Further Services

Family Services Office
Personal Counseling
Thu 10.00 - 12.00 Uhr and by appointment
Room 1111, main building
Tel. (030) 314 - 23332
familienbuero@zuv.tu-berlin.de
www.tu-berlin.de/familie

Main Women’s Representative Office
Advisory Services (by appointment)
Room 1108, main building
Tel. (030) 314 - 21438
zen.frau@tu-berlin.de
www.tu-berlin.de/zentrale_frauenbeauftragte

Services by Studierendenwerk Berlin
• Social counseling
• Pregnancy conflict counseling
• Daycare centers / Kindergartens
  www.stw.berlin/en/nursery.html

Public transport stops near the main campus: Ernst-Reuter-Platz (underground line U2, busses M45, 245, X9) or S-Bahnhof Tiergarten (S-Bahn lines S3, S5, S7, S75).

Studying with Children
Key information for international students with children

Department I - Student Services
Academic Advising
Straße des 17. Juni 135
10623 Berlin

Personal counseling sessions (by appointment)
Claudia Cifire
Tel. (030) 314 25605
claudia.cifire@tu-berlin.de
www.studienberatung.tu-berlin.de/mit_kind

Personal counseling (without appointment)
Academic Advising, room 0070, main building
Mon 9.30 - 12.30
Tue 14.00 - 18.00
Thu 9.30 - 12.30 and 14.00 - 16.00
Fr 9.30 - 12.30

Initial contact via study information service
Contact hours:
Mon - Thu 9.00 - 17.00
Fr 9.00 - 14.00
Tel. (030) 314 29999
Contact form available at www.telservice.tu-berlin.de

Psychological Counseling
Main building, room 0059, 0060 and 0061
Tel. (030) 314 24875, -25382, -25235
psychologische-beratung@tu-berlin.de
www.tu-berlin.de/?id=133594
Open consultation hours
Thu 10.30 - 12.30
Hours for telephone enquire
Mon, Wed, Thu 14.00 - 14.30

Pictures:
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A balancing act?

Combining studies with being a parent and/or family care commitments is a real challenge, but one which you need not face alone at TU Berlin. According to the 21st social survey conducted by Studierendenwerk (the German students’ union), 9% of students in Berlin are currently managing the balancing act of studying and parenting, while in some cases also doing a side job (compared with 6% nationally). Transferred to the TU Campus that means there are, along with you, some 3,000 parenting students.

Despite these numbers, students with family still form a scarcely visible group. To help address this issue, Academic Advising, in cooperation with the Family Services Office, organizes an event at the start of each semester on studying with children to provide you with an opportunity to make contact with other parenting students or students with family care commitments. This event enables you to approach us directly with your questions or establish networks with other parenting students or students wishing to become parents.

More information:

Full-time or part-time studies?

Generally studying at TU Berlin is on a full-time basis. It is, however, possible for both students with children up to 10 years of age or with family care commitments to study on a part-time basis. Switching to a part-time course of study does, however, have several implications, such as for credits or benefits administered by non-TU Berlin organizations (BAföG (student loans), child support, entitlement to accommodation). It may also further affect issues such as taxation and health insurance. Please note that part-time entitlement to accommodation). It may also further affect issues such as credits or benefits administered by non-TU Berlin organizations (BAföG (student loans), child support, entitlement to accommodation). Despite these numbers, students with family still form a scarcely visible group. To help address this issue, Academic Advising, in cooperation with the Family Services Office, organizes an event at the start of each semester on studying with children to provide you with an opportunity to make contact with other parenting students or students with family care commitments. This event enables you to approach us directly with your questions or establish networks with other parenting students or students wishing to become parents.

More information:

Academic leave of absence

Pregnancy, bringing up a child during the first six years of its life or caring for a dependent are all justifiable reasons for taking academic leave of absence. Students on maternity leave or students taking leave of absence to care for a child or a dependent can, as an exception to the rules which normally apply to students taking academic leave of absence, continue to participate on courses at TU Berlin during the semesters for which they are taking leave. This is regulated in Section 22 of the Regulations Governing Study and Examination Procedures (AllgStuPo). Please note that an academic leave of absence cannot be used to extend the maximum length of stay for students from non-EU countries.

Compulsory attendance

In general there is no compulsory attendance at TU Berlin for lectures, practical tutorials or tutorials. There are however exceptions which are to be announced in the first class of a course and/or found on the website of the appropriate chair or in the relevant module description. Unfortunately there are no standardized rules at TU Berlin, either regarding attendance or exceptions. However the following generally applies: Should it become clear that you will not be able to fulfill the attendance requirements for a course, contact your lecturer to clarify your situation and be prepared to suggest alternatives to make up for the classes you were unable to attend.

Examinations

Should your child be ill at the time scheduled for a written or oral examination, then a similar procedure applies as when the examinee is ill. You can withdraw from an examination using the standard procedure up to one day before the scheduled date of the examination by contacting your chair and your examinations office in writing. In the event of sudden illness you need to obtain a medical certificate from a children’s doctor, issued no later than the day of the examination. The certificate must be submitted to your examinations office within 5 days of the day of the examination. You can decide for yourself whether you wish to take examinations during the period of maternity leave. Maternity leave is also a justifiable reason for extending the writing period for a graded piece of work.

Compensation for disadvantages

Should pregnancy, caring for or bringing up a child aged 10 or less or family care commitments prevent you from taking an examination or submitting graded work (in the stipulated form), then you can apply for a compensation for disadvantages (Section 40 Study and Examination Regulations - AllgStuPo). The application should be submitted to the relevant examination board proposing an alternative in the form of another date, an extended writing time or another form of examination which you yourself may propose. The course work or examination to be completed as part of the compensation for disadvantages must have equivalency with the original examination or course work.

Financial aspects

Studying with children generally involves a considerable financial burden as well as a lot of extra organization. Unfortunately students from outside the EU whose residence permit is for studying only, generally have no right to family support (such as parental or child support), as they are required when commencing their studies to prove that their living expenses are covered. This also applies in cases where children are born in Germany during the period of study. A special exemption applies to students who have refugee status. Different rules apply for students already granted official refugee status than for those still waiting to receive official refugee status. Your legal status is decisive on this issue. Please contact the social advising section of Studierendenwerk (the students’ union organization) who advise all international students on options for financial support.

More information:

www.tu-berlin.de/?id=125766

www.tu-berlin.de/?id=138261

www.tu-berlin.de/?id=77426

www.tu-berlin.de/?id=125766