



Sozialreferat

A short guide for scholarships



Financing your studies

Federal aid, self-support scholarship and mobility scholarship are provided by the State of Austria. Besides the named kinds of financial support there is the merit-based scholarship as well as a large number of private scholarships. Due to the distinction of requirements we are not able to describe all of them in this booklet.

Who has rights to this financial support?

Austrian citizens and the so-called “foreigners with an equivalent status and stateless people” (German: “gleichgestellte Ausländer und Staatenlose” according to § 4 StudFG). These include all EEA citizens, who have the status of migrant worker (German: “Wanderarbeiter”), which means the person has been working in Austria for at least 3 months before submitting the application for the scholarship. One has an equivalent status if a parent has one or if the person has been integrated into the Austrian educational system (at least has an Austrian school leaving certificate). If you have any questions about your status don’t hesitate to contact the Austrian Study Grant Authority.

You can find detailed information about the preconditions under

www.stipendium.at

All the information named above are the subject of StuFG (Studienförderungsgesetz in English: Student Financial Support Act)!

Self-support scholarship = Selbsterhalterstipendium

A special type of federal aid is the so-called self-support scholarship (German: “Selbsterhalterstipendium”). For obtaining rights on this scholarship you have to provide proof of self-employed income not less than 8.580,- Euro for the last four years (gross minus the social insurance – date: 03/2019). To ensure the continuation of the self-support scholarship the request must include the proof of academic success.

Mobility scholarship

Here you can receive financial support if you complete a BA, MA or Dipl. degree course entirely in an EEA country or in Switzerland.

Payment in the first academic year is only made if you can prove that you have completed at least 15 ECTS credits. In order to be able to continue with the payment, proof of academic success is required when applying.

Merit-based scholarship

This is a promotion to support students with good grades. Eligible for funding are Austrian citizens, citizens of an EEA state and stateless persons of equal status. Since the requirements for each faculty are different, we kindly ask you to look directly at the website of the university.

Here is the link:

<https://www.uibk.ac.at/studium/organisation/kostenfoerderungen/stipendien/>

Important: Please note the deadlines for registration, as no application is allowed after the expiration date.

What should I pay attention to?

There is a possibility to receive financial support from the state of Austria. However there are some things you should keep in mind to prevent making a mistake. The legislative basis for receiving the federal aid, family allowance and another kind of financial support is the so-called Student Support Act (German: “Studienförderungsgesetz”).

Here are some of the most common mistakes:

Academic Success

It's necessary to prove your academic success to get a financial support as a student. If you can't prove a positive academic success you might lose the federal aid, family allowance and even the co-insurance with parents.

Basically there are two cases that might cause problems:

1. Change of the study subject

Two changes of the study subject during the studies are allowed. However this must happen before the 3. semester, otherwise you may lose rights to all kinds of the financial support mentioned above.

2. Proof of academic success

To continue receiving financial support one must provide the proof of academic success of 16 ECTS or 8 semester hours no later than the end of the 2. semester.

Family aids

To do this, you must apply directly to your local tax office. You must be able to show that you live in Austria and children/parents live in the same household.

If you move to another city for study purposes, this will still apply as long as you have registered your second residence is the same as your parents.

Renting subsidy

This is a promotion of the city of Innsbruck and the state of Tyrol. The aim of this support is to support people who find it difficult to afford rent.

Conditions for receiving the rent subsidy: From 1st of January 2019, a decision of the provincial government will introduce a uniform entitlement of two years throughout Tyrol.

The main residence must be proven in Innsbruck for an uninterrupted period of two years.

Exception: Applicants from the EU region who can prove that they have been resident in Innsbruck for a total of fifteen years (even if they are not residing together) in the course of their life are exempt from the two-year entitlement.

More detailed information can be found below:

<https://www.oehweb.at/beratung/heime-und-wohnen/>

Emergency cases

Everybody knows, that life can sometimes take your breath away.

Accidents, illnesses or simply bad luck, can cause massive financial problems.

There are some ways to cram the hole, at least for the short term, so you can continue to study. Those possibilities will unlikely help you only for the short time.

It is mandatory to contact the Office for Scholarships first, before you will apply for the welfare/grant.

Take a note, that there is no legal title for the following welfare funds!

Welfare fund of the University of Innsbruck

Therefore there is a welfare fund called “Getting through together” at the University of Innsbruck.

You can apply for this financial aid only once, when all other possibilities are depleted.

Primary criteria here are enrolment to the standard study programme at the LFU, no other scholarships are received or will be received in the future.

You also have to be in financial distress and be able to prove academic success.

The board of representatives of the University and Student’s Union will decide about your application for financial aid.

Welfare fund of Student’s Union

Another possibility for financial aid is the social fund of the Federal Student’s Union. This fund covers not only hardship-cases (social fund) but other cases as well.

There are benefits for students with children, the housing fund, a mediation fund in case of a poor relationship with the parents, and a psychotherapy fund. These all aim to support students in special emergency cases.

Some of the blank forms are available online and should be sent via Post to Vienna to the Federal Student’s Union Office.

www.oeh.ac.at/sozialfonds

If you find yourself in such an emergency, it is advisable to make an appointment with the social department in Vienna before submitting the application, so that an application check can be made before sending it.

Hardship-fund of the Student’s Union in Innsbruck

The Student’s Union in Innsbruck has its own hardship-fund. With this fund you can get one-time payment in a short time.

The hardship-fund is made to support students when all else fails, when nothing else works and no further subsidies are possible.

This application can only be submitted at the Student’s Union of Innsbruck. So if you find yourself in such a situation, come and visit us. Just make an appointment via E-Mail, we’ll see how we can best help you.



Contact details

The most important informations, forms and contact informations can be accessed through the following links:

-Renting subsidy:

<https://ls.innsbruck.gv.at/wohnen/foerderungen>

-Family aids:

https://www.oesterreich.gv.at/themen/familie_und_partnerschaft/geburt/3/2/2/Seite.080712.html

If you have further question, don't hesitate to visit us during our consulting hours or simply write us an E-Mail.

We would be glad to help you!

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