

Financing your Studies

Suggestions to reduce or refund the tuition fees

Starting the MBA programme, you are facing some expenses. However, there are several options to reduce or to refund these costs.

With this flyer, we like to give you an overview over the most common options, as well as some specific tips.



Claiming educational expenses as a tax deduction

In general, expenses for advanced studies can be claimed as a work-related deduction on your income tax return.

When you claim your education expenses on your tax return, your annual taxable salary is deducted and so is your personal income tax.

However, there are exceptions to this rule, for example, if you take up a job abroad after graduation. Therefore, please contact your tax office or your tax advisor before claiming the tax benefits.

Sample calculation for one semester of the part-time MBA programme at h_da:

Tuition fee	€6.200
Semester fee	+ €290
Total	€6.490

Given a single adult has an annual income of €53,000, by claiming the costs of the first semester, the taxable annual gross amount is reduced to
 $€53.000 - €6.490 = €46.510$

In the example calculation, the adult therefore saves €2.400 in income tax at the end of the year.

The costs for the 1st semester get reduced to
 $€6.490 - €2.400 = €$

*Data provided by the income tax table of 2023
<https://einkommensteuertabellen.finanz-tools.de/downloads/grundtabelle-2023.pdf>

In addition to the tuition fees, you can claim the expenses listed below as **work related deductions**, if you can provide receipts:

- o expenses for commuting between your home and the university
- o expenses for work equipment (desk chair, desk, computer,...)
- o expenses for professional literature (including e-books)

For approval at your tax office you should by all means make sure to keep receipts made out to your name.

Scholarships by Darmstadt Business School

Darmstadt Business School offers scholarships for outstanding personalities. Each scholarship covers 30% of the complete programmes tuition fees.

The scholarships are awarded to candidates who demonstrate the potential to become exemplary and strong future leaders – professionally as well as in a social perspective. Candidates should show extraordinary achievements like:

- Social commitment
- Outstanding attainments in professional life
- Exemplary entrepreneurial thinking and action
- Extensive international experience
- Very good academic results

For further information please see: www.mba-h-da.de.

Other scholarships

International and German students can apply to numerous organisations, foundations or institutions for a scholarship. As the scholarships have different prerequisites, you need to find the scholarship matching your profile best.

We recommend the following databases to search for further information and scholarship offers:

- www.funding-guide.de offered by the German Exchange Agency (DAAD)
- Deutschlandstipendium and StipendiumPlus offered by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)



Student loan

There are different options available for student loans. Usually, the conditions are better than for normal loans. If you are thinking about taking out a loan, it is advisable to consider a student loan.

The KfW offers two types of loans for financing education: A student loan and an education loan. Both loans are not income-dependent.

In addition, you can apply for assistance in career advancement ("Aufstiegs-BAFöG"), which is offered by the Education Assistance Office.

For further information, please visit www.kfw.de.

Education funds

Education funds differ from other forms of financing in their payment terms.

Repayment is income-dependent and relates to a percentage of your subsequent income. Please note that some providers have a commercial background and therefore pursue a profit motive.

Please note

This leaflet addresses students who study in a chargeable study program at Darmstadt Business School at the University of Applied Sciences Darmstadt.

All information given in this flyer is supplied without liability. We highly recommend you to get individual consultation by a competent institution, especially before making use of tax benefits.

Legal notice

Hochschule Darmstadt
University of Applied Sciences
Department of Advanced Education

Schöfferstraße 32
 D-64295 Darmstadt
www.mba-darmstadt.de
 e-mail: mba@h-da.de
 phone: +49 (0)6151.533-60277

Release: November
 2019 Update: Lwpk 2025