



# Balancing Family and Academic Life

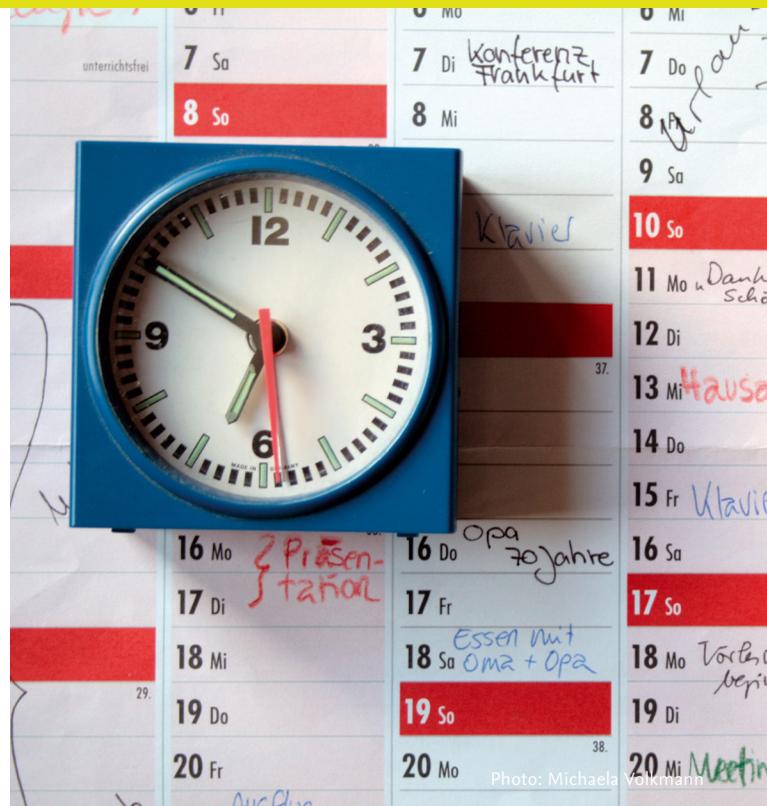
[www.fu-berlin.de/family](http://www.fu-berlin.de/family)

## Contact

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Zertifikat seit 2007  
audit familiengerechte  
hochschule



FAMILIE IN DER  
HOCHSCHULE

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## A family-friendly higher education institution

Juggling a job and family life, an academic career and children – to foster better balance between these needs, Freie Universität Berlin emphasizes a family-friendly personnel policy and university structure. Freie Universität has been certified as a family-friendly higher education institution since June 2007 and signed the “Familie in der Hochschule” (Family on Campus) charter in June 2015. The following goals have already been implemented since then:

- Establishing the Dual Career & Family Service
- Making it easier for students to organize their studies through services such as preferential seminar registration for students with family obligations
- Providing advice and support for faculty and staff members and students
- Appropriate continuing and professional education services
- Enhanced flexibility in terms of working hours through models such as alternating telecommuting and mobile working
- Full-day childcare at the nursery school operated by Studentenwerk Berlin at Freie Universität Berlin
- Emergency childcare services for children of faculty and staff members
- Child care during conferences
- Parent-and-child rooms and nursing and baby changing rooms
- Support for dual-career couples
- Quarterly advising through care organization Pflegestützpunkte Berlin

For more information, please see the website of the Dual Career & Family Service.

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## Family Service

At Freie Universität Berlin, we believe “family” means all situations in which people take long-term social responsibility for others. This includes, most especially, people who are raising children and those who are taking care of other family members. The Family Service is the central point of contact for all those affiliated with Freie Universität Berlin who have questions about balancing family life and an academic career or job.

## Information and communication platforms

- “FU und Familie” mailing list  
current informations about family topics for faculty and staff members and students
- Dual Career & Family Service Wiki  
lists of nursery schools, schools and care organizations
- Dual Career & Family Service Blackboard course  
discussion forum for faculty and staff members and students

## Dual Career Service

In academia and the research sector in particular, “dual-career” couples are increasingly coming to the fore. The Dual Career Service at Freie Universität Berlin is the point of contact for these couples, supporting the spouses and partners of newly appointed university professors in the process of professional integration in Berlin.