

# What are the rules for students and trainees?

When you move into the first flat of your own, into student accommodation or an apartment-sharing community, you will encounter the licence fee for the first time. Here's what you need to know:



## One residence – one licence fee

Whether you live in an apartment-sharing community or in a room in a student hall: **One licence fee must be paid per residence.** It does not matter how many people live in the residence. Whether you own receiver devices or how many of them you own makes no difference.



## Four payment dates per year

The licence fee is currently **18.36 euros per month**. You must pay it **every three months**, always on the 15th of the month in the middle of the payment period. On this date, all three monthly fees of 18.36 euros are due – **a total of 55.08 euros**.

**Tip:** Set up a **direct debit** procedure and payments will be made automatically.



## Residence registration

You or someone you live with must **register the residence** with the contribution service. The other people living in the residence do not need to pay themselves if they provide the licence fee number of the person paying.

**Note:** if the person registered moves, they take their licence fee number with them. Another person will then need to register the residence in their name.



## Exemptions for students and trainees receiving financial assistance

If you receive social benefits such as **federal education and training assistance (BAföG)** or **vocational training assistance (Berufsausbildungsbeihilfe)**, you can, in general, file a **request for exemption**. This also applies to **spouses and registered partners in the apartment**, but **not to flatmates**. The entire residence can only be exempted from the requirement to pay the licence fee if all occupants fulfil the requirements for exemption.



## Semester abroad

In the event of a **temporary stay abroad**, you can **de-register your contribution account temporarily** if you are **subletting the entire residence**. You must enclose the subletting agreement with the de-registration form. The person who is subletting your apartment must then **register the residence with the contribution service** themselves.

**Tip:** It is easier to include the licence fee in the subletting fee or to make an agreement with the subtenant.



For more information, registration and application forms, visit:  
[rundfunkbeitrag.de/students](https://rundfunkbeitrag.de/students)

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