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Statutes of the University of Freiburg concerning the exemption from tuition fees of international students of exceptional ability as of March 5, 2019 (official announcements vol. 50, no. 9, pp. 58-61) in the version of the first amendment of November 19, 2019 (official announcements vol. 50, no. 73, p. 417)

Statutes of the University of Freiburg concerning the exemption from tuition fees of international students of exceptional ability

Based on Section 6(4) of the Landeshochschulgebührengesetz (LHGebG, State University Fees Act) of January 1, 2005 (Law Gazette p. 1), last amended by Article 1 of the Gesetz vom 9. Mai 2017 (Law dated May 9, 2017) (Law Gazette p. 245ff), in conjunction with Section 19(1)(2)(10) of the Gesetz über die Hochschulen in Baden-Württemberg (Landeshochschulgesetz, State University Law – LHG), revised by Article 1 of the Gesetz vom 1. Januar 2005 (Law dated 1 January 2005) (Law Gazette p. 1), last amended by Article 1 of the Gesetz vom 13. März 2018 (Law dated 13 March 2018) (Law Gazette p. 85), the Senate of the University of Freiburg has adopted the following statutes at its meeting on February 27, 2019.

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Section 1 Scope

(1) The University of Freiburg charges students who are not nationals of a member state of the European Union or another signatory state to the EEA Treaty (international students) tuition fees for their teaching, including related specific support for international students on all undergraduate major study programs and all consecutive Master's degree programs.

(2) These statutes govern the exemption from tuition fees in accordance with Section 6(4) and (5) LHGebG. It applies to international entrants and students who commence or have commenced studies in accordance with Section 3(1) LHGebG at the University of Freiburg and are liable for fees in accordance with Section 3 LHGebG.

(3) The maximum number of international students who can be exempted from tuition fees (exemption quota) is determined for each academic year in accordance with Section 6(5)(2) LHGebG by the Ministry of Science.

Section 2 Application for exemption

(1) The decision on exemption from tuition fees shall only be made in response to written application. The application should be made using the appropriate form. All documents should be submitted in copy as an officially certified translation into German or English. The application should be submitted within due time to the responsible central university administrative office.

(2) International students admitted to degree programs at the university in accordance with Section 1 Paragraph 1, who commence their studies at the University of Freiburg and are liable for the fees in accordance with Section 3 LHGebG, are entitled to apply. Application may only be made until October 31 of the year in which studies are commenced (cut-off deadline). The deadline also applies to international students who have commenced studies in the summer semester. In this case the exemption is granted retroactively to the summer semester.

(3) The university provides information about the possibility and criteria for application on its website and on granting admission to international students.

(4) The decision on applications for exemption from tuition fees is taken by a panel, consisting of the Vice-President for Academic Affairs, the responsible central university administrative office and a student member of the university appointed by the Verfasste Studierendenschaft. The decision shall be documented.

Section 3 Criteria for exemption

(1) The decision on the exemption from tuition fees is primarily made on the basis of the exceptional abilities of international entrants or students. This takes into account nationality, social criteria and equal opportunities aspects.

(2) A requirement for exemption from tuition fees is the confirmation of an exceptional ability. The exceptional ability can in particular be proven

1. in the case of undergraduate major study programs by submission of a university admission qualification with a minimum grade of 2.8; in the case of the French education system with a minimum grade of 3.3;
2. in the case of consecutive Master's degree programs by outstanding academic performance in the first study for professional qualification with an average grade of at least 2.8; in the case of the French education system with a minimum grade of 3.3.

(3) If the number of applications for exemption whereby exceptional ability is proven in accordance with Paragraph 2 exceeds the exemption quota assigned the university, then, taking equal opportunities into account, those applicants shall be selected who are nationals of a signatory state to the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, 2000/483/EC signed on 23 June 2000, or of a state which according to the findings of the United Nations are among the least developed countries, and who meet one of the following criteria:

1. care and education of their own underage children and are therefore tied to the study location of Freiburg,
2. care of close family members, who are in need of care as defined by Sections 14 and 15 of the Eleventh Book of the German Social Code (Sozialgesetzbuch, SGB XI) dated May 26, 1994 (Federal Law Gazette I p. 1014, 1015) (as amended), and are therefore tied to the study location of Freiburg,

3. the payment of tuition fees for international students in accordance with Section 3 LHGebG to a state university in Baden-Württemberg by brother or sister or several siblings,

4. a chronic disease or disability that has considerable negative effects on studies.

5. severe financial difficulties with regard to affording the tuition fees which will presumably continue for the duration of the studies, which is proven by appropriate documentation issued by public offices.

(4) If exemption possibilities are still available after award in accordance with Paragraph 3, then, in accordance with Paragraph 2, those applicants shall be selected who are nationals of a signatory state to the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, 2000/483/EC signed on 23 June 2000, or of a state which according to the findings of the United Nations are among the least developed countries, or who meet one of the social criteria from Paragraph 3.

(5) If a quota still remains, then this shall be awarded by lottery

Section 4 Exemption, extent and duration

(1) The exemption applies to the amount of the tuition fees set in the LHGebG.

(2) Exemption from tuition fees generally applies to the standard study period for the degree program in question plus two semesters.

(3) The exemption ends at the end of the month in which the international student 1. is no longer liable for fees in accordance with Section 2ff LHGebG, 2. successfully completes the degree program for which the exemption was granted, or 3. prematurely terminates the studies by changing subject, discontinuation or exmatriculation.

(4) Exemption from tuition fees in accordance with these statutes may only be granted provided that there are not at the same time other grounds for exemption on the basis of which an exemption has been or would have been granted.

(5) There is neither a duty to use the entire exemption quota nor a legal entitlement to be granted exemption.

Section 5 Duty of cooperation

(1) The applicants are obliged to give the university the personal data necessary for the exemption and to submit the necessary documents with the application for exemption within the period stated in Section 4 Paragraph 2.

(2) The applicants and the international students exempted in accordance with these statutes are obliged to give immediate notice of any changes in circumstances that are or were relevant to the exemption.

Section 6 Withdrawal and cancellation

(1) The exemption from tuition fees may be canceled in full or in part with retroactive effect or with future effect, if 1. it is found that the exemption was obtained by incorrect or incomplete information, 2. the conditions in accordance with these regulations are not met or not met in good time, 3. necessary notifications about changes of relevance to the exemption are not made.

- (2) The Vice-President for Academic Affairs decides on the cancellation of the exemption from tuition fees and the claiming of tuition fees as well as on their amount. The decision shall be documented.
- (3) Sections 48 and 49 Landesverwaltungsverfahrensgesetz (LVwVfG) are unaffected.

Section 7 Transitional arrangement

In variation of Section 2 Paragraph 2, the application deadline shall be extended to 31 March 2019 for those international students who were registered for the first time in the 2018/19 winter semester for an undergraduate major study program or consecutive Master's degree program and could not be considered for the exemption from tuition fees in the 2018/19 winter semester.

Section 8 Effective date

These statutes come into effect on the day after publication in the Official Announcements. On these statutes coming into effect, the Regulations of the University of Freiburg on the exemption from tuition fees for international students in accordance with Section 3 Landeshochschulgebührengesetz (LHGebG) dated September 28, 2017 (Volume 48, Number 53, Pages 215-219) cease to be effective.

Amendments:

Statutes of the University of Freiburg concerning the exemption from tuition fees of international students of exceptional ability of March 5, 2019 (official announcements vol. 50, no. 9, pp. 58-61)

First amendment of November 19, 2019 (official announcements vol. 50, no. 73, p. 417):

Article 2 Effective date

This amendment comes into effect as from March 6, 2019.

