

TUITION FEE REGULATIONS of FH JOANNEUM Gesellschaft mbH

Regulations on the Collection, Refund and Waiver of Tuition Fees for **Regular First-Year Students** starting from the winter semester 2026/27 and subsequently for Regular Students at FH JOANNEUM

Version 1.0

May 2026

Table of Contents

I.	ÖH-Fee (Student Union Fee).....	3
II.	Tuition Fees for Regular Students	4
1.	General Provisions on Tuition Fee Obligation	4
2.	Tuition Fee Obligation for Third-Country Nationals	5
3.	Tuition Fees for Incoming and Outgoing Students.....	6
4.	Tuition Fee Amount.....	6
5.	Waiver of Tuition Fees	7
6.	Refund of Tuition Fees.....	8
7.	Payment Deadlines.....	8
8.	Reminder and Consequences of Non-Payment of Tuition Fees	9

I. ÖH-Fee (Student Union Fee)

Before the start of each semester, all students (regular and non-regular) are obliged, in accordance with § 38 of the Austrian Higher Education Students' Representation Act (HSG), to pay the Student Union Fee (ÖH-Fee), including any special contributions, for membership in the Austrian National Union of Students (ÖH).

For information on the amount of the ÖH-Fee and further details about the Austrian National Union of Students, please visit: www.oeh.ac.at and/or www.oeh-joanneum.at.

If the ÖH-Fee has already been paid at another higher education institution, it does not need to be paid again at FH JOANNEUM.

II. Tuition Fees for Regular Students

Pursuant to § 2 (2) of the Austrian University of Applied Sciences Studies Act (FHG), the maintaining bodies of universities of applied sciences are authorized to collect tuition fees from students.

Based on this legal authorization, FH JOANNEUM will introduce tuition fees starting from the winter semester 2026/27.

These Tuition Fee Regulations, governing the collection, refund, and waiver of tuition fees, apply to first-year students who enroll as regular students at FH JOANNEUM starting from the winter semester 2026/27.

1. General Provisions on Tuition Fee Obligation

- 1.1. As of the winter semester 2026/27, all individuals admitted for the first time to a regular degree program at FH JOANNEUM are required to pay a tuition fee of EUR 363.36 each semester.
- 1.2. The tuition fee obligation also applies to:
 - **Dual Degree Students:** Individuals who were already enrolled as regular students at FH JOANNEUM before the winter semester 2026/27 and begin an additional (regular) degree program at FH JOANNEUM in the winter semester 2026/27. However, if simultaneously enrolled in more than one degree program at FH JOANNEUM, the tuition fee is only payable once.
 - **Re-entry Students:** Individuals who are re-admitted to a degree program based on an approved application by the degree program management.
 - **Lateral Entry into a Higher Semester:** Individuals who enter a higher semester of a degree program based on an approved application for recognition of prior learning (pursuant to § 12 FHG).
- 1.3. Individuals who were already enrolled as regular students in a degree program before the winter semester 2026/27 are not subject to the tuition fee obligation for that specific program.
- 1.4. Tuition fees must be paid for **all semesters** provided for in the study plan, including semesters dedicated to completing an internship, undertaking a study abroad semester, writing a thesis or similar purposes.
- 1.5. If the standard duration of study is exceeded by a student enrolled as of the winter semester 2026/27, the tuition fee must also be paid for each additional semester in which the student remains enrolled.

2. Tuition Fee Obligation for Third-Country Nationals

- 2.1. Third countries refer to all countries outside the European Union, the European Economic Area, and Switzerland. Pursuant to § 2 (2) FHG, the tuition fee for regular students from third countries who do not qualify for any of the exceptions listed in Section 2.3 is EUR 726.72 per semester.
- 2.2. If a residence title is held under § 64 of the Austrian Settlement and Residence Act (NAG), a tuition fee of EUR 726.72 per semester applies, unless an exception under Section 2.3 of these regulations is met. In such cases, the regular tuition fee of EUR 363.36 applies.
- 2.3. **Exceptions to the Tuition Fee Obligation for Third-Country Nationals**
- Third-country nationals not holding a residence title under § 64 NAG ("Student") but with another type of residence permit in Austria.
 - Third-country nationals covered by the Regulation on Groups of Persons ([Personengruppenverordnung](#))
 - Citizens of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (see [DAC List](#)) are, until further notice, treated equally to Austrian and EU/EEA citizens. No separate application is required.
 - First-year students (and subsequently regular students) with Ukrainian citizenship are, until further notice, treated equally to Austrian and EU/EEA citizens. No separate application is required.

