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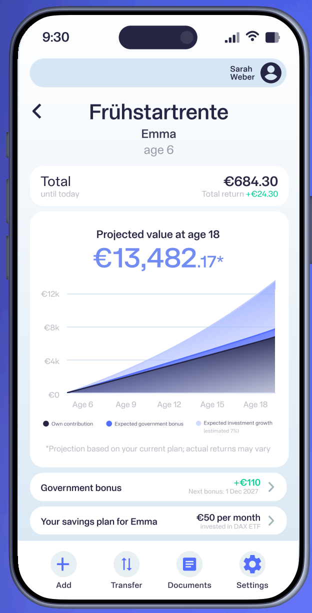
Enable the next generation of investors: the Frühstartrente

Your complete guide to integrating and launching Germany’s modern child pension offering



Head start for the next generation: investment volume of €600 million+ in year one[1]

Grow your customer base and enable young investors

Every child in Germany aged 6 to 17[2] can open a Frühstartrente account and benefit from tax-deferred growth

Capture lasting customer lifetime value

The Frühstartrente converts seamlessly into a Standarddepot at age 18, turning a child pension account into a lifelong end-user relationship

Unlock the whole family

A gateway to multi-generational relationships, with parents, grandparents, and the wider family contributing on the child’s behalf

[1] KPMG, "Sparen mit Förderung: Das bringen Frühstart-Rente und Altersvorsorgedepot" (KPMG Financial Services Hub, March 2026): projected investment volume of €600 million in 2027, based on approximately five million potential customers at the minimum of €120 per child per year. The projection predates the phased eligibility foreseen in the government draft bill of 12 August 2026.
[2] In 2027, only 6- and 7-year-olds will be eligible for the bonus, with new 6-year-olds being added every year. Based on the government draft bill (Gesetzentwurf zur Einführung einer Frühstartrente) as of 12 August 2026.

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The Frühstartrente at a glance

The German pension products include the Frühstartrente, Standarddepot, and Altersvorsorgedepot, as part of a broader pension reform.

The Frühstartrente is a government-subsidised, tax-deferred investment account for children and legally a subtype of the Standarddepot.

Accounts	Limited to one account per child
Government bonus	Children receive a €10 monthly government bonus with no own contributions required; paid quarterly from first day of eligibility until the month before the child's 18th birthday
Eligibility	Includes children aged 6 to 17 with primary residence in Germany and a valid tax ID
Additional pay-ins	Up to €6,840 per year allowed
Cost cap	1% effective cost cap and zero acquisition or distribution costs until 18
Eligible instruments	Two pre-selected eligible ETFs/funds, as in the Standarddepot
Continuous bonus flow	The bonus continues even if own contributions are paused
Withdrawals	Government bonuses and their returns are locked during the Frühstartrente, while own contributions and their returns can be withdrawn
Transition at 18	Converted into a Standarddepot and locked until retirement

Children without a Frühstartrente will default to a fall-back government solution managed by the Bundesbank from January 2028.

Offer the full spectrum of German pension and investment accounts

All powered on one single platform with Upvest.

Capture market share from day 1

Launch readiness the moment the reform becomes effective, securing the first wave of account openings

Combined investment offering

Leverage Upvest's standard investment functionality to combine with your pension offering to cater to all investment needs

Pension solution across the entire lifecycle

The Frühstartrente for children, the Standarddepot and Altersvorsorgedepot for adults, and Auszahlungsprodukt for the retirement phase

Launch investments starting at €1 with fractions

Across all asset classes, enabling self-directed or discretionary investment experiences

Deliver a digital-first experience

Digital onboarding and instant child account opening, supported by an automated journey from account opening to the transition at 18

Offer pensions at market-leading costs

High levels of automation and low operational overhead across the entire account lifecycle

Leverage E2E functionality for bonus management

One-time bonus application, quarterly reconciliation of ZfA bonus payments to individual contracts, reinvestment, and tax handling across bonus and contribution pots

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From Frühstartrente to Standarddepot - the pension lifecycle

The Frühstartrente transitions seamlessly to a Standarddepot, sharing the same certification and governing rules as a Standarddepot.

	Frühstartrente	Standarddepot
Target group	Children aged 6 to 17	Adults from age 18
Accounts	One per end user	Up to two per end user
Government bonus	Flat €10 per month with no own contributions required; one-time application at contract conclusion	Proportional to contributions, up to €540 per year plus child and young-adult bonuses; annual application; minimum own contributions of €120 per year
Contribution limits	€6,840 in own and third-party contributions annually[3]	€6,840 in own contributions per account annually[3]
Product universe	Two pre-selected eligible ETFs/ funds, 1% effective cost cap, and zero acquisition or distribution costs until 18	Two pre-selected eligible ETFs/ funds, 1% effective cost cap
Account closure	Account remains open until age 18; own contributions can be withdrawn at any time, while bonuses remain locked	Premature account closure triggers harmful use. Regular account closure happens at the end of the retirement phase
Transition at 18	Continues as a Standarddepot at age 18	Payout phase starting at a minimum age of 65

[3] Government bonuses are paid in addition and do not count towards the contribution limits.

