Information on license fees for public television - GEZ

Since 01.01.2013 every household in Germany has to pay license fees for public broadcasting. Regardless of how many people are living in the household or how many devices are available. Under certain circumstances, there is the possibility to be exempted from the license fee or get a discount.

Circumstances for an exemption:

- You are a Bafög supported student and no longer living with your parents.
- You are receiving “Berufsausbildungsbeihilfe” (BAB) to the §§ 99, 100 No. 3 SGB III a F. (new: §§ 114, 115 No. 2 SGB III.).
- You are receiving “Ausbildungsgeld” § 104 ff SGB III a F. (re.: § 122 et seq SGB III).
- You are a deaf-blind person and recipient of blind assistance in accordance with § 72 SGB XII and § 27 d BVG.
- You are receiving social benefits such as unemployment benefit and social assistance.

A discount is available for:

- Visually impaired persons with an impairment of at least 60%.
- Hearing impaired persons who can only communicate adequately with hearing aid.
- Disabled persons, whose degree of disability (not only temporarily) is at least 80% (disability card RF).

You can find the request form at your city or municipal. You also can follow this link:
http://www.rundfunkbeitrag.de/
The application must be completely filled out and submitted with the required proof. The proof has to be attached in the following form:

- the certificate of authority or of the provider of social support in the original
- the current medical certificate of deaf-blindness in the original
- the current BAföG approval notice in the original or a certified copy
  the certificate of disability in the original or a certified copy (front and back)

Foreign students that don’t receive social benefits of the Federal Republic of Germany (e.g. asylum seekers benefits) can’t be exempted from the GEZ.

Important: If you are living in a flat share community only one flat mate has to pay the license fee! If a flat mate already pays GEZ, you can specify its registration number in the request for payment.