

Tuition fees for international students and second degree students

From the winter semester 2017/18 onwards, higher education institutions in Baden-Württemberg will be charging tuition fees for international students and for students taking up a second study program.

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The following pages provide information on the provisions in the Act on Fees in Higher Education of the Land of Baden-Württemberg (Landeshochschulgebührengesetz, LHGebG). Please note that this text is solely for information purposes and only the Act itself is legally binding. The staff of the Admissions Office can in no way influence the legal situation or take decisions regarding exceptions and exemptions from tuition fee payments or reductions in the fee amount.

These pages will be updated on a regular basis. Any new information will be added as soon as possible.

The tuition fees will be collected upon enrollment or re-registration.

Further information

- Amendment of the Act on Fees in Higher Education of the Land of Baden-Württemberg (9 May 2017; Gov. Journal dated 16 May 2017) (in German)
- Act on Fees in Higher Education of the Land of Baden-Württemberg (in German)
- FAQ on tuition fees by the Ministry of Science, Research and Arts of Baden-Württemberg (MWK) (in German)

Tuition fees for international students

As from the winter semester 2017/2018, international students who are not citizens of an EU/EEA country and who are taking up or switching to a Diplom study program, a Bachelor's study program, a consecutive Master's study program or a state examination program have

to pay tuition fees of EUR 1,500.00 per semester. Additionally, all students have to pay the regular student services fee.

Exceptions

Students who fulfill one of the following exception criteria will automatically not be charged tuition fees:

- students from an EU/EEA country;
- non-German students who completed their university entrance qualification (e. g. Abitur) in Germany according to section 58 LHG; in the case of Delta Exams, professional qualifications and other recognized qualifications, the following conditions have to be fulfilled:
 - the university entrance qualification according to section 58 subsection 2 number 4 of the Act on Higher Education of the Land of Baden-Württemberg (Landeshochschulgesetz, LHG)) must have been completed in Germany,
 - the Aufstiegsfortbildungsprüfung (a specific further training measure following vocational training) according to section 58 subsection 2 number 5 LHG must have been completed in Germany,
 - the vocational training and work experience required according to section 58 subsection 2 number 6 LHG must have been completed in Germany,
 - other qualifications recognized by the Ministry of Education must have been acquired in Germany (see section 58 subsection 2 number 12 LHG).

Please note: A university entrance qualification as defined in section 58 subsection 2 numbers 7 to 11 LHG, in particular, a Bachelor's degree earned in Germany (section 58 subsection 2 number 8 LHG), does not qualify students for an exception.

- Students taking up a non-consecutive Master's study program or a doctoral program;
- exchange students and double degree students under certain circumstances.

Exceptions in the case of students with strong ties to Germany (upon request)

If you fulfill the criteria for an exception of this kind, you need to submit the Information Form for International Students ("Auskunftsformular") and the required documents of proof upon enrollment. The form will be sent to you by mail during the admission process.

Students who fulfill one of the following criteria qualify for an exception:

- family members (spouse, registered life partner or child) of an EU/EEA citizen who enjoys freedom of movement according to section 3 of the Freedom of Movement Act/EU,
- international students with a settlement permit or permanent EU residence permit,

- international students with a permanent residence permit who reside in Germany and are recognized as refugees according to the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees,
- international students who are stateless according to the Law on the Legal Status of Stateless Aliens in the Federal Republic of Germany (Gesetz über die Rechtsstellung heimatloser Ausländer im Bundesgebiet),
- international students who are mainly resident in Germany and have a residence permit (Aufenthaltserlaubnis) on the grounds of reasons recognized under international law, or humanitarian, political, family-related or other reasons with good prospects of remaining in Germany in the long term (e. g. persons entitled to asylum, refugees recognized according to the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, or family members joining Germans or foreigners with a settlement permit),
- international students who are mainly resident in Germany and have been legally living in Germany for at least 15 months without interruption after being temporarily admitted, or permitted to stay in the country, and who hold a certain residence permit (e. g. on the grounds of the principle of non-refoulement),
- temporarily admitted international students who are mainly resident in Germany and who have been living in Germany for at least 15 months without interruption,
- international students who have resided and legally worked in Germany for at least 5 years,
- international students with a parent who has resided in Germany for a total duration of at least three years and who was legally employed during the last six years prior to the start of the program of study,
- international students who have completed a Bachelor's study program and a Master's study program, or a state examination study program, or a Diplom study program in Germany (see tuition fees for a second degree).