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Core functions at a glance

User onboarding and account creation

Fully digital, instant account creation with lighter onboarding for children. Guardian(s) provides only the child's tax ID, birth date, birth certificate, and residence. The account activates the moment guardian(s) roles and checks are confirmed

Role management

Automatic handling of parental and guardian(s) permissions, contribution schedules, and beneficiary transfers. Transfer of ownership automatically takes place once the child reaches 18 years of age

Order and contribution management

Continuous management of contributions and contribution limits while handling recurring and one-off buy and sell orders

Government bonus management

Automated connectivity to ZfA and ZfDR, bonus administration and investments on behalf of end users and ongoing management of all relevant bonus processes (e.g. reporting of payouts, ordinary and extraordinary data exchange)

Tax handling

Specialised tax accounting with allocation across all pension tax pots *(Steuerliche Bestandsführung)*

Reporting

Provision of end-user (e.g. order reports, annual account statements) and regulatory reporting (e.g. MiFIR)

Transition

Automated, compliant transition converting the child pension account into an adult Standarddepot on their 18th birthday

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How to manage the end-to-end user journey for the Frühstartrente powered by Upvest

User journey	What the end user sees	What you do (as a provider)	How Upvest supports
01 Product selection	The guardian(s) selects the **Frühstartrente** for their child and sets their investment preferences, including allocation, amount, and frequency.	**Pre-select the eligible ISIN universe** for your Frühstartrente offering (up to two eligible ETFs/ funds) and display **performance and fund information.**	**Delivers input data for performance projection** and manages **instrument eligibility controls.**
02 Pre-contractual information	The guardian(s) receives the **Product information sheet, Key information documents** (KIDs), and the notice of the **bonus application** on the child's behalf.	Display **mandatory disclosures** in your frontend to ensure compliant end-user consent.	**Generates dynamic Product Information Sheet instantly,** and performance scenarios through to the payout phase.
03 Account opening and onboarding	**The guardian(s) completes a fully digital onboarding and signs the contract** in the child's name; the account is open and active **in less than 1 second.**	Collect the guardian's KYC check (including confirmation of the T&Cs) and the **Frühstartrente contract.** Capture the **child's tax ID, birth date, and primary residence.**	**Opens accounts instantly and handles end-to-end ZfA** data transmission to validate eligibility and account limits.

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How to manage the end-to-end user journey for the Frühstartrente powered by Upvest

User journey	What the end user sees	What you do (as a provider)	How Upvest supports
04 Accumulation	The guardian(s) sees the **€10 monthly bonus arrive quarterly.** Guardians and third parties such as grandparents and other family members can add tax-deferred top-ups, alongside standard (non-pension) child investments.	Display **performance information** in the front-end along user reports.	**Manages the end-to-end lifecycle of the assets including reinvestment of the bonus** as well as including recurring and one-off orders and real-time tracking of the **€6,840 annual limit** for third-party contributions. Delivers **full bonus administration towards the ZfA,** reconciling quarterly payments to individual contracts, reinvesting immediately, and allocating across bonus and contribution tax pots.
05 Product adjustments	The guardian(s) modifies their **user data, savings top-ups**, or pauses contributions; **own contributions** remain **withdrawable at any time.**	Capture **changes and pass them to Upvest via the Investment API.**	**Processes every change** across orders, user data, contributions, and withdrawals. While contributions can pause and be withdrawn, the bonus stays invested.
06 Transition into Standardde pot at 18	The child **takes control of the account at age 18,** which continues as a Standarddepot.	Capture the **end user's product choice** and updated account data.	**Executes the automatic conversion,** ends the guardian(s) roles, switches the contract to the Standarddepot/ Altersvorsorgedepot regime including permission, bonus & contribution management.

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Your project plan to go live with Upvest

01
Discovery

- Product set-up
- Deep-dive product workshops
- Due diligence & risk assessments

02
Core flows implementation

- Frontend design
- Middleware setup
- Core flows integration:
  - User onboarding
  - Order management
  - Cash management
  - Custody management

03
Frühstartrente flow implementation

- Frontend implementation
- Frühstartrente integration:
  - Bonus management
  - Contribution management
- End-to-end sandbox testing
- Product certification

04
Real-money testing & go-live

- Operations & customer service setup
- End-to-end real-money testing
- Public go-live

With Upvest's extensive API documentation, Launch guides, and dedicated Sandbox environment for development and rigorous testing, you can start integrating today and go to market faster.

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Power your full pension offering on Europe's leading investment infrastructure

Pension and tax wrapper expertise

In-depth experience launching complex pension products and tax wrappers, including SIPPs and ISAs in the UK, PEAs in France, and the Altersvorsorgedepot in Germany

Child account expertise

Guardian-managed, child-owned accounts live in Germany, with fully digital onboarding, automatic conversion at 18, and the account foundation the Frühstartrente builds on

Accelerated innovation

Offering modern use cases such as fractional investing, automated savings plans, and personalised portfolios

Daily releases

A cloud-native infrastructure that supports daily product releases to adapt to shifting market dynamics, regulatory changes, and end-user expectations

Scalable architecture

Designed to handle millions of accounts and transactions, processing over 100 million orders annually with 99.99% uptime, ensuring reliability even during peak market volatility

Operational efficiency

Automation across custody, brokerage, tax reporting, and contribution management within a single platform, eliminating manual overhead

Helping shape a stronger Frühstartrente

As a founding member of the Initiative Digitale Altersvorsorge, Upvest co-submitted a position paper on the Finance Ministry's draft law. We support the core structure and have proposed several improvements, including immediate eligibility for all children under 18, stronger tax incentives for extra contributions, limited early withdrawals for education, and more.

Read the full paper

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Launch your German pension offering from day 1

Build lifelong customer relationships by offering every German pension product. With Upvest, your entire pension offering runs on a single Investment API, alongside your standard investment accounts. No separate integrations, no extra compliance overhead.

Ready to offer the Frühstartrente?

Explore how Upvest can power your full German pension offering:

Connect

Disclaimer: This document was created in September 2026. All information on the Frühstartrente is based on the government draft bill (Gesetzentwurf zur Einführung einer Frühstartrente) as of 12 August 2026; all figures and product specifications remain subject to the final bill by Bundestag and Bundesrat. This document is intended for educational and informational purposes only and should not be construed as financial or investment advice.