

Applying for a training grant under the Federal Training Assistance Act (BAföG)

Under the BAföG, individual educational assistance is granted if trainees do not otherwise have the necessary means to support themselves and their education. This is intended to enable individuals - regardless of their family's economic situation - to pursue the education they have chosen based on their interests and abilities. The aim is to open up comparable educational opportunities for all trainees.

Competent Department

- [Amt für Ausbildungsförderung](#)

Basic information

The aim of training assistance under the Federal Act on the Individual Promotion of Training (Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz - BAföG) is to give young people the opportunity to complete a school or university education that matches their abilities and interests, regardless of their social and economic situation.

BAföG is generally granted for one year ("approval period"). The grant is awarded at the earliest at the beginning of the month of application, so the grant should be applied for in good time. The application processing takes up to a quarter of a year.

Requirements

Training assistance is provided for attendance at

- Vocational schools and technical school classes, attendance of which does not require completed vocational training, provided they offer a vocational qualification in a course of education lasting at least two years.
- technical and specialized upper secondary school classes, attendance at which requires completed vocational training
- Evening secondary schools and evening real schools in day form, postgraduate vocational schools, evening grammar schools (only for the last three school semesters before the final examination) and colleges
- Higher technical schools and academies
- Universities

Attendance at

- secondary general schools from grade 10 (grammar schools, secondary modern schools, lower secondary schools)
- Vocational schools from grade 10 (including the basic vocational training year)
- technical colleges and specialized upper secondary schools, attendance at which does not require completed vocational training

cannot be supported as a rule. Support is only possible if the trainee necessarily lives outside the parental home. The Office for the Promotion of Education will decide on any necessary accommodation away from home.

Training assistance is also granted for the completion of an internship that is required in connection with attendance at the above-mentioned training institutions and whose content is regulated in training regulations.

An entitlement to training assistance is also dependent on personal requirements such as age, aptitude and nationality.

In addition to German nationals, foreign trainees with a migration background can in principle also be supported under BAföG, provided they already have a long-term right of residence or a permanent perspective of staying.

Whether the personal requirements are met in the individual case and justify an entitlement to training assistance can only be determined with binding effect by means of an application procedure.

When attending higher technical colleges, academies and universities, half of the amount is generally granted as an interest-free loan. In certain cases, however, the subsidy is granted in full as an interest-bearing bank loan under private law.

Procedure

A written application must be submitted on the official forms.

Electronic application:

With a personally authenticated DE e-mail address, a BAföG application can also be submitted online. A further written application is then no longer necessary. You can find the link to the online application under "Further information" - "Online Service" - "Online Service BAföG Digital".

Legal bases

- [Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz](#)

More information

The amount of the educational grant is generally dependent on the income and assets of the student as well as the income of his/her spouse and parents.

For students whose parents live in Bremen, the Landesamt für Ausbildungsförderung in Bremen is generally responsible.

The State Office for the Promotion of Education in Bremen is also responsible for the promotion of an education in America - except for the USA and Canada.

Further comprehensive information on BAföG, in particular on the eligibility requirements, the forms to be completed when applying, and the responsible offices for educational grants, can be found on the websites of the Studentenwerk and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

What deadlines must be paid attention to?

Entitlement to a training grant starts in the month in which a written application is submitted and the training is started.

How long does it take to process

depending on testing effort