

# Further Training/ Education

**Meaning:** Educational support is not provided for a second training/education in every case. If there is eligibility for continuing support, the type of support must be determined. Is half of the financial aid a grant and the other half a loan or is it only an interest-bearing loan?

**Principle:** As a general principle, financial educational support is only provided for academic education. The eligibility for financial aid is for a period of at least three years and extends to the achievement of a vocational qualification. If it is not an academic education, but is, e.g. in-company training, this does not negatively affect the entitlement to BAföG. The same is true if the training is set for a term of two years or does not provide any vocational qualification. The education that follows in such cases still includes a so-called “basic entitlement”.

An extension of the basic entitlement is in order if only a bachelor’s degree was completed. A master’s degree study that follows is also entitled to financial support.

In all cases it does not matter if funds have actually been used. It is also irrelevant if the training was made and completed abroad unless it could have been carried out and completed in the home country.

Basically there is also entitlement if only in-company training was completed or a two-year study at a vocational school was completed. However the entitlement is considered depleted if a study was carried out to the completion of the degree and it was not solely a bachelor’s degree which was to be followed by a master’s study.

**Exceptions:** Ist der ‚Grundanspruch‘ erschöpft, gesteht das Gesetz in bestimmten Fällen für eine einzige weitere Ausbildung Leistungen zu

1. if the first course of study was only a leaving certificate from a vocational school (e.g. nursing or physiotherapy) or a vocational school course of study which did not require a previously completed professional training.
2. if the access to higher education was acquired via the “second chance education”, perhaps by graduating from a higher secondary vocational school, which requires a vocational qualification from an evening school or a college. The same is true if access to higher education was attained with an appropriate entrance examination or a non-pupil exam.
3. for a complementary study, which complements the degree attained insofar as this is legally required for the pursuit of the desired profession (e.g. additional training for a teaching position at a vocational school).
4. for a graduate study in the same field which is an independent study, if the admission was allowed only in connection with the previous study.
5. if the practice of a profession is only possible because of a first and second degree (e.g. medicine and dentistry, to become an oral surgeon).
6. if trainees are refugees, displaced persons, emigrants, late repatriates, persons entitled to asylum or are foreign spouses or life partners of Germans or of EU citizens employed in Germany and require complementary or further training in Germany because the vocational qualification attained in their home country is not useable .

## Any questions?

### PERSONAL ADVICE

 Tue 9.00–12.00  
Thurs 1.00–3.00  
During the personal advice sessions we would ask you to refrain from calling us by telephone. We thank you for your understanding.

### TELEPHONE ADVICE

 Mon and Wed 10.00–12.00

### ZENTRALER INFO-POINT

Phone 0251 837-95 09  
 Mon to Thurs 9.00–12.00  
and 1.30–4.00  
Fri 9.00–12.00  
and 1.30–2.00

7. if an irrefutable reason ( e.g. a disability that occurred subsequently ) prevents the pursuit of the profession achieved with the first course of study.

For the exceptions listed above only one single further education/training is possible.

Financial educational support is always provided for the regular duration of studies. However possible previous and calculable periods of study will be subtracted.

In general the financial support of higher education studies is one half as a grant and the other half as an interest-free loan. This is also the case for further training in accordance with numbers 1 and 2 of the list above. If the entitlement, however, can only be derived from numbers 3 to 7, then the further training will only be supported with an interest-bearing loan. The financial aid must then also be applied for from the Office for Educational Support. Thereupon you will receive a notification which is linked to an offer of a loan from the 'Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau', "KfW" (i.e. reconstruction loan corporation) with variable, favourable interest rates.

If a course of study/training was discontinued before it was completed, there are also special requirements for continued financial support (see 'Fachrichtungswechsel', i.e. change of subject).

**Procedure:** When applying, all training/courses of study in academic and vocational areas (attachment form 1) must be listed. This can be used to determine whether the further training is in accordance with numbers 1 and 2. In order to evaluate the entitlement in accordance with numbers 3 to 7, however, an additional declaration is required which must be written in a formless manner. Before submitting the application, it is recommended to take advantage of personal consultation. It is also possible to decide about the entitlement to further training up to a year in advance.

### **Legal reference**

§7 Paragraph 1 and 2 BAföG