

BAföG

What is BAföG?



BAföG (BundesAusbildungsförderungsgesetz) is intended to help students whose parents cannot (sufficiently) finance their studies. The amount of support depends on the income and assets of the parents and the student himself. The BAföG maximum rate is 861€ per month as of 2020. 50% of this state support is granted as a grant, 50% as an interest-free loan. The repayment period for this loan begins five years after the end of the maximum funding period. The amount of the monthly repayment

installments depends on the income. In general, the repayment installments are 130€ per month. Often, the installments of three months are combined into one payment, then 390€ are to be repaid. The direct debit system is used for repayment.

Who can apply for BAföG?

According to the BAföG, Germans in the sense of the Basic Law have a legal right to receive support for an education that corresponds to their inclination, aptitude and performance. This principle also applies to international students, if they fulfill the personal requirements for the granting of educational assistance as regulated in §8 of the BAföG. Rough rule: Those who have been in Germany for a longer period of time and who want to and are allowed to stay here permanently should, in principle, be able to receive BAföG.



EU Citizens

Citizens of a member state of the EU, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Iceland or Norway are eligible for BAföG if they have the right of permanent residence. You are entitled to the right of permanent residence if:

1. You have lived legally in Germany for at least five years.
2. You are an employed person or a self-employed person with EU citizenship. In this case, you are already entitled to the permanent right of residence before the 5 years have expired.
3. You are married to an EU citizen who is staying in Germany as an employee, self-employed person, job seeker or for education. In this case a right of residence can be derived for you.
4. One parent is an EU citizen and is staying in Germany as an employee, self-employed person or job seeker. Here you can also derive your own right of residence. If you are older than 21, it is important that a derived right of free movement existed until your 21st birthday.

Citizens from Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Iceland or Norway have the same status as EU citizens. Therefore, the above requirements apply accordingly. Under certain conditions, non-EU citizens can also

apply for BAföG. **Since the legal regulations are very complex, and each case is individual, we recommend a personal consultation with the responsible BAföG office.**

Where and how can BAföG be applied for?



The [Studentenwerk Potsdam](#) is responsible for students at all campuses of the University of Europe for Applied Sciences. Here you will receive further information and can submit your [application](#) to have your claims checked. The application for BAföG can also be submitted online on the [BAföG website](#) (only available in German, please use a translator tool).