EASIER FOR ALL

Today it is perfectly normal to listen to the radio on your smartphone or to watch TV on your tablet computer. Modern technical devices offer an increasing number of functions and change the way in which we use media content. The licence fee does not depend on the number of devices you own and covers all services offered by public service broadcasting on all distribution channels. It does not matter how many people live at one residence and how many devices they own - the following applies:

ONE RESIDENCE → ONE FEE: € 17.50*

CHEAPER FOR MANY

Shared flats benefit in particular. For example, four people sharing a flat only pay one fee in total: € 17.50* per month regardless of the number of radios, televisions, computers or smartphones they have.

AT A GLANCE

WHETHER YOU LIVE ON YOUR OWN OR IN A SHARED FLAT - A SIMPLE RULE APPLIES: YOU PAY ONE FEE OF € 17.50*.

IF YOU RECEIVE BAFÖG AND DO NOT LIVE WITH YOUR PARENTS, YOU MAY APPLY FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM THE LICENCE FEE.

IT DOES NOT MATTER HOW MANY DEVICES YOU HAVE IN YOUR FLAT OR SHARED FLAT OR WHETHER YOU HAVE A CAR.
ANY QUESTIONS?

I live alone. What do I need to do?
A licence fee of €17.50* needs to be paid for every residence. If you have not yet registered, then please register at the Beitragsservice von ARD, ZDF und Deutschlandradio at www.rundfunkbeitrag.de.

I live in a shared flat or with my parents. Who pays?
One person of legal age must be registered and pay the licence fee for each residence. In a shared flat, you decide who this will be. All other residents who are already registered can then de-register. This is also the case if you are registered and live with your parents, as long as they pay the licence fee.

You can de-register at the Beitragsservice von ARD, ZDF und Deutschlandradio. You can find the form at www.rundfunkbeitrag.de. Please do not forget to enter your name and licence fee number as well as the name and licence number of the future licence fee payer.

I live in a student hall of residence. What do I need to do?
The licence fee of €17.50* per month is payable for rooms in student halls of residence that are accessed via a public corridor. Single Rooms count as a residence - regardless of whether they have their own bathroom or kitchen.

If you live in a room of a shared flat in a student hall of residence, only one person per shared flat needs to pay the licence fee. However, this is only the case if the shared flat is separated from a public corridor or starwell by a door and only those living in the flat have a key for the door. You can find the forms to register and de-register at www.rundfunkbeitrag.de.

I receive BAföG. What do I need to do?
If you receive BAföG, Berufsausbildungsbeihilfe or Ausbildungsgeld and you do not live with your parents, you may be exempted from the licence fee upon application. This exemption also applies to your spouse or registered partner, but not to other residents.

How can I apply for an exemption or reduction?
The application form and additional information can be found at www.rundfunkbeitrag.de and are also available from the local authorities (e.g. Citizen Centers). The completed application and relevant proof should be sent to the Beitragsservice von ARD, ZDF und Deutschlandradio in 50656 Cologne.

Further information can be found at: www.rundfunkbeitrag.de.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The website www.rundfunkbeitrag.de answers frequently asked questions, provides details regarding the licence fee and explains background information on financing public service broadcasting. There you can also find forms for registration and de-registration and for changing your details as well as an application form for exemptions or reductions.

If you have any questions, please use the contact form at www.rundfunkbeitrag.de or call our service hotline on: 49 (0) 1806 9995 5510 (20 cents/per call from german landlines, 60 cents per call from mobile telephones).

* The licence fee of €17.50 or €5.83 applies as of the fee decrease in April 2015. Between 2013 and March 2015 the licence fee was €17.98 or €5.99.