



Information for incoming students with disabilities

If you have a disability and you are planning to study at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, you should prepare your stay here. Especially the following aspects should be regarded.

Accessibility: Humboldt has got three campuses and more than 150 buildings in Berlin. Not every building is barrier-free, e. g. on Campus Nord, so please check out whether the studies you will join here take place on a campus that is accessible for you:

<https://www.hu-berlin.de/en/about/campus>

<https://www.hu-berlin.de/de/studium/behinderte/weitere/barriere> (available in German only)

Transport: The public transport in Berlin is in the bigger part barrier-free. Nonetheless there may be trams or buses or stations that are not. The BVG and the S-Bahn inform on their web pages:

<https://www.bvg.de/en/Travel-information/Traffic-Information/Faulty-Lifts>

<https://sbahn.berlin/en/>

Humboldt is not responsible for the transport to the campuses and on the campuses. If you cannot use public transport due to your disability, please contact LaGeSo (State Office for Health and Caring) to clear whether you can use assisted transport:

<http://www.berlin.de/lageso/behinderung/schwerbehinderung-versorgungsamt/nachteilsausgleiche/sonderfahrdienst/> (available in German only)

Assistance: Incoming students who are enrolled at Humboldt can apply for social aid, for instance in form of study assistants, sign language translators (in German Sign Language), speech-to-text reporters or assistive technology at StudierendenWERK Berlin:

<https://www.stw.berlin/en/counselling/counselling-for-students-with-disabilities-fmp.html>

Disability compensation: For study assignments as well as exam situations at Humboldt you can apply for disability compensation. In order to apply for these "reasonable adjustments" ("Nachteilsausgleich") you need a medical certificate ("Attest") by a specialist in German language stating the symptoms of your disability in relation to the study related difficulty. Please bear in mind that the medical proof should be written in laymen terms, so that the staff dealing with your request can comprehend your disability as well as your study related difficulty. Furthermore, please note that a certificate or proof of a disability card alone is not sufficient. The medical certificate should include information about the student's impairment/disability in question and in which form or situation the study related difficulties occur.

An application is valid for one specific exam situation only and should include a cover letter and the medical certificate. The application is to be directed to the examination board of the degree course and has to be as detailed as possible. It is not sufficient to say that compensation is needed; the extent and type of compensation must be clearly defined. For example: extension of the time for a written exam or the substantiated claim for an extra room or attendance of a person that should assist in a specific situation.

We strongly suggest filing the application at least four weeks before an exam. Compensation for lectures, e. g. attendance or papers or reports, can be arranged with the lecturers directly.

For more information, click on:

https://www.hu-berlin.de/en/studies/behinderte/behinderte-en?set_language=en

<https://www.hu-berlin.de/en/studies/behinderte/adjustment/adjustment>

Insurance: The International Office of Humboldt can help with the health insurance coverage. If you need special benefits due to your disability, please contact the insurance company in your country and a German insurance, e.g. AOK, DAK, TK etc., in time:
https://www.international.hu-berlin.de/en/studierende/aus-dem-ausland/wegweiser/05/05_01_02

Libraries: The libraries are providing several barrier-free working stations, also for visually impaired or blind students. Check the website for an overview of the facilities:
https://www.ub.hu-berlin.de/en/using-the-library/target-groups/our-services-for-people-with-disabilities?set_language=en

Contact

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