

The Academy of Fine Arts Vienna would like to support students with health problems to the greatest extent possible. This folder has been especially designed for students with physical and/or mental problems or students with chronic illnesses. Our goal is to offer all students with health problems barrier-free access to our study programs.

#### 1 Which contact points exist?

- › Contact person for students with health problems
- › Psychological Counselling for Students
- › Austrian Student's union – Social Affairs Department

#### 2 What financial support is available?

#### 3 What are the rights of students with health problems?

#### 4 Associations and federal organizations

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akademie der  
bildenden künste  
wien

## Studying with health problems

#### 4 Associations and federal organizations

- › **Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research**  
<https://www.bmbwf.gv.at/english/home/>
- › **Federal Ministry of Social Affairs (Sozialministeriumservice):**  
[http://www.sozialministerium.at/siteEN/\\_Social\\_Affairs/People\\_with\\_Disabilities/](http://www.sozialministerium.at/siteEN/_Social_Affairs/People_with_Disabilities/)
- › **Socialinfo Vienna:** <http://sozialinfo.wien.gv.at/content/en/10/Institutions.do?liid=7&senseid=11>
- › **Austrian Student Ombudsman:** <http://www.hochschulombudsmann.at/english/>
- › **Uniability** <https://www.uniability.org/de/>
- › **Austrian National Council of Disabled Persons**  
<http://www.oear.at/?lang=en>
- › **VOEGS – Austrian Deaf Student Association:**  
<http://www.voegs.at/voegs/englisch/>
- › **Information about personal assistance:** <http://www.dabei-austria.at/english>

The information provided in this brochure has been thoroughly researched. However, the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna rejects liability for the accuracy and completeness of the information provided.

## 1 Which contact points exist?

### Contact person for students with health problems

Mag.<sup>a</sup> Christina Fasching at the Vice-Rectorate for Teaching and Promotion of Early Stage Artists/Researchers acts as contact for students with health problems at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna.

The **advisory service** comprises:

- › Financial support
- › Advice and mediation in course matters, for example, mode of examination
- › Individual support in the provision and organization of personal assistance, e.g. sign language interpreters
- › Individual support in the provision and organization of technical equipment
- › Rights of students with health problems

#### Contact:

Mag.<sup>a</sup> Christina Fasching  
Coordinator of Student Welcome Center  
T +43 (0)1 588 16 1205  
studentwelcome@akbild.ac.at  
Opening hours: Tuesday – Friday 09:00–12:00,  
Monday – Wednesday 13:00–16:00  
and by appointment at room D1.9.14.

### Psychological Counselling for Students

We offer counsel and support with:

- › Problems, crises, and conflicts, arising in creative-artistic work as well as in private life
- › Difficulties in working together with fellow students or faculty
- › Uncertainties and fears, including planning for the future
- › Mental states that are difficult to deal with on one's own

We provide counselling, crisis intervention, short-term psychotherapies, as well as referrals to other professionals. Counselling is offered free of charge and is of course confidential; by request also anonymous.

#### Contact and Appointments:

Mag.<sup>a</sup> Elisabeth Höchtel-Wallner: T +43 (0)664 80 88 71 106  
Consultations every Thursday 11:15 – 13:45

Mag. Alexander Parte: T +43 (0)664 80 88 71 107  
Consultations every Wednesday 8:30 – 11:00

Consultations are held at Karl-Schweighofer-Gasse 3, attic (room 1900).  
Head of the Counselling Service: Univ.-Prof. Dr. August Ruhs  
T +43 (0)650 99 33 449

### Austrian Student's Union (ÖH) – Social Affairs Office

In collaboration with the Austrian Federal Student's Union, the ÖH Social Affairs Office at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna aims to improve the social situation of students via information, advice and intervention. Requests are being treated confidentially and tailored to individual needs.

Issues covered include:

- › Student's Union grants (e.g. Sozialfonds – social fund of the Federal Student's Union)
- › Psychosocial counselling
- › Counsel and support with stipends of the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna: social stipend, project financing, merit scholarship, research scholarship, work scholarship, Advancement Scholarship, "Ö1 Talentstipendium"
- › Counsel with student financial aid, family allowance, health insurance, Student's Union accident and liability insurance, employment law, tenancy law, migration issues.