If one of these exceptions applies, the individual is only required to pay the tuition fee of EUR 363.36, provided the necessary proof is submitted. Ideally, the proof should be submitted with the application documents. In such cases, any equal treatment can already be considered before the payment request is issued.

2.4. Application for Equal Treatment (Exemption from Double Tuition Fee)

Exemption from the obligation to pay the double tuition fee (and thus equal treatment with citizens of EU, EEA member states, and Switzerland) must be applied for. First-year students (and subsequently regular students) must complete the relevant [form](#) and submit the required proof.

If the double tuition fee has already been paid before the application is submitted, the refund of the excess amount can be processed as part of the application for equal treatment. No separate refund application is required.

Equal treatment remains valid for the duration of the validity of the residence permit card. If a new valid residence permit card (not under NAG) is submitted, equal treatment continues to apply. If a residence title under § 64 NAG ("Student") is obtained, the double tuition fee must be paid.

3. Tuition Fees for Incoming and Outgoing Students

- 3.1. Incoming students** studying at FH JOANNEUM under an exchange program (e.g., Erasmus) are exempt from tuition fees. Only the ÖH-Fee must be paid.
- 3.2. Outgoing students** from FH JOANNEUM who complete a study abroad semester are not exempt from paying tuition fees and must continue to pay the tuition fee to FH JOANNEUM during their stay abroad.
- 3.3. "Free Movers"** (students who independently organize their study abroad and are not part of a university exchange program) are not exempt from paying tuition fees.

4. Tuition Fee Amount

FH JOANNEUM collects tuition fees in accordance with the amount specified in § 2 (2) FHG. If the legislator increases the prescribed tuition fee, FH JOANNEUM reserves the right to increase the tuition fee by the same amount.

CATEGORY	TUITION FEE AMOUNT
Citizens of the EU, EEA or Switzerland	EUR 363.36 + ÖH-Fee
Citizens of Ukraine	(currently) EUR 363.36 + ÖH-Fee
Third-country nationals with a residence title under § 64 NAG (Immigration and Residence Act)	EUR 726.72 + ÖH-Fee
Stateless/Undetermined → such as third countries	EUR 726.72 + ÖH-Fee
Third-country nationals with other residence titles or covered by the Regulation on Groups of Persons (Personengruppenverordnung)	EUR 363.36 + ÖH-Fee
Citizens of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (see DAC-List)	EUR 363.36 + ÖH-Fee
Students with a disability of at least 50%	Only ÖH Fee (if waiver is applied for and approved; also applies to third-country nationals)
Incoming Students	Only ÖH-Fee
Free Movers	EUR 363.36 or EUR 726.72 (third-country) + ÖH-Fee
Outgoing Students	EUR 363.36 or EUR 726.72 (third-country) + ÖH-Fee
Students on Leave of Absence	Only ÖH-Fee (if the entire semester is interrupted; application for leave must be submitted by November 15 or April 15 of the respective semester)

Lateral Entrants into Higher Semesters	EUR 363.36 or EUR 726.72 (third-country) + ÖH-Fee
Dual Degree Students	EUR 363.36 or EUR 726.72 (third-country) + ÖH-Fee
Existing Students (i.e., regular students with an active study contract issued before WS 2026/27)	Only ÖH-Fee
Non-Regular Students in Certificate Programs: Master continuing higher education programs, Academic continuing higher education programs, Certificate continuing higher education programs	ÖH-Fee + Program Fee (additional fees may apply)
Non-Regular Students: e.g. attending individual courses, students in the context of nostrification	Only ÖH-Fee

5. Waiver of Tuition Fees

An [application for a waiver](#) of tuition fees, including the required proof, must be submitted by the student if one of the following grounds applies:

- 5.1.** Students who can prove a disability of at least 50%. A disability pass from the Austrian Social Ministry Service or equivalent proof from another country must be submitted with the application.