Exemption upon request

Students may request exemption from tuition fees after they receive the official notification of tuition fees if they belong to one of the following groups:

- foreigners who have been granted permission to remain pending the asylum decision according to section 55 subsection 1 of the Asylum Act (Asylgesetz, AsylG) and are a national of a country with a recognition rate of at least 50% (set by the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees on the basis of the publications of the Federal Ministry of the Interior; currently: Eritrea, Iraq, Iran, Syria and Somalia);
- students with a disability as defined in section 2 of the Ninth Social Code (Neuntes Sozialgesetzbuch, SGB IX) which causes considerable difficulties during their studies;

- students completing a placement semester which is part of the standard period of study, if the request for the placement semester was submitted before the beginning of the lecture period;
- students who are taking an academic leave of absence, if the request for the academic leave of absence was submitted before the beginning of the lecture period.

Tuition fees for a second degree

Students who are taking up a second or further Bachelor's, Diplom or second or further consecutive Master's study program after already having acquired a higher education degree in the Federal Republic of Germany, have to pay tuition fees of EUR 650 per semester from the winter semester 2017/18 onwards. Additionally, they have to pay the student services fee.

Exceptions

Students do not have to pay tuition fees for a second study program if:

- they already have to pay tuition fees for international students;
- they switch to another subject within the study program or switch to another study program before having earned a degree;
- they take up an additional subject in a second teacher education program in order to qualify themselves to teach a further subject;
- they are required to complete a second study program according to regulations governing the profession in order to obtain a degree which allows them to practice the profession (e. g. oral surgery).

Please note: A higher education degree obtained abroad is not considered a first degree and therefore does not automatically require students to pay tuition fees.

Exemption upon request

Students may request exemption from tuition fees after they receive the official notification of tuition fees if they belong to one of the following groups:

- students with a disability as defined in section 2 of the Ninth Social Code (Neuntes Sozialgesetzbuch, SGB IX) which causes considerable difficulties during their studies;
- students completing a placement semester which is part of the standard period of study, if the request for the placement semester was submitted before the beginning of the lecture period;
- students who are taking an academic leave of absence, if the request for the academic leave of absence was submitted before the beginning of the lecture period.

Transitional provisions

for students who are already enrolled (international students or students pursuing a second degree)

International students and students pursuing a second degree who were already enrolled at the time the law came into effect (16 May 2017) do not have to pay tuition fees and can complete their study program as planned. This also applies to students enrolled in two or more study programs at the time the law came into effect. In the case of multi-disciplinary programs, one change of one subject remains free of tuition fees.

If students switch to a new study program, they generally have to pay tuition fees. This includes beginning a Master's study program after having completed a Bachelor's study program or beginning a study program after completing a language course at the Popakademie Baden-Württemberg.

for international applicants currently enrolled at a preparatory college (prior to the winter semester 2017/17)

International applicants who are enrolled at a preparatory college in Baden-Württemberg during the academic year prior to the beginning of the winter semester 2017/18 to prepare for the assessment test do not have to pay tuition fees for the first study program they take up immediately after passing the assessment test.

for international applicants who have been granted a scholarship

International applicants who were granted a scholarship from a public funding organization before the law came into effect (16 May 2017) do not have to pay tuition fees for the first study program they take up immediately after having been granted the scholarship.

Contact

In case of further questions, do not hesitate to contact the Admissions Office via e-mail (info@popakademie.de).