

## FAQs on part time study

Part-time study - yes, no, maybe...? There are various reasons, such as raising children, illness or employment, that make it necessary to switch to part-time study.

Questions often arise before and during part-time study. We would like to provide answers to these in our overview.

Please note: This is only an indication; our list does not claim to be exhaustive. It should also be noted that not every university in Leipzig offers part-time study for every degree programme.

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### Note for international students:

Please contact our social counselling service before applying, as it should be checked whether part-time study can have a negative effect on your residence status.

You can find out whether part-time study is officially possible at your university in the study regulations of your respective degree programme. You can also enquire at the general student advisory service at your university or at the study office of your faculty.

## Important information and counselling services for part time study at universities:

- Leipzig University <https://www.uni-leipzig.de/en/studying/current-students/studying-part-time>
- University of Music and Theatre »Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy« Leipzig (HMT) <https://www.hmt-leipzig.de/en/home/mein-studium/studienorganisation>
- Academy of Fine Arts Leipzig (HGB) <https://www.hgb-leipzig.de/en/study/academicadvising>
- Leipzig University of Applied Sciences (HTWK Leipzig) <https://www.htwk-leipzig.de/en/studies/advice-and-assistance>
- Leipzig Graduate School of Management (HHL) <https://www.hhl.de/programs/master-programs/>Please inquire with your program consultant.

Once the application for part-time study has been processed and you have re-registered on time, your current enrolment certificate with the new status "part-time study" will be available to you. You will need this in order to forward it to your parents (if you are still receiving maintenance), your place of work, the BAföG office, the family benefits office and possibly other offices, for.

## Information on funding and entitlements in part-time study

### → Do my parents still have to pay maintenance for me if I am studying part time?

**Probably not!** If your parents have sufficient financial means to support you during your active studies, they can continue to do so during part-time studies. In individual cases, parental maintenance may take priority over social benefits. The clarification is a matter of family law, please consult a lawyer or seek free legal advice from the Studentenwerk.



[www.studentenwerk-leipzig.de/en/counselling-social-issues/legal-assistance/](http://www.studentenwerk-leipzig.de/en/counselling-social-issues/legal-assistance/)

### → Am I entitled to BAföG while studying part-time?

**No!** There is no entitlement to BAföG during part-time study. The BAföG office must be informed immediately if you change to this study model. If BAföG was received during part-time study, the BAföG office will reclaim this funding immediately. If you are receiving educational support, we recommend that you make an appointment with the social counselling service before applying for part-time study.

### → Am I entitled to a housing allowance during my part-time studies?

In most cases "yes", as there is "basically" no entitlement to BAföG for part-time students. However, other requirements must also be met. Have a look at the [FAQ on housing benefit](#).

### → Am I entitled to child benefit if I am studying part-time?

Yes, if you can credibly prove to the family benefits office that you are seriously studying for at least 11 hours per week. Please contact the relevant department at the family benefits office to find out how you can provide proof. The instructions on child benefit state that you must be seriously studying. Seriousness is defined here as approx. 10 hours per week.



[Instruction on child benefit under the income Tax Act](#)

## What do I need to consider when working alongside a part-time degree programme?

The scope of the part-time study programme is based on your formally defined part-time study plan and not on your actual achievements. This in turn has a direct impact on the possibility of working as a student trainee. If you are able to complete more than half of the 'normal' full-time study programme, i.e. you can prove that you are actively studying for more than 20 hours per week, you can continue to benefit from the working student privilege and continue to be covered by student health insurance.

However, if the part-time study plan provides for exactly half or even less of your working hours, your health insurance company will assume that you are not devoting most of your time to your studies but are working. If you then work above the earnings limit of the mini-job, you will be considered and insured as a normal employee - i.e. you and the employer will have to pay significantly higher contributions. Consequently, you cannot benefit from the working student privilege.

**Please note:** This is not legally binding information, but should always be considered on a case-by-case basis. In any case, please contact your health insurance fund in advance, preferably by sending an email to the relevant office. You should also clarify in advance how you can prove that you want to make use of the working student privilege during part-time studies.

## Can I receive Bürgergeld while studying part-time?

Full-time students are not entitled to receive benefits under SGB II, as there is a prioritised benefit, the BAföG training grant. As already mentioned, part-time study is not eligible for support under BAföG. This means that it may be possible to access the Bürgergeld /citizen's allowance.

Before applying, please contact the social counselling service of the Student Services for individual advice on your situation.

Further information can be found here (in German):



<https://www.studentenwerke.de/de/content/arbeitslosengeld-ii-f%C3%BCr-studierende-teilzeit-und-promotionsstudieng%C3%A4ngen>

# Counselling services



## Contact

Studentenwerk Leipzig — Social Counselling

Post adress: Goethestraße 6, 04109 Leipzig

E-Mail: [sozialberatung@studentenwerk-leipzig.de](mailto:sozialberatung@studentenwerk-leipzig.de)



[www.studentenwerk-leipzig.de/beratung-soziales/sozialberatung](http://www.studentenwerk-leipzig.de/beratung-soziales/sozialberatung)



## Your Advantages

- ✓ detailed advice on your individual situation
- ✓ support in your decision making process
- ✓ consultation is free of charge
- ✓ anonymous consultation upon request
- ✓ We are sworn to professional secrecy.

The social counselling team of the Studentenwerk Leipzig will also be happy to advise you on other possible social benefits - e.g. half-orphan's pension, parental allowance, maternity allowance or ALG I/ Bürgergeld.