The waiver for a disability of at least 50% only needs to be applied for once and applies to all subsequent semesters if the disability is permanent. If the disability pass has an expiration date, the new proof must be submitted by email to studyfees@fh-joanneum.at after expiration.

Applications can be submitted at any time, but a waiver can only be considered from the following semester if the application is submitted after November 15 (for the winter semester) or April 15 (for the summer semester).

Retroactive waivers for past semesters are not possible.

If the grounds for the waiver no longer apply, the student is obliged to immediately notify FH JOANNEUM (studyfees@fh-joanneum.at).

There is no legal entitlement to a waiver of tuition fees.

A **waiver of the ÖH-Fee** (Student Union Fee, including any special contributions) **is not possible**. This fee must be paid before the start of each semester. Otherwise, enrollment or re-enrollment for the following semester cannot take place.

6. Refund of Tuition Fees

A refund is only possible **upon application by the student**. An application for a refund of tuition fees can be submitted via the [web form](#).

A refund of tuition fees is only possible for the following reasons:

- 6.1. Non-Commencement of Studies:** Application must be submitted by the start of the study program or semester. No refunds are possible during an ongoing semester.
- 6.2. Withdrawal from Studies:** The withdrawal from the study contract was declared within 14 days of accepting the study contract.
- 6.3. Discontinuation of Studies:** Application must be submitted by November 15 (for the winter semester) or April 15 (for the summer semester).
- 6.4. Exclusion Due to Failed Commission Examination:** Application must be submitted by November 15 (for the winter semester) or April 15 (for the summer semester).
- 6.5. Completion of Studies:** Application must be submitted by November 15 (for the winter semester) or April 15 (for the summer semester).
- 6.6. Announcement of Repeating the Academic Year:** Application must be submitted by November 15 (for the winter semester) or April 15 (for the summer semester).
- 6.7. Interruption of Studies:** During an approved leave of absence (based on the student's application approved by the degree program management), no tuition fees are collected, as no study-related services may be used during this period. However, since students remain enrolled during the leave, **the ÖH Fee must continue to be paid.**
 - 6.7.1. Interruption During an Ongoing Semester:** If an application for leave is submitted and approved by the degree program management, the application for a refund of tuition fees must be submitted by November 15 or April 15 of the respective semester. **However, the ÖH Fee must be paid and cannot be refunded.**
- 6.8.** If the double tuition fee has been paid (generally applies to third-country nationals, see Section 2.1), an application for equal treatment (see Section 2.4) can be submitted if an exception under Section 2.3 applies. No separate refund application is required.

The ÖH-Fee (Student Union Fee, including any special contributions) that has already been paid **cannot be refunded by FH JOANNEUM**. This fee can be reclaimed from the [ÖH](#).

7. Payment Deadlines

The tuition fee and the ÖH-Fee (including any special contributions) must be paid in advance for each semester within 14 days of receiving the payment request. First-year students will receive a payment request by email after enrollment at FH JOANNEUM.

Full payment of the tuition fee is a prerequisite for initial or new enrollment (matriculation) or continuation of studies (re-enrollment).

The amount must be paid in full in a single payment; partial or installment payments are not possible. If less than the required amount is paid, the tuition fee is considered unpaid.

8. Reminder and Consequences of Non-Payment of Tuition Fees

In the event of late payment or payment of an insufficient amount, a reminder will be sent by email with a 14-day deadline to settle the outstanding amount. If the amount remains unpaid, a final demand for payment will be sent by email, also with a 14-day deadline. If no payment is made by this deadline, the study contract will be terminated, and the admission offer will become void, or the student will be exmatriculated.

These payment deadlines do not apply if a study place offer is only issued at or after the start of the semester (according to the Academic Calendar of FH JOANNEUM). In such cases, the amount must be paid **immediately** upon receipt of the payment request.

FH JOANNEUM Gesellschaft mbH reserves the right to amend these Tuition Fee Regulations at any time.

Document and Process Responsibility: <https://www.fh-joanneum.at/hochschule/organisation/service-abteilungen/weiterbildung-und-studierendenadministration/>

Contact for Inquiries: studyfees@fh-joanneum.at
<https://www.fh-joanneum.at/hochschule/services/study-center/>