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fokus familie.



Strategy for supporting families

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin sees family-friendliness as a central part of its culture. The Family Support Centre is dedicated to improving the university's infrastructure for families and to raising awareness on campus of the challenges students face while balancing academic, professional and family commitments. The Family Support Centre manages and coordinates "audit familiengerechte hochschule" projects and maintains an ongoing dialogue with the Commission for a Family-Friendly University, the Gender Equality Office, the staff councils and the RefRat student committee. Furthermore, the Family Support Centre is a member of the "Familie in Hochschule und Wissenschaft Berlin" and "Erfolgsfaktor Familie" networks.

information support counselling

Contact info

We offer counselling on HU's Mitte and Adlershof campuses during our regular office hours, which you can find on our website. You are also welcome to schedule an individual appointment with us outside of office hours or contact us via e-mail or telephone.

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The Family Support Centre of
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Family and Studies





What is the mission of the Family Support Centre?

The Family Support Centre provides you with information and counselling to help you maintain a healthy work-life balance. Whether you care for children or other relatives, you can turn to us with any questions or problems you have. We can also act as an intermediary if you need help with conflict resolution.

How do we define 'family' at Humboldt-Universität?

At Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (HU) we have a broad definition of the term 'family': it encompasses all situations involving long-term responsibility for relatives. All parent-child relationships – including single parents, patchwork families and LGBT families – fall under our definition, as do sibling relationships and marital (or similar) relationships.

The Family Support Centre offers information and counselling on these and other issues:

Making your academic life more family-friendly

- Compensation for disadvantage
- Mandatory maternity leave, parental leave, and personal leave
- Studying part-time
- Preferential placement/participation in classes
- Family-friendly scheduling

Studying while caring for relatives

Financial aid

- State services for families (parental benefit payments, children's benefit payments, etc.)
- BAföG study grant provisions regarding pregnant women and parents
- Scholarships
- Semester ticket subsidy for regional public transport system

Labour law (part-time student jobs)

Childcare

- Childcare vouchers and finding childcare
- HU's daycare centre
- "die humbolde" daycare centre
- Childcare during HU events

On campus with kids

- Family rooms and changing facilities
- Borrowing play bags
- Free cafeteria meals for children
- Events and networking meetings
- Family courses offered by HU Sport and Recreation

Family Support Centre events

The Family Support Centre holds an info session on the challenges of balancing academic and family commitments at the start of each winter semester. There are ample opportunities to ask questions and network with other students who have to care for relatives.

Every summer the HU Family Support Centre organises its annual family festival. Numerous university departments and facilities as well as external partners are involved in creating hands-on activities for party guests of all ages. The prize for the "Family-Friendly Project of the Year" is also awarded at the festival.

