



## Leaflet: the Backpay scheme

The Backpay scheme was established in December 2015 by the State Secretary for the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS). The aim of the scheme is to provide moral compensation to former civil servants and military personnel who received little or no salary during the war years in the Dutch East Indies and who were still alive on 15 August 2015. Those who meet the conditions can claim a one-off payment of €25,000 net under the Backpay scheme.

### Who is entitled to a one-off payment under the Backpay scheme?

To qualify for a payment under the Backpay scheme, the following conditions must be met:

1. The person claiming the payment or on whose behalf the payment is claimed was in the employ of the Dutch East Indies government and was working as a civil servant or member of the military at the time of the Japanese occupation;
2. During the Japanese occupation (8 March 1942 to 15 August 1945), either no salary was paid or it was not paid in full;
3. The person concerned was not convicted of collaboration with the Japanese;
4. The person concerned did not have Japanese nationality during the occupation;
5. The former civil servant or member of the military concerned was still alive on 15 August 2015.

If a person met the conditions but died on or after 15 August 2015, his or her heirs may submit a claim.

### Working for the Dutch East Indies government

The Backpay scheme applies to civil servants and military personnel employed by the Dutch East Indies government during the Japanese occupation. Military personnel serving in the Royal Netherlands Navy do not qualify for the Backpay because they were not subject to the Dutch East Indies government and received compensation after the war from the Dutch Ministry of Defence for salary not received while they were prisoners of war. Those working for the Dutch East Indies navy (GM) may qualify for Backpay.

**Salary that was not paid, or not paid in full**

During the Japanese occupation, salary was either not paid or not paid in full. On the grounds of historical records, this applies as a rule to everyone who was serving the Dutch East Indies government as a civil servant or member of the military on 8 March 1942.

**Conduct**

Those who conducted themselves dishonourably by collaborating with the enemy during the Japanese occupation are excluded from the Backpay scheme.

**Nationality**

The person concerned must not have had Japanese nationality during the Japanese occupation. Their current nationality is irrelevant.

**The amount payable**

Backpay consists of a one-off payment of €25,000 net, which has been established in consultation with the Indisch Platform. Backpay is not subject to tax or national insurance contributions.

**Allowances and contribution charges are not affected**

Payments under the Backpay scheme will not be taken into account in the assessment of allowances or contribution charges and will not be deducted from pensions and benefits under the Dutch schemes for former members of the resistance and victims of war.

**How to submit a claim**

If you have not already received a one-off payment under the Backpay scheme automatically, you should submit a written request. In your request, you should write your name, address and the date, and state that you are claiming a one-off payment under the Backpay scheme. You can send your letter without a stamp to:

Sociale Verzekeringsbank  
Department for Former Members of the Resistance and Victims of War  
Antwoordnummer 10340  
2300 WB Leiden  
The Netherlands.

**The form**

After you have let us know in writing that you wish to claim a one-off payment under the Backpay scheme, we will send you a claim form to fill in. You need to ensure that we receive your completed claim form before 1 January 2017.

If you would like help with filling in the form, you can call us on number +31 71 535 6888.

If you have documentary evidence of your employment with the Dutch East Indies, please enclose copies with your claim form.



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**Contact** If you wish, you may name a contact on your claim form. We will then send all our correspondence to your contact's address.

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**How will your claim be processed?** When we have received a completed and signed claim form from you, we will assess whether you qualify for a one-off payment under the Backpay scheme. We will search for evidence of employment with the Dutch East Indies government as a civil servant or a member of the military at the beginning of the Japanese occupation (8 March 1942), for instance, by consulting documents held by the Indies Pensions Administration Foundation (SAIP) and the Dutch National Archives.

If we establish that you were working for the Dutch East Indies government, we will check whether you meet the other conditions. If so, you will be awarded a one-off payment. If your employment with the Dutch East Indies government cannot be confirmed, we will have to reject your claim.

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**Decision** After completing our investigation, we will take a decision on your claim. If you are awarded a one-off payment under the Backpay scheme, you can expect to receive the payment within a month. We will remit the payment to the bank account we have on record for you. If you disagree with our decision, you will have 6 weeks in which to submit a request for review.

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**When can you expect to receive a decision?** We are obliged to process your claim within 13 weeks. If we have to ask for additional information from you, the processing period will be suspended. This means that the time you need to provide the information will not count towards the processing time. If we are not able to take a decision with the prescribed period, you can declare us in default and claim damages.

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**Who is responsible for the decision?** Claims under the Backpay scheme are assessed by the Sociale Verzekeringsbank on behalf of the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS). The Sociale Verzekeringsbank also establishes the policy for implementation of the scheme on behalf of the Ministry.

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**Privacy** Client information is treated with the utmost care, and we meet all legal requirements for protection and storage of personal data.

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**If you have any questions**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on telephone number +31 71 535 6888 or send an email to [info.wvo@svb.nl](mailto:info.wvo@svb.nl).

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This leaflet contains general information only and cannot constitute any basis for legal claims.