#### Contact:

Jelena Micić, Markus Sandner  
Opening hours: Tuesday 10:00 – 13:00 at the ÖH Office,  
Augasse 2–6, D1.9.3  
T +43 (0)1 588 16 3300  
oehsozialreferat@akbild.ac.at

- › The team at the Student's Union is looking forward to your visit.

## 2 What financial support is available?

**Waiver of student fees:** Regular students are entitled to apply for a waiver of student fees if they are at least 50% disabled (as stated in their Disabled Persons Pass (Behindertenpass) issued by the Federal Social Office (Sozialministeriumservice)). Please apply for the waiver at the Registrar's Office.  
**The Student's Union (ÖH) fee must be paid regardless.**

**Increased family allowance:** The increased family allowance will be paid in addition to the normal family allowance. From July 2014 this additional sum is 150 euros per month. The relevant authority is the tax office at your place of residence. You find the relevant application form at [www.help.gv.at](http://www.help.gv.at) or ask the contact at the Vice-Rectorate for Teaching and Promotion of Early Stage Artists/Researchers for a printed version.

**Increased Federal Aid for Students:** You can apply for the increased federal aid for students if you have a disability of 50% minimum. The amount of the increased federal aid for students depends on the seriousness of the impairment. The relevant contact is the Austrian Study Grant Authority at your place of study. <http://www.stipendium.at/english-information/>

**Student Financial Aid (Studienunterstützung für Härtefälle):** The relevant contact is the Austrian Study Grant Authority at your place of study. <http://www.stipendium.at/english-information/>

**Education benefit:** The Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection and its departments in the Austrian federal provinces grant an education benefit of up to 244 euros if specific requirements are fulfilled.

**Personal assistance at the workplace/place of education (Persönliche Assistenz am Arbeits- und/oder Ausbildungsplatz, PAA):** The Fonds Soziales Wien can grant a special aid called „Pflegegeldergänzungsleistung“ for personal assistance. <https://www.fsw.at/p/english>. The application for personal assistance should be made at the relevant assistance service department, in Vienna, for example, at WAG Assistenzgenossenschaft (<http://www.wag.or.at/index.php>).

**ÖH Student's Union social funds:** The Austrian Student's Union has a special social fund for students with problems of ill health. The application form is only available in German. <https://www.oeh.ac.at/en/service/%C3%B6h-f%C3%B6rdert%C3%B6pfe/oh-social-funds>.

**Academy of Fine Arts Vienna:** For financial support regarding **student mobility and exchange programs** please contact the International Relations Office of the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. [https://www.akbild.ac.at/international\\_relations](https://www.akbild.ac.at/international_relations)

For **other stipends and grants of the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna** please take a look at our website: [https://www.akbild.ac.at/academy\\_scholarships](https://www.akbild.ac.at/academy_scholarships)

## 3 What are the rights of students with health problems?

**Federal Act on the Organisation of Universities and their Studies (University Organization Act 2002)** §2(11) outlines special attention to be given to the needs of students with health problems as a task of the Austrian universities. This special attention applies to teaching, research, development and appreciation of the arts as well as to the infrastructure.

### Alternative examination methods

According to § 59 (12), students with health problems have the right to ask for an alternative examination method, if the student can demonstrate that s(he) has suffered from a disability over a longer period of time and therefore cannot accomplish the examination by the method offered. Moreover, the alternative examination method must not impair the content and requirements of the exam.

### Copyright Act (UrhG)

This act is important in terms of access to learning materials and the transfer of such materials into a more suitable format. The Copyright Act describes the right to duplicate and distribute learning materials in a suitable format for non-commercial use (§ 42d [1] UrhG). If you would like to record a course in audio or video format, please contact the teaching staff and provide them with your reasons. (please see § 66 [1] UrhG).

### Federal Act on the Equal Rights of Persons with Disabilities (BGStG)

The Austrian Federal Act on the Equal Rights of Persons with Disabilities prohibits the discrimination of persons with disabilities. The universities have the responsibility to prevent and eliminate discrimination on the grounds of disability.