Last checked: 4 October 2026 · Mission Vatsalya (Child Protection Services), implemented through State Child Protection Societies and District Child Protection Units

Mission Vatsalya

Under Mission Vatsalya, a vulnerable child can get monthly sponsorship money so that the child can keep living and studying with the family instead of being placed in a children's home.

What you may get

Rs 4,000 per child every month, credited to a bank or post office account opened in the child's name and run by the guardian, preferably the mother. The money helps with the child's education, food and health. States may add more from their own funds.

Who it is for

Vulnerable children living with their parents or relatives, such as orphans, children of widowed or abandoned mothers, and children in need of care and protection.

Main conditions

- The child's mother is a widow, divorced or abandoned by the family, or the child is an orphan living with relatives.
- Children whose parents have a life threatening or terminal illness, or whose parents cannot look after them financially and physically, are also covered.
- Children in need of care and protection under the JJ Act 2015 (for example child labourers, victims of child marriage or trafficking, children with disabilities, street children) and children under the PM CARES for Children Scheme can be considered.
- For preventive sponsorship, family income must not be above Rs 72,000 a year in rural areas or Rs 96,000 a year in other areas.
- Support can go on up to 18 years of age. It is reviewed and may be stopped if a school going child is absent from school for more than 30 days, except children with special needs.

How to apply

1. Contact the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) of your district. DCPU staff, with the Gram Panchayat or Urban Ward Committee, also find families who need this help.
2. For a child now living in a children's home, the DCPU or the child's family can upload the sponsorship request on the Mission Vatsalya portal.
3. The Sponsorship and Foster Care Approval Committee meets in the first week of each quarter, looks at the requests and recommends eligible children to the District Magistrate.
4. After the District Magistrate approves, the DCPO opens an account in the child's name and the money is credited every month.

Status

Active

Official source: https://missionvatsalya.wcd.gov.in/public/pdf/children-related-law/vatsalyaguideline.pdf
Official PDF: https://missionvatsalya.wcd.gov.in/public/pdf/children-related-law/vatsalyaguideline.pdf
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