



Working at Freie Universität!



An International University Renowned for Excellence

Freie Universität Berlin is a prestigious international university located in the southwest corner of the capital. People from over 130 different countries come here to research, teach, study, and work. With around 33,000 students and 4,000 doctoral candidates, Freie Universität is one of Germany's largest universities. It was one of only six universities nation-wide to twice receive special recognition through the German government's Excellence Initiative. In 2019, Freie Universität secured long-term funding through the new Excellence Strategy program as one of the members in the Berlin University Alliance.



A Large-Scale Employer

Freie Universität is one of the largest employers in the region. Nearly 500 professors and 2,300 research assistants conduct research here across eleven departments and four central institutes. In addition, the university has approximately 2,400 employees working in administration, libraries, information technology, veterinary medicine, as well as custodial and landscaping services. The university's scope is even wider thanks to Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, the joint medical faculty of Freie Universität and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.



Image Credit: Bernd Wannenmacher

Training Tomorrow's Professionals

Freie Universität Berlin provides vocational training for as many as 120 individuals on their way to becoming lab technicians, horse trainers, electricians, landscapers, beekeepers, or event managers, just to name a few examples. Trainees can choose from twelve different occupations and split their time between on-the-job training and classes at the vocational school. Students who complete a bachelor's degree can also become familiar with working in university administration through a two-year training period with the prospect of a permanent position upon completion of the program.



Image Credit: Marina Kosmalla

Making Well-Being a Priority

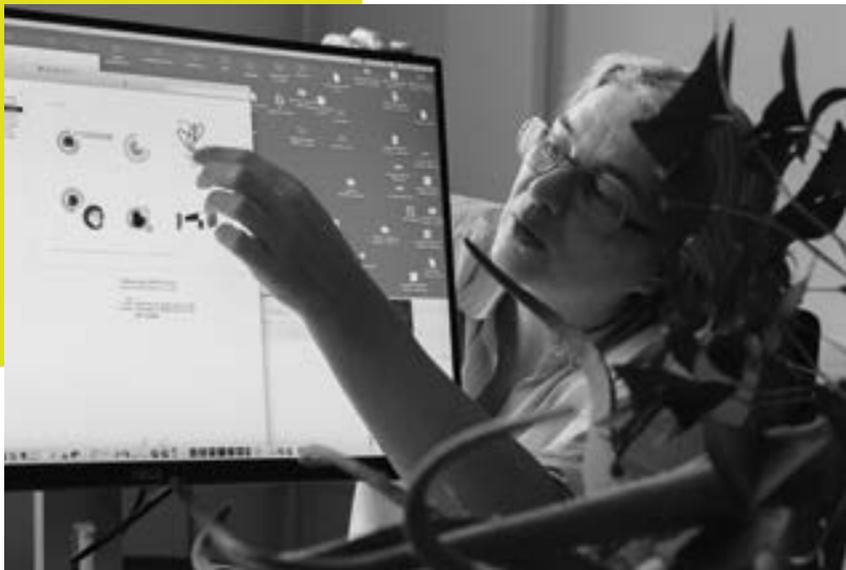
The success of Freie Universität as a place for cutting-edge research and dedicated teaching depends on ensuring that employees feel motivated and have opportunities to pursue professional development. These are also important factors in supporting our first-rate administration and numerous service offers. Job satisfaction and the well-being of university members are therefore high priorities. Professional development at the university includes offers tailored specifically for employees in certain departments. A variety of formats and events are available to assist new employees with settling in, to promote career advancement, and to enable further professional training and qualification. Employees can pick from a wide range of workshops and courses, health programs, as well as counseling and advising services.



Image Credit: Frank Beier

Life-Long Learning

Change is perhaps the biggest constant when working at a university, which is why Freie Universität founded its Center for Continuing Education (Weiterbildungszentrum) in 1972. Employees working in research, administration, or the libraries can take classes there regardless of their managerial status. Freie Universität thrives on its international reputation, which it maintains through training-oriented exchange programs abroad, like the Erasmus+ program. Doctoral students also have a large number of professional skills courses to choose from, while professors can pursue professional training to develop leadership skills.



Keeping Fit

Because “your health is your wealth,” Freie Universität provides its members with a range of offers that promote healthy living. The Office of Occupational Health Management (Betriebliches Gesundheitsmanagement) ensures that your working conditions are as healthy as possible. Freie Universität Berlin employees can also take advantage of over 30 classes offered by the Center for Continuing Education’s program “Promoting Occupational Health,” which includes courses on how to improve stress management and organizational skills. Employees can also participate in athletic activities and fitness classes near work through the University Sports Center, which has over 120 sports to choose from.

Image Credit: Bernd Wannemacher



Diversity Matters

Equal opportunity principles are very important at Freie Universität Berlin. The university actively promotes gender equity, a goal supported by the work of central and departmental gender equality representatives for more than 30 years. It has also pledged to uphold its diversity mission statement: All members of the university are committed to a culture of acceptance and respect. The university has continued to prove its sustained commitment to equal opportunities over the years. For example, in 2020, it received the Total E-Quality award for the seventh time. In 2017 and in 2021, the distinction came with a special recognition for diversity. Freie Universität is also one of the top employers of female professors in Germany.



Image Credit: Michael Fahrig

Supporting Families

Freie Universität has a tradition of being family friendly. In 1977, the first daycare facility opened on campus. Today it is run by the studierendenWERK organization and is open to the children of university members. The Dual Career and Family Service supports employees and students in a variety of ways aimed to help them balance work demands with raising children or caring for family members. They also provide assistance to the partners of newly hired professors in finding career options in Berlin. Freie Universität has been a certified “family accessible” university since 2007. In 2018, it helped establish a new association “Familie in der Hochschule e.V.” (family at the university).



Image Credit: Sören Maahs

Building a Sustainable Future

Freie Universität Berlin has made it its goal to strengthen sustainability – in research, teaching, administration, knowledge transfer, and around campus. Since 2018, the university has managed to reduce energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by almost 40 percent. Several highly efficient combined heat and power plants and photovoltaic systems are operated on campus. A rewards system also makes saving energy more attractive to the individual academic departments. The “SUSTAIN IT!” initiative gave students and employees the opportunity to launch numerous sustainability and climate protection projects around campus.



Working in One of Berlin's Greenest Districts

Freie Universität Berlin is located in one of the largest and most important research hubs in Germany. It is right down the street from numerous research institutions. Situated in the verdant southwest corner of Berlin, this quiet area provides ideal environments in which to work. With parks and lawns abounding, you can enjoy a relaxing stroll as you go from your office to the library or to a meeting in another department. You will also find a great variety of lunch options in the cafeterias around campus, including the first all vegetarian university cafeteria in Germany. The surrounding lakes are a great place to unwind after work, both in summer and winter. Employees also get a discount on an annual pass to the Botanic Garden, known as the “green jewel” of southwest Berlin.



Imprint

Have we sparked your interest?

Then feel free to contact us! We'd love to hear from you.

Freie Universität Berlin

Personnel Development

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