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# Semester Contribution Regulations

of the Student Body of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences  
Originally dated 1 April 2012  
(Published in Official Notices 6/2012)

As amended by the 14th amending statutes  
Dated 30 October 2024  
(Official Notice 16/2024)

## **Section 1** **Semester contribution**

The student body (*Studierendenschaft*) of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences will collect a contribution from every member in each academic half-year (semester) in order to cover the cost of performing its tasks and duties.

## **Section 2** **Obligation to pay the semester contribution**

- (1) All members of the student body are obliged to pay the semester contribution. Exemptions are only possible in the specific cases outlined in Section 5 below.
- (2) The semester contribution is payable upon initial enrolment, when registering for a new semester, and for semesters of leave.
- (3) Semester contributions are collected without surcharge by Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences on behalf of the student body.

### **Section 3**

#### **Current amounts for the semester contribution**

The semester contribution consists of the following:

(1) €15.30 per semester to the student body:

a) €12.50 to the General Student Committee (AStA);

b) €2.50 to the Faculty Student Representatives (FSR);

c) €0.30 to the reimbursement fund for the mobility contribution in accordance with Section 2 (1) (a) of the Social Regulations of the Student Body.

(2) Contribution to University Sports: €1.50.

(3) Contribution to University Music: €1.50.

(4) Contribution to the Germany Semester Ticket (*Deutschlandsemesterticket*): This amount is based on the currently valid agreement with the Lower Rhine Public Transportation Service (NIAG) and is thus subject to current fare conditions, which are updated and communicated to the student body annually. The amount of this contribution will increase automatically due to fare increases, provided the student body does not terminate its agreement with NIAG by 31 December, effective from the following summer semester, or 30 June, effective from the following winter semester. Students will be notified of any increases to fares and contribution amounts without delay.

### **Section 4**

#### **Intended purpose**

(1) The portion of the semester contribution defined by Section 3 (1) may only be used to perform the tasks and duties set forth in the Student Body Regulations. The portion defined by Section 3 (2) will only be used to support University Sports of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. The portion defined by Section 3 (3) will only be used to support University Music of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. The portion defined by Section 3 (4) will only be used to fund students' Germany Semester Tickets in accordance with currently valid agreements with NIAG and the Rhine-Ruhr Transport Association (VRR).

(2) Semester contribution payments collected according to these regulations must be reported in full in the student body's annual budget. A separate budget item must be indicated for the reimbursement of wrongly collected contributions.

## **Section 5**

### **Contribution exemptions for the Germany Semester Ticket**

(1) The contribution for the Germany Semester Ticket is mandatory and can only be exempted, reduced or deferred in the cases defined in subsections (3) and (4) below.

(2) The following students are automatically exempted from purchasing the Germany Semester Ticket and thus *ex officio* from the contribution amount defined in Section 3 (4):

- a. Guest auditors and visiting students within the meaning of the applicable Higher Education Act;
- b. Students enrolled exclusively in an evening, online or remote degree programme without mandatory in-person attendance ("remote students");
- c. Persons with a severe disability who are entitled to free public transportation in accordance with Section IX of the German Civil Code (SGB) and have both the supplementary sheet in their disability pass and the necessary voucher;
- d. Persons with a disability who are physically incapable of using public transportation and can provide corresponding medical proof thereof;
- e. Students enrolled part-time who dedicate a predominate amount of time to their job rather than their studies;
- f. Students who have officially left the student body.

In the cases set forth in (c) and (d), students are required to notify the university in accordance with subsection (4) sentence 4 below.

(3) Students can request in writing an exemption from the contribution obligation for the Germany Semester Ticket in the following justified cases:

- a. If they are taking an approved semester of leave, with appropriate documentation;
- b. If they will be spending at least three months of the semester outside of Germany as part of their studies;
- c. If they are simultaneously enrolled at two universities with a Germany Semester Ticket;
- d. If they can prove via medical certificate that they are unable to use public transportation for at least three months in the semester in question (proof of *Reiseunfähigkeit*, i.e. incapacity to travel).

(4) Exemption requests within the meaning of subsection (3) must be submitted by the re-registration deadline for the semester in which the exemption should first apply, i.e. by 15 January for the following summer semester and 15 June for the following winter semester. If the grounds for an exemption according to subsection (3) (a) to (c) become known after the re-registration deadline, a late exemption request may be submitted for the current semester within four weeks of the start of the lecture period as defined by the NRW Ministry of Culture and Science. Exemption requests justified by subsection 3 (d) can be submitted at any time with validity for the current semester until no later than four weeks after the end of the current semester. The request should generally be submitted electronically to Student Services and include both the reason for exemption and required proof thereof. For exemptions approved on the grounds of subsection 3 (a) to (d), and in the case of de-registration from the university or death, a prorated monthly refund will be issued for the contribution payment.

(5) If a student de-registers or withdraws from the university before the official begin of the lecture period in a semester for which they have already paid the semester contribution, then the contribution will be reimbursed in full; there is no entitlement to partial reimbursement of the semester contribution in other cases. The Germany Semester Ticket expires immediately upon reimbursement or the holder's de-registration from the university.

Note: These Semester Contribution Regulations entered into force in their present form on 22 November 2024.