pellets etc.), please contact the Office for Social Welfare and Housing.

5. Consequences of inappropriate costs, in case I have already been living in this apartment for a longer period of time

Generally there is always a case-by-case- review. In case same should reveal that the costs of the accommodation and the heating are inappropriately high and exceeding those costs cannot be justified by other circumstances, these increased costs are to be accepted for a period no longer than 6 months. After that the benefits for costs of accommodation and heating are reduced to the appropriate level. For further information please refer to the Office for Social Welfare and Housing.

6. Where can I find an appropriate apartment?

You will find appropriate offers for housing at the local housing associations / companies (see document attached) or at the
Amt für Soziales und Wohnen
(Office for Social Welfare and Housing)
Fachbereich Wohnungswesen – (Housing department)
Verwaltungsgebäude IV (office building IV)
1 Etage (1st. floor),
54290 Trier

7. What do I have to observe if I presently get social benefit and want to move?

You should,

- Explain the necessity of the move and
- Consult the public welfare agency currently in charge prior to concluding a rental contract

to enable the social welfare office to check whether permission to the move may be given.
In case of a move without assurance or consent respectively of the public welfare agency in charge this may have consequences on the amount of the future costs for accommodation, heating as well as possible costs for provision of housing, moving expenses and the issue of taking over the security deposit.
If you plan to move you are therefore urgently requested to consult the social welfare office in charge of you in due time in advance.

Yours sincerely

Amt für Soziales und Wohnen der Stadt Trier
Verwaltungsgebäude II
Am Augustinerhof 54290 Trier