



University Council

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Subject

Right of information: Financial Support
Fund revision because of reintroduction
of Basic grant DUO

Our reference

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Your reference

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Page

1/2

Enclosure

Regulations Financial Support Fund

Department

Education & Student Affairs

Visiting address

Burgemeester Oudlaan 50
E-building

Postal address

P.O. Box 1738
3000 DR Rotterdam
The Netherlands

E Rianne.nieuwdorp@eur.nl

W www.eur.nl/English

Dear member of the University Council,

With this letter, we would like to inform you about the current and future steps the university is taking to revise the Financial Support Fund considering the current legislative developments: the reintroduction of the basic grant of DUO (herinvoering basisbeurs). We already discussed this matter with two university council members (Luuk van Tol and Nawin Ramcharan) and we would like to thank them for their input.

Currently, de Wet herinvoering basisbeurs hoger onderwijs (TK 2022-2023, nr. 36 229) is under consideration by the Senate. This legislation aims to reinstate the study grant (Basisbeurs) for higher education starting from the academic year 2023-2024. This will be voted on later in June.

Current situation

The financial support granted by the Financial Support Fund is currently linked to the amount provided under the previous grant system (for the academic year 2022-2023: €312,52 per month). This support is intended for students who have experienced or will experience study delays due to exceptional circumstances, including but not limited to: force majeure (illness, family circumstances, pregnancy, functional impairments, non-feasible study program, or programs without accreditation), societal activities or elite sports and board duties (student organizations or representative bodies).

Given the impending reintroduction of the basic grant, it has become necessary to reassess the level of support provided through the board grants. However, it is important to note that these plans will only become definitive once they receive approval from the Senate.

Therefore, we will maintain the current situation and regulations for the upcoming academic year 2023-2024, and

implementing the new system starting from the academic year 2024-2025. We continue with the existing arrangements, as it would not be feasible to make immediate changes while the legislative proposal is still under review by the Senate.

An important principle guiding our university in this matter is to ensure that our students do not face any financial disadvantages due to the reintroduction of the basic grant of DUO in the light of the Financial Support Fund. As we navigate the changes, it is crucial to safeguard the financial well-being of our students. We recognize the significance of financial stability in enabling students to focus on their studies and fully engage in their academic pursuits. Therefore, as we consider any adjustments to the support provided through the Financial Support fund, we will prioritize maintaining a level of financial assistance that is at least equivalent to the existing arrangements. Our commitment is to ensure that students continue to receive the necessary support, allowing them to pursue their education without undue financial burden.

If we were to adhere to the new amount determined by DUO, the monthly amount for financial support from the Financial Support Fund would decrease. As we do not wish to impose this reduction on our students, we will continue to maintain the current amount, with an additional increase equal to the rate of inflation of the tuition fees. We will collaborate with the University Council to propose a new methodology to determine the monthly amount, starting from academic year 2024-2025.

We believe that this approach allows us to ensure stability and consistency for our students while accommodating the upcoming changes in the grant system.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and welcome your feedback and insights. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the policy officer responsible for this subject (Rianne.nieuwdorp@eur.nl).



Lilian I.M. Jillissen
Service director Education & Student Affairs