

## Information on the new Subsidy Directive in the Studio Rental Programme

On 01.11.2021, the new [subsidy directive for the studio rental programme](#) came into force. The guideline was agreed between the studio office in the Kulturwerk of the bbk berlin and the Senate Department for Culture and Europe and replaces the previous guideline from 1993.

It contains the following essential adjustments and improvements:

### **1. Abolition of the funding period limitation to eight years**

There is no longer a fundamental limit on the funding period. This means that artists can extend their rental contracts for studios from the subsidy programme as long as the obligatory review of compliance with the funding conditions by the Studio Office has successfully taken place before the end of the contract period and there is still a valid main rental contract for the studio location.

This eliminates the need to submit a so-called "Härtefallantrag" before the expiry of the eight years to which the funding period had previously been limited since June 2007. The regular biennial review of compliance with applicable income limits by the Studio Office and the additional four-yearly review of continued professional activity in the field of Fine Art by the Studio Advisory Board now replaces the previously required application.

### **2. Adjustment of the applicable income limits for artists**

One of the conditions of funding is the observance of an upper limit for the income of artists who claim funding by renting a studio. These income limits have now been adjusted to current conditions and thus also increased. You can find the new income limits [here](#) in the column "Funding Track A".

The artists' share of the studio rent in funding track A amounts to a maximum of 4.09 € per square metre gross. As before, the Structural Funding Programme will cover the difference to the actual cost rent.

### **3. Introduction of a new support scheme with higher income limits and a higher proportion of artists' rents**

Due to the rapid price development of the commercial rental market in Berlin, renting a suitable workspace for visual artists is problematic even if the income limits of funding track A (see above) are exceeded. In order to offer these artists the opportunity to continue working in Berlin, there is now a new funding scheme.

This funding track B has higher [income limits](#), but also a higher artist's share of the studio rent of 6.50 € per square metre gross. This reduces the difference paid by the programme to the actual cost rent. The regulation follows the idea of solidarity, so that financially better-off artists can contribute more of their own funds for the benefit of colleagues who are not so well off.

Of course, the criteria of professional and social urgency continue to apply. More details can be found in the [transparency statement of the Studio Advisory Board](#).