

No. 17 | Important information for you

Dear members of the Hanns Eisler School community,

Life is returning to the buildings of the Hanns Eisler School: we are delighted that our administrative staff have taken up their posts again in their regular offices as of June 29, 2020, thereby joining the group which had already been working on site as part of the extended emergency task force.

Today we would like to draw your attention to the following issues:

Teaching and examination period extended to September 30

In order to give all those involved, especially the assistant lecturers, the necessary time to catch up on lessons and to schedule examinations by mutual agreement with students, the Academic Senate decided in its 274th Session on June 17, 2020 **to extend the teaching and examination period until September 30, 2020, as an exceptional measure**. Of course we also want to give you time for recreation and regeneration during the coming summer weeks. That is why we will interrupt the semester from July 20 to August 14, 2020 for some holidays. During the period from September 21 to October 2, 2020, the second round of admissions examinations will take place – if possible, in person and on-site. During this time, we kindly ask you not to plan any examinations, teaching or projects, since we will need all available halls.

Credit for the summer semester 2020

In the interest of all students, the State of Berlin has initiated a legal regulation on credits for the 2020 summer semester regarding the “Regelstudienzeit” (regular number of semesters to complete a degree). Students who are enrolled in the summer semester and have not taken a leave of absence will benefit from an extended **individual “Regelstudienzeit”**. This means that **bachelor degree students have a total of 9 semesters, while master degree students and concert examination students have a total of 5 semesters to complete their degrees**. This, however, does not apply for students who had already reached the upper limit of semesters of “Regelstudienzeit” at the end of the 2019/2020 winter semester. This decision is relevant for practical issues for the further course of study and examinations, which we must clarify within our institution as soon as possible. This exceptional extension of the “Regelstudienzeit” will be granted automatically: **it is not necessary for students to complete an application for a ninth resp. fifth semester**.

Examination issues

Students who have applied to take an examination this semester but would now like to postpone that examination, are requested to get in touch with the Examination Office by July 16 by emailing pruefungsamt@hfm-berlin.de in order to cancel. Should you have agreed with your teacher that you will be taking examinations normally scheduled for this semester, please register for those.

Financial Support

We would like to point out two possibilities for students to receive financial support: the State of Berlin recently decided to increase the Technology Fund of the Studierendenwerk Berlin by 3 million Euros, and yesterday we learned from the Studierendenwerk that these funds are also available for grant applications of assistant lecturers (“Lehrbeauftragte”) to support digital tuition. In addition, the

Federal Ministry of Education and Science is offering interim aid for students in emergency situations. Applications may be submitted online in both cases.

Funding via „Teilhabe am Online Campus“:

<https://www.stw.berlin/unternehmen/themen/antrag-technikfonds.html>

Interim aid from the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF):

<https://www.stw.berlin/beratung/themen/%C3%BCberbr%C3%BCckungshilfe-des-bundes.html>

Opening hours during the summer months and from September 1

The current opening hours of the HfM will remain the same during the summer months of July and August. From Monday to Friday, the Neuer Marstall and the Charlottenstraße building are open for you from 6:30 am to 10:30 pm. The regulations for practising and teaching are still in effect. Teachers and students are requested to pre-register online via Asimut. From September onwards, we would also like to open the buildings on the weekends, enabling you to practise sufficiently. We will make a decision on this matter at the end of August, based on the current situation.

Beginning of the winter semester

When talking about the summer vacation are considered, the beginning of the winter semester cannot be far ahead. We are looking forward to this immensely! On October 5, 2020 the winter semester is due to start. We are conscious of the fact that the development until the autumn cannot be predicted at this point. Many of you are still far away in your native countries. Even if we hope to be able to welcome all members of our school community on October 5, 2020 in Berlin, we will still have to live with restrictions during the winter semester as well – not least when it comes to group teaching and the availability of halls and rooms. It is possible that we will be our own audience for School events! At this point, we are expecting a **“hybrid semester”** consisting of as much on-site teaching as possible, but also including some digital teaching.

Much has been launched successfully during the past months and we will build further on these achievements during the winter semester. Yet we all miss the diversity of teaching on site, in the rooms and halls of the HfM, the concerts and performances which constitute the core of our musical training and which we still consider essential, now and in the future.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your patience, your support and optimism!

Let us remain mindful in our daily lives, protecting our own health and that of those around us!
#staysafe #bleibgesund

Kindest regards,

Sarah Wedl-Wilson
Rector

Professor Andrea Tober
Prorector

Hans-Joachim Völz
Chancellor